



Recreation and Events Strategy

Final Strategy

MAY 2025



About this document

This document is the Final Draft Recreation and Events Strategy.

A demand and consultation findings document was previously submitted for the project which has been integrated into this document.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Scope

The project brief sought a clear direction on priorities for investment in Shire-managed sporting facilities and reserves, and to identify areas that could allow dual-purpose use for recreation and events.

The Strategy is to:

- Guide allocation of funds and master planning
- Prioritise facility upgrades
- Select a multipurpose event space
- Identify sources of funding

Background and key local trends

The Shire has identified that it faces several challenges concerning recreation infrastructure.

These issues include:

- Ageing assets that require upgrading or renewal
- The lack of an agreed process to determine priorities and decision-making for construction of new assets and renewal of ageing assets.
- Challenges with sourcing funding and project management resources, noting that grants often require matching funds.

Issues or factors that the Shire have identified as having emerged over the last 5 years are:

- Increases in female participation in sport
- Need for all gender facilities
- Shift from sports clubs to more social sporting options
- Increasing costs for capital and maintenance, and levels of service
- Use of technology
- Linking programs, particularly around youth
- Access to sports for people of all abilities
- Decrease in volunteering
- Seasonal creep – Clubs wishing to access grounds earlier which extends seasons and

places Increased demand on infrastructure, maintenance scheduling and the potential of codes/clubs clashing

- Lack of established sinking funds or reserves to be able to maintain, replace and develop infrastructure
- Participation trends – lack of sport for age groups 12 to 16 yrs.



National trends

National trends identified in sports, recreation and events over the last decade that impact on the provision and use of infrastructure include:

Unorganised sport and recreation activities including fitness, and indoor opportunities for all

- The increase in demand for recreation activities that are non-organised, individual or social – such as walking, dog walking, cycling, wheeled recreational activities, fishing, and those using mobility devices
 - An increase in gym and fitness activities across all adult population groups
 - Casual physical activities in green urban and natural environments, which add benefits for mental health, well-being and liveability.
 - An increasing demand for indoor recreation spaces for casual use and that can be programmed.
 - Additional social indoor sports including racquet sports, walking sports for older adults and those for people of all abilities
- Greater demand and policy platforms requiring diverse opportunities that are welcoming and inclusive for people with a disability, non-English speaking backgrounds, gender identities and age groups, and “fair access” for those groups to facilities.
 - Additional social programs using sport to assist community and youth development, social cohesion, personal development, and the inclusion of people of all gender identities, cultures and abilities

Increase in demand for green elements, contact with nature, and shade

- There is increasing demand for places to walk and exercise in public spaces and for sports facilities to contribute more to climate change, habitat protection, heat mitigation, and added comfort in hot weather for players. There is also increased demand to enhance access to nature and for outdoor adventure pursuits such as hiking and mountain biking.

Festivals and events

- Experiences have become more important than possessions, especially for millennials, who are regular festival and event attendees (and a high proportion of Shire population).
- Festivals and events provide ways to meet an increasing demand to connect with others, express who they are and share their experience with the world.¹
- There is increasing demand in festivals and events for local and unique acts and experiences.
- Many festivals and events have become more niche celebrations of specific type of

¹ Some elements of the following are included in Eventbrite's Future of Festivals 2024.



music, food, beer, unique interests, hobbies and passions with greater choice of add-ons, and accommodation options. This presents a challenge for organisers, to provide different price points, target a wide demographic, and appeal to a wider range of sponsors.

- There is more competition between events and increasing costs of staging them and pressure for short seasonal time slots.
- Many large festivals have ceased operation in metropolitan areas due to costs, uncertainties with weather, ticketing issues and other factors.
- Mobile technology and radio frequency Identification (RFID) allows easy access to quick cashless purchases, ticketless entry, festival planning and operation and better experiences for attendees, and social media has made a significant impact on marketing and revenue.

Engagement methods

Stakeholder and community engagement for this Strategy was conducted from August -September 2024, using several methods.

These included:

- An online survey via survey monkey. The survey was open from July 26 to September 2, 2024.
- Facebook post to invite comments and alert residents to an online survey
- An Invitation from the Shire encouraging people to make submissions and comments
- A Shire ‘Your Say’ page seeking comment about facilities needed or suggested improvements
- Interviews with user groups, clubs, government agencies and other stakeholders
- Site visits and meetings were conducted by @leisure Planners and Shire officers
- A Councillor workshop was held in Kununurra
- Interviews were held with key Shire staff

Table 1. Engagement summary

Engagement Method	Contacts	Completed /Submitted
Inception meeting	1	1
Interviews/telephone calls	79	48
Face-to-face meetings on site	7	
Emails sent	29	
Facebook	6	
Texts sent	16	16
Survey respondents	82	82
Submissions received	1	1
Workshops	2	2
TOTAL	223	150



General community sentiment

The community survey provided an indication of residents perceptions of facilities. The responses highlighted that residents were very appreciative of the work Shire is doing and, importantly, being asked for their opinions.

Comments included:

"I'm pleased that the Shire is seeking feedback from locals 😊"

"Thank you for being so proactive with our events and recreation! These are the things that really make living here unique and such a positive experience"

Being a remote community, the Shire does pretty well. Some of the anti-social behaviour (including things like vandalism) ruins some sport and recreation activities.

It is great to see the upgrades in Celebrity Tree Park for accessible recreation and the new pool facilities (including the splash park).

We have some great facilities and with the upgrades underway. We can only sustain so much with the high cost of vandalism & upkeep to everything

I think the Knx community, and to some extent the Shire, do a great job putting on sport and recreational events. "

2. Policy context and alignment

2.1 Federal policies

Sport 2030

Sport 2030 will provide significant benefits to Australians of all ages. The strategy states that by 2030 we will:

- Be a more diverse and inclusive sport sector
- More collaborative, between the government and the private sectors
- Be better connected into other sectors such as health, education and infrastructure
- More physically active and better prepared to live healthy active lives
- Have greater access to sporting facilities and infrastructure for all Australians
- Have world-leading technology, practices, systems and people to achieve lasting podium success.
- Uphold sport integrity, allowing fans and participants to have faith that our sport is safe and fair.

Play Well - Australia's Sport Participation Strategy

Australia's Sport Participation Strategy has been co-designed with the sector, where individuals of

all ages, backgrounds, gender, and abilities can come together to access the benefits of sport.

Everyone has a right to participate in sport and through this strategy we are creating safe, welcoming, inclusive and fun sporting environments and experiences.

- Building the capability of people and organisations to meet the needs of everyone involved in sport.
- Foster a sporting environment that enables positive lifelong involvement in sport.
- Creating, improving, activating and better managing places and spaces to ensure everyone can have safe and enjoyable sporting experiences.
- Creating a connected and collaborative sport ecosystem that supports all organisations to provide high quality sporting experiences.
- Prioritising equity and choice to ensure all Australians can access sport.
- Changing the culture of sport in Australia to create an environment where everyone can access safe, inclusive, welcoming and fun experiences.

2.2 State policies

The WA Government, and sport and recreation sector share a vision to deliver a safe and inclusive environment for all to participate in sport and recreation. Key elements of this vision are:

Equity

- Providing places that are inclusive and accessible for all, including people with disability, culturally and linguistically diverse populations, Aboriginal First Nations people and gender diverse people, and partnering with these target groups to provide opportunities and increase the use of infrastructure.

Participation

- Enhance lifelong participation and support organisations to formalise pathways, deliver events and programs

Recognition and celebration

- Engage and collaborate with stakeholders and increase capacity, capability and opportunities for volunteers and delivery partners.

Diversity

- Collaborate with key stakeholders to deliver tailored and inclusive programs and funding opportunities for all people.



Children and young people

- Partner with schools and other organisations, to ensure all young people are enabled to participate in active sport and recreation, and ensure opportunities are cost effective and child safe environments are created and maintained.

Wellbeing

- Ensure a continuum of structured and unstructured opportunities for sport and active recreation are available with a pathway to competition and organisations delivering these are supported.

2.3 SWEK Strategic Community Plan 2023-2033

Our vision is:

Connecting our cultures, striving for prosperity, and celebrating the spirit of country and community.

Our purpose is to:

Work with community to influence and lead change to deliver positive outcomes.

Our focus is:

1. Liveability; *Improving liveability through social, recreational and economic opportunities and addressing quality of life factors.*

2. Connection; *Improving physical and social connectivity within the Shire, and*

3. Sustainability; *maintain a balance; so that the region can grow and thrive without compromising the benefits of the spectacular natural environment and relaxed lifestyle.*

Goals under each of those focus areas are listed below.

1. Liveability Goals

G1. Safe communities

G2 Healthy communities

G3 Access to housing

G4 Access to education

G5 Access to employment

G6 Accessible places

2. Connection Goals

G7 Connecting to the world

G8 Connecting our cultures

3. Sustainability Goals

G9 Conserving Country / Sustainable environment

G10 Community-driven Leadership.

3. Demographic and regional influences on demand

The key demographic influences on participation in sport and physical activity include total population, age, gender, cultural background, social disadvantage (income, education, employment) and remoteness.

3.1 Population

The total population is important in supporting the provision, high use and cost effective management of a range of sport and recreation infrastructure.

The Shires population in 2023 was estimated at 8,209 people. Various sources suggest this increases to around 14,000 with visitors in the dry season.

Using the projected population percentage increase of 3.5% over five years, the population may reach 8,500 people by 2031. However, this figure is likely to reflect the economic climate and be subject to fluctuation based on regional projects.

Wyndham’s population in 2021 was 941 people, who tend to be older and more likely to be male than those who live in Kununurra.

While smaller communities have the same range of needs, they are likely to have more barriers to accessing infrastructure and services than larger populations.

Demographic influences on recreation

Age

The relatively young age profile of the Shire’s population and the lower number of people born overseas of non-English ancestry suggest a high continuing demand for sport and physical activities. However, it will be important to consciously ensure recreation opportunities suit each key age group such as preschool, school, young adults, older adults, people with disability and Indigenous people to ensure that all community members have equal access to sport and physical activity, and so the Shire can continue to attract residents and allow them to age in place.

Additionally, the population has a higher employment rate than the Western Australian average, particularly in terms of full-time employment.²

Social disadvantage and access to recreation.

While a young population profile with high employment is likely to support elevated levels of participation in sport and physical activity, there is also a high level of social disadvantage in the Shire.

For many residents, there are significant barriers to sport and recreation participation that result from remote living, lack of transport, climate, low incomes and other social determinants of health.

There is a substantial Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population in the Shire, estimated by the Australian Bureau of Statistics at 48% in 2023. The following image from AusPlay evidences the lower participation rates of Indigenous people in Western Australia compared to the participation rate of non-Indigenous residents.³

The black lines indicate the national average, whereas the green line indicates the Western Australian average.

Figure 1. Sport and physical activity participation rates of Indigenous people compared to the state average



² .id (2024). RDA Kimberley Community Profile.

³ AusPlay (2024). State and territory participation.

Role of community organisations

There are a range of sport and recreation clubs providing organised games and activities in the Shire. There are also many community groups working in the Shire to increase accessibility to sport and recreation.

Program delivery groups largely rely on Shire facilities to run their programs.

Examples of delivery partners include:

- The Clontarf Academy, who work with East Kimberley College to engage young people using sport
- Garnduwa, who run the “Making Her Mark” workshop to empower women and girls in sport
- Kununurra PCYC and associated agencies, which provide recreational and personal development opportunities for children through sport and recreation
- Wayfinder, a disability services provider that improves access to sport and other community spaces.

These community organisations allow different population groups to participate in sport and physical activities and are crucial to providing pathways for children into active and productive lives, as well as sport opportunities and career paths.

Shire provides the infrastructure to the community, with community groups, local clubs, user groups, and event organisers together providing direct participation opportunities to residents.

It is crucial for the Shire to continue to develop strong connections and relationships with these community program providers.

A coordinated approach to delivery and effective communication is even more important when resources are limited. These sports programs can serve as a crucial hook for further participation and community engagement in sport and recreation.

3.2 Shire

The Shire’s role in sport and recreation is primarily focused on infrastructure to facilitate participation. This infrastructure enables other program, service and event providers to deliver opportunities tailored to specific target groups.

A coordinated approach to delivery and effective communication is important to ensure infrastructure meets the needs of community service providers and clubs on whom the Shire relies on to deliver opportunities. It will also maximise the use of Shire facilities.

Ensuring facilities are shared, fit for purpose, cost-effective to manage, and enable all the community to play and watch will continue to be a priority.

3.3 Remoteness, regional and climatic influences

Remoteness and climate have a considerable influence on participation in sport and recreation and also events, due to heat, carrying capacity of facilities, cyclones and the wet season, and distance to travel to infrastructure and competitions.

The Shire is classified as a “Very Remote” location, which reduces the propensity to participate due to the distance to facilities, low populations of some settlements and lack of transport.

Findings:

- Condensing sports competitions and events into the dry season provides capacity issues for outdoor sports and visitor accommodation for events which creates competition between sports and events.
- Previous observations have concluded that many sports are out of sync with the development initiatives of their governing bodies due to their single-season structure. This situation also means they have limited access to coaching and development initiatives outside the key season.



Participation Rate by Remoteness*

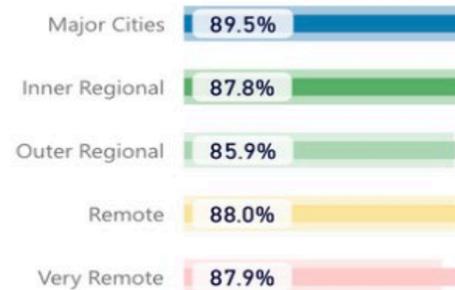


Figure 3. Participation rate by remoteness, Western Australia (AusPlay)

- Some sports are registered with Northern Territory sports peak bodies, as the distance to Darwin is less than Perth.
- There is an extremely high demand for indoor sports, fitness and recreation facilities, reflecting trends in activity and the need to remain active in the wet season and during the heat.
- Remoteness means that some sports operate on a circuit of carnivals around the west and the top end, not traditional home and away competitions. Participants also commonly travel to Broome and Darwin to participate in regional competitions.

- Access to all-weather roads, transport, and the cost of participation are likely to be major determinants of facility use.
- The implications of the dry season focus is to ensure that the sharing of community facilities is efficient and that capacity can be accommodated in existing facilities.
- Additional events and sports carnivals (where possible) should be scheduled in the shoulder seasons, and additional indoor spaces that can be used for emergency evacuation, wet season sports and physical activity, and community

gatherings should be considered a high priority.

- Shade and being able to escape the heat impact liveability, and the need for covered courts was a significant issue raised about sports and events.
- There is a high number of people who walk and exercise informally in the Shire. The findings of the demand assessment, confirm there is a need to ensure that residential areas and public open spaces are designed to encourage walking and enhance the amenity of spaces for those who choose to walk



Unique physical attributes and implications for sport and recreation

Spectacular scenery

Unique physical attributes in the region will also influence visitor numbers and participation in recreation activities and events locally.

There are significant landscapes and national parks in the Kimberley, which provide a stepping stone for visitors. The region is likely to experience an increasing demand from visitors to view the 2028 eclipse, for example.

The supply of opportunities has a significant bearing on participation. The Shire has exceptionally beautiful scenery local to Kununurra and Wyndham, excellent access to water, and some geological features that provide interest as well as recreation opportunities.

The community consultation for this project highlighted the strong demand and participation in land and boat-based fishing and the significance of the water features such as waterfalls and river foreshores, to the population of Kununurra and ameliorating the effects of the heat.

Remoteness and employment

The Shire is subject to population fluctuations based on projects in the region. Large regional projects can bring a large number of workers to the

area, at least temporarily. However, there may also be significant movement when these projects progress from the construction phase or when they are paused or completed. If they are small incremental projects, they tend to help the local economy more, whereas, for the bigger projects, staff come in for a time and then leave.⁴

Changes in the workforce bring diverse types of workers who may also have different expectations for recreation and sports facilities.

In previous eras, many FIFO workers significantly impacted demand for specific recreation activities and their scheduling when people could participate.

The sealing of the Tanami Track will provide a major eastern link from Halls Creek to South Australia, bringing more people from the East Coast to the Kimberley.

It will help with the supply chain and distribution of resources and improve safer access for Aboriginal communities.

Acquiring a first point of entry status for the Wyndham Port to deliver goods like fertilisers directly from international ports and to process international visitors on cruise vessels (mostly luxury cruises) will be a significant project for the region, which may also stimulate demand for facilities and events in Wyndham.

Climate

The northwest of Western Australia experiences more severe cyclones than any other part of the Australian coastline and is one of the most cyclone-prone coasts anywhere in the world. The cyclone season extends from November through to April.⁵

Neither Kununurra nor Wyndham has evacuation centres that meet current codes or have the capacity desirable for the future. However, upgrading the leisure centres in both locations may make it possible to provide an evacuation centre function.

⁴ Personal communication with the RDA.

⁵ Transport WA.



4. Current and projected participation

Based on state participation rates, the greatest potential demand for sporting or physical activities within Wyndham-East Kimberley is likely to be for non-club-based activities, where individuals or small groups can play or exercise when they wish.

These activities include walking, gym/fitness, swimming, cycling, running, and water-based recreation activities. The demand for trails could increase to include more than 3,938 people. Some 3,147 people will likely use gym, group fitness, or dance facilities by 2031. Many users of these facilities will be female.

Golf and tennis, which can be played either socially or in a club environment where casual access is provided, should sustain high demand.

Based on state participation rates, the highest potential demand for club-based sports will likely be swimming, Australian Rules football, basketball, soccer, golf, and tennis.

The following table details the potential demand for key sports and recreation activities in the Shire (everything being equal) based on State total participation rates (AusPlay) and population projections.

Table 2. Projected total participants (organised and unorganised) for sports and physical activities in the Shire, up to 2031

Sport/activity	2021	2031
Walking	2306	2408
Gym/fitness indoor	2104	2197
Swimming and diving	1,532	1,599
Running	862	900
Australian Rules Football	525	548
Soccer-football	498	520
Basketball	492	514
Yoga	388	405
Pilates	363	379
Golf	355	370
Tennis	298	311
Cricket (outdoor)	234	244
Martial arts	214	223
Gymnastics	159	166
Netball	298	310
Canoeing/kayaking	147	154
Volleyball	143	150
Boxing	107	111
Mountain Biking	105	109
Fishing	98	102
Athletics, track and field	94	98
Badminton	86	90
Rowing	83	87

Sport/activity	2021	2031
Squash and racquetball	64	67
Lawn bowls	63	66
Horse riding/ equestrian	58	61
Skateboarding, roller blading /scootering	58	60
Rugby union	55	57
Touch football	51	53
Shooting sports	44	46
Rugby league	40	41
Triathlon	33	35
BMX	24	25
Water polo	24	25
Baseball	18	19

**Changes in sports**

Aging infrastructure, changes in volunteering employment, a desire for non-routine commitment, more flexibility in when to participate, and time-poor lifestyles have fuelled an increase in social and non-club-based sports. In addition, increasing competition, costs, and demands associated with governance and business practices impact club viability. This change is notable for tennis in Kununurra, which has a decreasing membership base but relatively high casual participation.

The expectations associated with the quality and convenience of sports opportunities are increasing, and there is a need for clearer pathways from school sports to junior to senior and performance levels as traditional support through family, schools, and churches diminishes.

The challenge for those seeking pathways to a higher level of sport is the distance from regional and state-based competitions.

Regional-level competitions locally require a higher quality of facilities than the local level.

Membership In the Shire

Gym/fitness and Australian Rules Football have the highest membership, followed by netball and water skiing.

Most sports club memberships in the Shire, except squash, are less than that projected from state-based participation, suggesting an opportunity to grow sport.

The following table compares current club members with projected organised participation for 2021. The projected figure is based on WA state participation rates applied to the Shire population.

Table 3. Current membership supplied by clubs compared to projected organised participation

Sport/activity	Current members	Projected participation ⁶
Gym - fitness	467	2104
Football	338	498
Netball	290	298
Soccer	150	498
Water skiing	146	23
Squash	100	64
Swimming	95	1532
Golf	85	355
Basketball	80	492
Gymnastics	80	159
Taekwondo	80	214 (all martial arts)
Motocross	60	7 (motor sports)
Touch rugby	50	57
Boxing	40	107
Lawn bowls	40	63
Tennis	24	298
Dragon boating	12	6

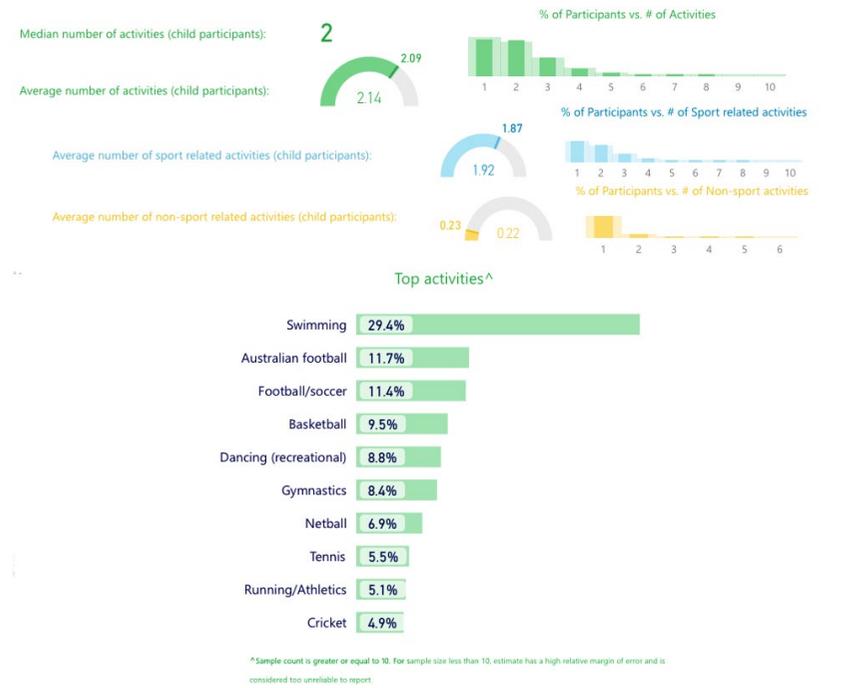
⁶ Based on state participation rates and Shire population



State participation rates compared to Shire

The following images from Aus Play (Australian Sports Commission data) show the activities with the highest participation rates for Western Australia and following, those from the Shire.

Figure 2. AusPlay Participation in Sport and Physical Activities Western Australia 2023



The AusPlay data shows that the highest participation in activities in the Shire were swimming followed by walking.

The sample sizes are likely to be small. Therefore, the participation rates are likely significant only for the top two activities.

Figure 3. AusPlay Participation in Sport and Physical Activities SWEK Australia 2023



Growth in informal recreation and social sport

The growth in informal, non-club-based activities does not suggest less focus on sports or events that have considerable and wider community benefits however, it indicates that consideration must be given to existing parks, recreation infrastructure, waterways and natural areas to ensure the needs of the broadest possible range of the population are met.

Golf and tennis, which can be played either socially or in a club environment, both have high potential demand.

Based on state participation rates, the highest potential demand for club-based sports will likely be swimming, Australian Rules football, basketball, soccer, golf, and tennis.

The following table details the potential demand for key sports and recreation activities in the Shire (everything being equal) based on State total participation rates (AusPlay) and population projections.

4.1 Projected population and participation in recreation activities

An indication of projected demand for informal recreation and non-club activities using Shire recreation facilities can be calculated based on state participation rates. These may not reflect specific local conditions but indicate potential demand – everything being equal.

Table 4. Potential no. of people in the Shire using recreation facility types based on state rates

Recreation facility types	Potential no. of participants
Off-road trails	4000
Gym fitness facilities	2500
Outdoor water-based recreation activities (fishing, boating, etc.)	2200
Indoor sports centre residents	1700
Swimming pools	1500
Outdoor playing field sports facilities	1400

Some sports compete against each other because the seasons conflict.

Access to shared spaces where small sports can be played, at least socially, could ensure residents have a choice in recreation activities.

Participation in fishing and boating

Some 750,000 Western Australians choose to go fishing, or one person in every third house. Some 45 per cent of fishers (statewide) only fish from the shore, 24 per cent from a boat only, and 31 per cent from both boat and shore.

Boat-based fishers spend an average of \$13,559 per year (excluding boat purchases), and shore-based fishers spend an average of \$2,253 annually. In the Kimberley, \$184 million is spent.⁷

There were 3496 Recreational Fishing From Boating Licences held in the Kimberley in 2020, and some 68,000 hours of fishing undertaken in 2021. Most fishers are male (79%) however, a higher proportion of females fished compared with statewide participation.

⁷[Economic Dimensions of Recreational Fishing in Western Australia Report](#)



Most were 30 to 44 years of age (35%) or 45 to 59 years of age (32%).⁸

The number of recreational fishers has increased 95% to almost 700,000 in 2020/21.

Recreational fishing has high participation rates in Western Australia compared to the rest of the country, with around 28.7 % of the population (aged 15 years or older in 2021).

Distinct seasonal patterns of boat-based recreational fishing efforts occur in autumn, winter, and spring, the most active seasons on the North Coast of WA. The Mud Crab catch on the North Coast represented 91% of the statewide catch in 2020/21.

There are multiple fishing events in the Shire, including the Barra Bash (which attracts over 1000 people) and the Brown Water Classic.

4.2 Tourism and events

The Shire is an attractive region for tourists. Kununurra is known as the eastern gateway to the Kimberley, making it a popular base for further exploration. The name Kununurra means “Meeting of the Big Waters.”⁹ Wyndham is “the Kimberley’s oldest town and Western Australia’s northernmost town.”¹⁰

The following data from .id shows recent tourism data from the Regional Development Australia (RDA) Kimberley, not just the Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley.¹¹ The region experienced a dip through COVID and has not quite recovered to the consistent visitation levels of the 2010s.

Despite this, the average daily spend of visitors has risen consistently over the same period.¹²

A strong tourism industry is crucial for the Shire's many events, which rely on visitors travelling to the area.

However, there is some competition between sports and cultural events for the relatively short dry season, particularly due to limited accommodation capacity.

Further growth of events will rely on an extension of the season or increased accommodation options.

⁸ Fisheries Research Report No. 327 Boat-based recreational fishing in Western Australia 2020/21 K.L. Ryan, E.K.M. Lai, C.B. Smallwood 2022

⁹ RDA Kimberley (2020). Tourism Industry

¹⁰ RDA Kimberley (2020). Tourism Industry

¹¹ id (2024). RDA Kimberley Economic Profile.

¹² Tourism Western Australia (2024). Visitor statistics.

Figure 4. Visitor nights in the RDA Kimberley by year

Year	RDA Kimberley	
	International Visitor Nights	Domestic Visitor Nights
2022/23	--	2,393,117
2021/22	--	2,815,562
2020/21	--	2,322,326
2019/20	--	2,034,928
2018/19	686,853	2,716,574
2017/18	677,287	2,723,273
2016/17	635,929	2,247,070
2015/16	520,979	2,963,602

Attendance at events and trends

General trends in attendance of events collected by the ABS for 2021-22 show:

- Women (39%) were more likely to participate in cultural activities than men (25%)
- People aged 15-17 years were most likely to attend a cultural venue or event. Children's attendance at cultural venues or events fell from 94% to 80% between 2017-18 and 2021-22. Western Australia had the highest children's attendance rate across Australia (88%).
- In 2021-22, 64% of adults attended at least one cultural venue or event, down from 82% in 2017-18.
- 44% of people attended the cinema, the most popular cultural venue or event.

Attendance rates at all cultural venues or events were highest for cinemas, followed by live music. However, attendance declined between 2017-18 and 2021-22:

- Cinemas (67% to 44%)
- Live music concerts or performances (38% to 18%)
- Other performing arts (20% to 9%)
- Museums (28% to 17%)
- Art galleries (28% to 18%).

Events in the Shire

Attendances

The following table provides an overview of the events in the Shire and known attendances.

The information compiled by The Shire indicates that over 30 sites in the Shire accommodate events on average annually, and some 38,000 people attend events in the Shire annually. This includes local residents as well as people who travel in for the major ones.

The largest attendance for a single site and event is for the Show at the Ingrid Harvey Oval (6000), followed by Celebrity Tree Park (3500), the Rodeo Grounds (2200), and the Race Club (2000).

The community survey found the event attended by most respondents was the Kununurra market (75%), followed by the Show (74%).

The community survey asked, "Where would be the best place for a premier events space in Wyndham-East Kimberley?" Out of seven sites, Celebrity Tree Park was rated as the most preferred event space. It was followed by the Golf Club, Race Club, and Swim Beach. The results are detailed in Appendix 2.

Times of year

The Shire has a good range of events across all months of the year, from purely sporting events that follow a regional and state schedule, such as the



Kununurra Races and the camp draft and rodeo, to water-based recreation challenges such as swimming, boating, and fishing, and a suite of cultural events/ festivals, the Show, markets, and local community events.

Shire data suggests that there are over 70 events held in the Shire, at least annually.

A calendar of typical annual events in the Shire is provided in Appendix 8.

Figure 5. Events in the Shire, location and estimated attendances 2024¹³

Event Name	Location	Attendees '24
KUNUNURRA		
Maggies Ladies Day	Ingrid Harvey Oval	65
Agricultural Show	Ingrid Harvey Oval	6000
Schools Athletics / Junior Footy carnivals	Ingrid Harvey Oval	?
Kununurra ANZAC Day	ANZAC Hill Memorial	500
KNX Half Marathon	BMX Track Old Darwin Road	120
Gibb River Rd Challenge	Gibb River Road – to Durack	200
Ord Valley Muster/ Kimberley Moon Festival	Celebrity Tree Park	3500
Teddy Bear's Picnic	Celebrity Tree Park	260
Story Walk Opening	Celebrity Tree Park	50
Gibb Challenge (MTB)	Gibb River Road	350
East Kimberley Business Excellence Awards	Kimberley Grande	150
Santa Float Parade	Kununurra	500
Kununurra Beats on the Streets	Kununurra	500

Event Name	Location	Attendees '24
Citizen Of The Year St Joseph's Quiz Night Christmas Markets Kununurra Aust. Day Kununurra Family Fun Day	Kununurra Leisure Centre	50
Kununurra Squash Open	Kununurra Leisure Centre Squash Court	?
International Women's Day	Kununurra Neighbourhood House	50
Community Garage Sale	Kununurra Picture Gardens	200
Picture gardens anniversary	Kununurra Picture Gardens	250
East Kimberley Aboriginal Achievement Awards	Kununurra Picture Gardens	350
Taste of the Kimberley	Kununurra Picture Gardens	1020
20K In a Day Carnivals	Kununurra Pool	100
Black Tie Fundraiser, East Kimberley Economic Forum	Kununurra Race Club	400
Kununurra Races, Two per year, 7 races each.	Kununurra Race Club	2000,
Kununurra Race Club Ladies Day	Kununurra Race Club	2000
Kununurra Moto-X	Kununurra Moto-X Club	?
Ord Valley Muster May Rodeo	Kununurra Rodeo Grounds	2200 *
August Campdraft*	Kununurra Rodeo Grounds	2132
Argyle Swim	Lake Argyle	900

¹³ Attendances provided by organisers and The Shire



Event Name	Location	Attendees '24
Lake Argyle Adventure Race	Lake Argyle	200
Argyle Swim Presentation Dinner	Lake Argyle Caravan Park	700
Ord River Paddle	Ord River	45
Dragon Boat Marathon	Lake Argyle	150
Dam to Dam Dinghy Dash	Lake Argyle	?
Thank a Volunteer Cruise	Lake Argyle	50
Hired for private functions	Ski Beach	400
Ski Beach Night Market	Ski Beach	500
WA Ski Show	Ski Beach	500
Build up Bash	Ski Beach	250
Dam to Dam	Ski Beach	400, (1026)*
Barra Bash (fishing event)	Ski Beach	1000
Ski Beach Markets	Ski Beach	500
Baby Tree	Swim Beach	100
Kununurra parkrun	Swim Beach	Approx 1700 per year.
Taste of the Kimberley; FEASTival	Kununurra Picture Gardens	1170
Taste of the Kimberley	Pumphouse Restaurant	40
Farm to Market Tour	Kununurra and surrounds	28
Sundaze	?	75
Inflata-Fest, Major Sports carnivals, Sidewalk Astronomy<	Town Oval	200, 200
NAIDOC Week	Town Oval / White gum Park / Kununurra Leisure Centre	200
Corroboree under the stars	Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Centre	500 (408)*

Event Name	Location	Attendees '24
Waringarri Radio Anniversary	Waringarri Radio	160
World No Tobacco Day	White gum Park	100
R U OK Day		100
OV Muster Storytelling Night		92
International Day of People With Disability		100
White Ribbon Day KNX and WYN		200
Mental Health Week		100
Kununurra Silent March Against Family Domestic Violence		200
Market Every Saturday – Apr to Sep	White Gum Park	200
Corroboree Under the Stars Youth and Aboriginal workshops.	Waringarri Arts Centre, Kununurra	500
Waringarri Arts Experience (OVM)	Waringarri Arts Centre	21

Event Name	Location	Attendees '24
WYNDHAM		
Wyndham ANZAC Day	The Bastion / 5 Rivers Lookout	50
Wyndham Community Xmas Event, Private parties and events, ceremonies	Peter Reid Hall, Wyndham	
Munumburra Festival	Wyndham Picture Gardens	350
Munumburra Festival	Wyndham Community Club	
Munumburra Festival	Clarrie Cassidy Oval, Wyndham	
Australia Day	Wyndham Pool	50
Wyndham Family Fun Day -	Wyndham Pool	100
Brown Water Classic	Wyndham Waterways	500

See the full list in Appendix 8.



5. Recreation facilities in the Shire

The following table lists the main recreation facilities in the Shire and sites used for events.

Table 5 Recreation Facilities and Sites Used for Events

Recreation Facility/ Event Venue	Address	Suburb
Kununurra Town Oval	Ron Hodnett Dr	Kununurra
Clarrie Cassidy Oval	Great Northern Hwy.	Wyndham
Kununurra Agricultural Oval	199 Coolibah Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra Tennis Courts	Chestnut Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra Basketball Courts	Chestnut Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra Netball Courts	Chestnut Dr.	Kununurra
Wyndham Basketball Courts	12 Civic Way	Wyndham
East Kimberley College Sports Facilities	79 Mangaloo St	Kununurra
Kununurra Leisure Centre	115 Coolibah Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra Swimming Pool	115 Coolibah Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra PCYC	1 Ron Hodnett Dr	Kununurra
Wyndham Swimming Pool	12 Civic Way.	Wyndham
Ted Birch Recreation Centre	Civic Way	Wyndham
Wyndham Community Club	6 Great Northern Hwy.	Wyndham
Kununurra Neighbourhood House	7 Chestnut Ave.	Kununurra
Waringarri Aboriginal Arts Centre	16 Speargrass Rd.	Kununurra
Peter Reid Memorial Hall	St Peters Way	Wyndham

Recreation Facility/ Event Venue	Address	Suburb
Kununurra Racecourse/ Race Club	Off Drovers Road	Kununurra
Ord River Sports Club "Sporties"	Ron Hodnett Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra Sporties Bowls Club	Ron Hodnett Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra Golf Club	Lakeview Dr.	Kununurra
Ski Beach /Kununurra Water Ski Club	Millington Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra Moto Cross Track	Ivanhoe Rd.	Kununurra
Kununurra Squash Courts/ Club	115 Coolibah Dr.	Kununurra
Dragon Boat Club	Ord River Victoria Hwy.	Kununurra
Ord Pistol Club	Old Darwin Road	Kununurra
Kununurra Warriors Boxing Club	Kununurra Picture Gardens	Kununurra
Kununurra Camp Draft and Rodeo	Off Drovers Road	Kununurra
Kununurra Indoor Cricket	Ron Hodnett Dr.	Kununurra
Kununurra Speedway Club	Off Victoria Hwy.	
Rotary Centenary Park	63 Victoria Hwy.	Kununurra
Nicholson Park	12 Grevillea Ave.	Kununurra
Celebrity Tree Park	Victoria Hwy.	Kununurra
Swim Beach Park	Off Victoria Hwy	Kununurra
Snake Way Skate Park	Koolama St.	Wyndham
Lions Park	Denman St.	Wyndham
White Gum Park / Skate Park	1 White Gum St.	Kununurra



Recreation Facility/ Event Venue	Address	Suburb
Kununurra BMX /Action Sports Centre	Off Drovers Road	Kununurra
Kununurra Picture Gardens	39 Coolibah Dr.	Kununurra
Wyndham Picture Gardens	2 Civic Way	Wyndham
Daharwi/ The Bastion Range / 5 Rivers Lookout	Hugo Austla Dr.	Wyndham
ANZAC Hill	ANZAC Hill	Kununurra
Lily Lagoon Boat Ramp and Jetty	Old Darwin Rd North	Kununurra
Wyndham Boat Ramp, Pontoon, Jetty	Cambridge Gulf	Wyndham
Lake Argyle Boat Ramp	Lake Argyle Rd.	Lake Argyle
Other Playgrounds	Bessie Wylie Park, St Pauls Way	Wyndham
Other Playgrounds	Pindan Park, Argentea St Park	Kununurra

The Consultation Findings in Appendix 2 also provide comments about the facilities from the community survey and consultation with clubs and stakeholders.

Facilities used regularly in Kununurra

The community survey asked, “Which facilities do you use regularly in Kununurra or Wyndham?”

From a list provided, the most used facilities in Kununurra were Celebrity Tree Park and Swim Beach, followed by the Kununurra Leisure Centre and the Town Oval. In Wyndham the most used were Clarrie Cassidy Oval, followed by the swimming pool and the Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre.

The most frequent “Other” response was boat ramps and water for sport and recreation. Respondents use these facilities for fishing and sightseeing, but they want upgraded boat ramps and better access to the water.

Appendix 2. provides detailed responses to the community survey.



5.1 Facility Improvements

There were some key themes in the community survey regarding facility improvements. These were:

- Storage space. There is a general lack of storage space for community clubs and groups at facilities across the Shire.
- Clubrooms. Existing clubroom facilities are outdated and often lacking in capacity for women, umpires, and disabled groups.
- Shade. Residents requested better shade and sun protection at nearly every facility in Kununurra.
- Toilets. Respondents indicated that toilets need upgrading /or are inaccessible at several community parks and open spaces.
- Access to water. Kununurra residents want better access to rivers and waterways for land-based fishing, boating and recreation. They want upgraded boat ramps and easier access to the water. See Appendix 2.

Key points from an assessment of all facilities are listed in Appendix 9.

A summary of all spaces used for events and attendances, and suggested improvements, are provided in Appendix 10 Event details, Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities by Site.

Facility recommendations

The following table lists desirable work at each key facility in the Shire.

Facility	Recommendations
Kununurra	
Celebrity Tree Park (CTP)	<p>Develop a master plan for Celebrity Tree Park to improve amenities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide a continuous pathway around CTP to create a complete circuit, safe separation between cars and direct access to the jetty that links with other foreshore and town centre walk trails. ▪ manage vegetation to maintain habitat for small birds, enhance views, and provide a backdrop to events. ▪ Progressively enhance Celebrity Tree Park as a natural space, replacing plaques and trees at the end of their lives. ▪ Undertake tree planting and increase shade ▪ Plant additional ornamental canopy trees along the road frontage. The trees should be suitable for the park's use and setting and limbed up for views, leaving an open area for events with a backdrop of the water.
Kununurra Town Oval	<p>Develop a master plan for the Town Oval and courts, associated support facilities, car parking, vehicle and pedestrian movement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure that the oval, basketball, tennis, netball courts, Kununurra Leisure Centre, and PCYC building are upgraded as an integrated precinct (44). ▪ Collaborate with the precinct users, clubs and Ord River Sports Club to develop a shared consolidated, accessible, and code-compliant building overlooking the oval that incorporates a club/community room, gender neutral change facilities, and food and beverage options ▪ Remove or replace the cricket wicket on Town Oval as It is currently dangerous. ▪ Upgrade the sports lights on the oval to LED to reduce operational costs and allow small-ball sports.



Facility	Recommendations
Kununurra Agricultural Oval (renamed Ingrid Harvey Oval July 2025)	<p>Develop a master plan for Ingrid Harvey Oval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the Ingrid Harvey Oval and its footprint for football codes/athletics, the Kununurra Agricultural Show, and other events including sporting activities and school sports (32). Provide additional public toilets and gender neutral changerooms for junior and emerging senior clubs, schools and other casual users (35). Consider renegotiating the current lease with Ord Valley Magpies to allow public access to toilets and change facilities for other hirers. Allow for realignment of the oval north/south in the longer term (34) and provide the main support facility (clubroom) on the northwest side (26) Seek funds to install oval drainage to extend usage into the wet season Consider the future benefits of relocating the equestrian area to the rodeo and racing grounds and providing funds for the oval's development and landscape to accommodate rectangle pitch sports (36). Upgrade oval lighting to LED to reduce operational costs.
Kununurra Leisure Centre	<p>Redevelop the Kununurra Leisure Centre indoor facilities to create a modern multi-purpose aquatic and recreation centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a master plan for the extension of the Kununurra Leisure Centre integrated into the Town Oval and outdoor courts precinct behind Including parking, vehicle and pedestrian access ways (13). Extend the number of indoor air-conditioned basketball/netball courts at the Leisure Centre in Kununurra (14). The Kununurra Leisure Centre upgrade should consider a significant extension to the gym, a program room for Pilates, fitness classes and similar activities, four squash courts, and two indoor netball/basketball courts with a dividing curtain. The centre's design should facilitate its use as an emergency evacuation centre.

Facility	Recommendations
Kununurra Outdoor Basketball Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update lighting to LED to reduce operational costs Plan for court resurfacing in 1-2 years Install a permanent shade structure over at least two courts.
Kununurra Tennis Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconstruct the tennis courts, provide courtside shade, and support facilities.
Kununurra Outdoor Netball Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconstruct the courts, provide courtside shade, and support facilities.
Kununurra Race Club + Precinct	<p>Develop a master plan for the precinct, including the action sports, rodeo, racing and Ord River paddlers areas to create a hub of integrated and compatible facilities, public access to the water, jetty and boat launching area, and protection of foreshore vegetation and the crown riparian reserve.</p> <p>Note that the priority and scale of works required at the Town Oval and Leisure Centre precinct and the Ingrid Harvey Oval mean the racecourse track centre (and its distance from the town) is not practical or a priority to develop as an oval to host regular-use outdoor sports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of a facility at the race track for race club activities/events, club meetings, small events, niche events, and community and private function space for hire. Consider relocating equestrian activities at Ingrid Harvey Oval to the precinct to form one equestrian precinct Upgrade power to the site to better service large or multiple events. Construct a new public jetty/boat launching area to activate the precinct (7) and provide for the water-based clubs and users. Support improvement to the entry road into the precinct Retain a public riparian corridor



Facility	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional tree planting and protection of foreshore vegetation with select areas for viewing onto the water. Continue the overflow camping areas for the race club and rodeo during events. Encourage the development of walking routes, including to Thethebeleng (Elephant Rock). Require lessees to remove dilapidated infrastructure and restrict public access to uncompleted works.
Swim Beach & foreshore areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the master planning of Swim Beach as a priority water-based area. Improve fishing and boating facilities at key foreshore nodes and protect foreshore quality with one upgrade every five years. Retain a public open space corridor along all foreshores, including at the Foreshore Plan's recommended development nodes, to support a trail, public fishing and boating access, habitat and important views. Develop a foreshore trail and road alignments at water-based nodes that protect a sustainable area for social family recreation and water-based activities. Provide a lower-order circuit trail at each node to minimise the conflict between activities. Seek funding for boat ramps at Swim Beach (relocation).
Kununurra Golf Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the Golf club with club development and infrastructure projects where resources allow. Progress wastewater irrigation plan for greening the Golf Course.
Kununurra Water Ski Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It would be desirable to pull the main road to the Ski Club back from the foreshore so that pedestrian activities, the community picnic and play, and water-based activities at Swim Beach and a local trail circuit are not constrained. Improve fishing and boating facilities at key nodes and protect foreshore quality with one upgrade every five years. Retain a public open space corridor along all foreshores, including at the Foreshore Plan's recommended development nodes, to support a trail, public fishing and boating access, habitat and important views.

Facility	Recommendations
Dragon Boat Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve fishing and boating facilities at key nodes and protect foreshore quality with one upgrade every five years Retain a public open space corridor along all foreshores, including at the Foreshore Plan's recommended development nodes, to support a trail, public fishing and boating access, habitat and important views.
Kununurra BMX Track/Action Sports Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake tree planting, increase shade, and develop off-road trail circuits to and around the area. Ensure management arrangements are in place to do regular inspections and maintenance. Ensure any programs include bike skill development, safety education, and maintenance.
White Gum Park / Skate Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the market in this location in any master planning of the Central business district and consider providing active frontages around the Park such as cafes or activity generators. Repair the damaged part of the skate park and introduce a maintenance program. Continue to support the market and its relevance to and input from the community, local businesses and cultural components.
Ord River Sports Club (Sporties)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with the users of the oval and Sporties to develop a consolidated, accessible, and code-compliant building in the existing location overlooking the oval, including change facilities for the oval bowls and cricket, a shared community space for club, community activities/programs, and a kitchen that supports functions, club days and can be used by the clubs.
Kununurra Camp Draft and Rodeo	<p>Refer to the precinct master plan recommendation for Kununurra Race Club + Precinct. Specific to the Rodeo club:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">
Kununurra Indoor Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with the indoor cricket group to upgrade the covered cricket nets and carpets.
Kununurra Speedway Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the Speedway club with club development and infrastructure projects where resources allow (28).



Facility	Recommendations
Wyndham	
Clarrie Cassidy Oval, Wyndham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on developing two sport and recreation hubs: one in conjunction with the pool and Ted Birch Youth & Recreation Centre and the other at Clarrie Cassidy Oval. Provide a covered cricket facility at the oval. Commence tree planting program for shade and windbreaks around the oval. Improve the viewing area for spectators and include a shaded BBQ area with playground
Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre, Wyndham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on developing two sport and recreation hubs: one in conjunction with the pool and Ted Birch Youth & Recreation Centre and the other at Clarrie Cassidy Oval (27). Provide one additional indoor court at Wyndham to meet evacuation and emergency response centre standards (15). Increase programmable indoor spaces Provide an Indoor air conditioned gym. Consider providing opportunities for tennis on the outdoor court and new skate elements in association with the centre. Consider redesigning the entry points for the swimming pool and Youth Centre and providing a linking building so both venues are better integrated to minimise staffing and to share responsibilities for the pool, courts, programs, and community facilities (49).
Wyndham Memorial Swimming Pool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace the existing swimming pool change facilities with modern integrated accessible and functional facilities (48). Replace the shade sails with a retractable system suitable for a single operator pool Replace existing inadequate shade structures Develop a community playground and integrated skate park next to the swimming pool (47). Erect a major sign on the highway to promote the Wyndham swimming pool (52).

Facility	Recommendations
Peter Reid Memorial Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider disposing of Peter Reid Memorial Hall and integrate a community hall function into the hub at the Pool and Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre to reduce number of ageing assets and the cost of maintenance.
Wyndham Community Club	<p>Incorporate Into the Clarrie Cassidy Oval (27) as shared facilities for community and Wyndham Crocs Football Club to Include a new combined social and covered cricket facility.</p>

6. Key themes, issues and opportunities

Eight key themes arose from the analysis of regional and local strategies, the demand and consultation report, community survey, availability of facilities and Shire resources, and demographic profile and physical characteristics.

1. Fishing and boating facilities and events, and foreshore quality
2. Access to affordable and inclusive sports and recreation opportunities
3. Indoor air-conditioned facilities that can be programmed and extend the core active recreation season and provide evacuation centres
4. Consolidated and shared sport and recreation infrastructure in existing hubs with greater capacity so that they are easy to access and manage.
5. Essential community recreation facilities in Wyndham
6. Encouraging and supporting sustainable events that benefit the community
7. Greening of the Shire's urban spaces and developing off-road trail circuits
8. Prioritising capital works and performance measures in implementing this plan

A summary of each issue, potential demand, community feedback, infrastructure issues, partnerships and resources, and key strategic directions are outlined in the following pages.



6.1 Fishing and boating facilities and events, and foreshore quality

Fishing and boating were the main activities identified as a priority by survey respondents.

The Shire has over 1100km of coastline, 5 major rivers, and the largest constructed lake in Australia. These resources and the associated scenic, environmental, and water-based recreation values are a key competitive strength.

The wetland systems of Lake Argyle, Lake Kununurra, and Lily Creek Lagoon have been designated as wetlands of international importance under the UNESCO Convention on Wetlands, or Ramsar Convention.

Issues related to potential demand

The expressed and latent demand for fishing, boating, and foreshore and water-based events is significant in the Shire and identified in Chapter 5.

Support and advocacy for fishing are especially beneficial as affordable, family-oriented activities for people of all ages, abilities, and cultural backgrounds. Fishing, boating, kayaking, dragon boating, water skiing, and touring are prevalent in the Shire, as are waterbased events such as the

Lake Argyle Swim, Barra Bash, Dam to Dam Dinghy, and the Ord River Paddling Marathon.

There are 3496 Recreational Fishing From Boating Licences held in the Kimberley in 2020, and surveys suggest licence holders fished some 68,000 hours in this region in 2021.¹⁴

The expenditure attributable to recreational fishing in Western Australia is estimated at \$2.4 billion in 2015/16.

All boat-based recreational catches of Barramundi in the state occurred on the North Coast. Barramundi were harvested throughout the year, with higher catches in autumn and spring. In WA alone, \$1.8 billion is spent on fishing trips.

There has been a stocking program in Kununurra since 2013 that is essential to support events and recreational fishers.

This activity is overseen by a committee that should receive ongoing support and advocacy assistance ideally from the Shire.

Issues related to Infrastructure

Residents and event organisers consider the condition and safety of existing water-based recreation infrastructure of high importance, and it could be improved for safety and accessibility.

Boat ramps are critical to facilitating boat access for residents and visitors, but they are also subject to damage and regular inundation during floods.

- Whilst there is a desire to associate these boat ramps with facilities such as toilets, the Shire does not have the resources to provide and manage them in relatively remote locations such as Buttons and Mambi Island.
- The boat ramp at Swim Beach needs to be relocated as identified in the Foreshore Plan to reduce conflicts between non-motorised activities and swimming.
- The Lily Lagoon jetty and boat ramp could enhance the safety of some users. A path to access this along the edge of Celebrity Tree Park is required. However, a swimming beach is not recommended in this location.
- The Gouldian Finch Society is seeking a visitor centre and research base at the junction of Victoria Highway and Valentine Spring Road.

¹⁴ Fisheries Research Report No. 327 Boat-based recreational fishing

in Western Australia 2020/21 K.L. Ryan, E.K.M. Lai, C.B. Smallwood 2022



- All-weather road access to boat ramps is an issue raised by residents, visitors and the Shire.
- In the long term, a public jetty/ mooring in the vicinity of the racing club /rodeo/camp draft and/or Ord paddlers would be desirable to activate the precinct and reduce conflict between the water-based recreation clubs and the public.
- The major foreshore trail, in some locations, should be supplemented by localised walking circuits closer to the public water interface (such as at Lily Lagoon and Swim Beach) so fast-moving users travelling along the foreshore are separated from people who are strolling around a site, water edge activities and viewing of foreshore birds and activity.
- Pulling the main road to the Ski Club back from the foreshore would be desirable so that pedestrian activities, the community picnic and play, water-based activities at Swim Beach, and a local trail circuit are not constrained.

Public open space corridor along the foreshore

There is considerable importance of water-based uses to tourism and residents' health and well-being, the need to protect views of the foreshore, the bird¹⁵, riparian vegetation and aquatic habitat, walking, informal recreation and nature appreciation. The water is also a scenic component to many recreation experiences.

Water-based recreation facilities and development zones are most sustainable at key nodes, protecting public access to and along the foreshore in a public open space corridor and habitat protection zone for future generations.

Lily Lagoon /Celebrity Tree Park

The Foreshore Plan recommends whole-scale vegetation removal along Lily Lagoon. Any removal of vegetation should be reassessed to protect bird habitat, prevent inadvertent erosion, wear from public use, and create a diversity of stimuli along the foreshore walk. Vegetation should enhance public views of the foreshore and across the water.

Trees can be limbed up and positioned better to accommodate event use. A continuous foreshore trail circuit is desirable around Celebrity Tree Park, including the road verge down to the jetty. This pathway would provide access during events, and

for pedestrians wanting to safely access the jetty and the water.

The general maintenance and replacement of trees in Celebrity Tree Park should create an area suitable for events that overlook the water, be limbed up for viewing, be of a suitable robust species for shade, but provide continuous, good shade, provide play value, reflect indigenous cultural significance, and provide a separation from the main accessible playground and other activity areas in the park.

Refinements to the jetty and boat ramp will improve safety and access for people using prams and wheelchairs, enhance accessibility and separate boating, swimming and pedestrian activities for safety.

What the community said

The community consultation for this project highlighted the extraordinarily strong demand and participation in land and boat-based fishing and other water sports (skiing, dragon boating, paddle sports, etc.) and the significance of water features such as waterfalls, rivers and the foreshore.

Key points raised about this issue in the community and stakeholder engagement are provided in Appendix 5.

¹⁵ The Ord Irrigation Area Important Bird Area



Fishing and Boating: Strategic directions

1. Retain a public open space corridor along all foreshores supporting a trail, public fishing and boating access, habitat and important views, including at the Foreshore Plan's recommended development nodes.
2. Seek federal government funds to upgrade Valentine's and Parry Creek Roads to provide safer access to waterfalls, swimming holes, and fishing spots.
3. Seek funding for boat ramps at Swim Beach (relocation), and maintenance at Buttons camp, Mambi Island, upgrade Wyndham Port jetty (underway), and advocate for improved boat ramp/launching at Lake Argyle (including access from the finish line to accommodation at Lake Argyle Swim)
4. Support and advocate for the Lake Kununurra Barramundi Stocking Group to continue the stocking program.
5. Promote existing water-based recreation events and develop more opportunities for fishing tourism in conjunction with other regional partners.
6. Construct a new public jetty /boat launching area near the Race Club to help activate the precinct.
7. Support local and state initiatives to remove weeds, protect riparian vegetation and views, and selectively develop high-quality water-based facilities at manageable nodes.

8. Support further master planning of Swim Beach and Celebrity Tree Park as the priority for water-based sites in Kununurra.

Partners and resourcing

Continue to assess the state funding for boat ramps, even though it is difficult for the Shire to access because grant programs are typically more likely to focus on those in high-population centres.

Remote communities, such as the Shire, are also disadvantaged by the high capital costs of facilities in remote areas.

Road access, boat ramps and jetties in the Shire are highly susceptible to inundation and storm damage.

Many partners are interested in water-based recreation, economic activity, and access to and the condition of waterways. The Shire has strong relationships with these partners and should continue to have.

6.2 Access to affordable and inclusive sports and recreation opportunities

Issues related to potential demand

Traditionally, there are a number of barriers to sports and recreation opportunities, such as age, ability, gender identity, and economic circumstances. In the Shire, access is also exacerbated by issues associated with climate, remoteness and distance to facilities, lack of transport, the small population, and the age of the infrastructure.

See chapters 4 and 5.

The cost of membership and registration is a significant impediment to participation as well as the lack of accessible and inclusive infrastructure.

There are a large number of community organisations that support particular target groups in participating in sports, physical activity, and recreation activities. These work alongside or within other community service entities, sports clubs, and organisations, such as the PCYC.

These groups typically rely on Shire facilities for programs and activities.

Multi-delivery partnerships present challenges, including the need for a coordinated approach to funding, ongoing communication, transport and assistance, and, in some cases, advocacy and governance.

Issues related to Infrastructure

Indoor and outdoor sports courts, support facilities at sports fields, and the Leisure Centre could include more programmable spaces for community activities for target groups.

Facilities must be responsive to the needs of people of all ages, abilities and gender identities. Funds for improvements to bring infrastructure aligned with universal design standards and inclusivity of all target groups need to be sought.

Future master planning and occupancy arrangements should enable the sharing and use of community infrastructure by multi-delivery partners, including sports clubs, community service agencies, and small businesses, where possible, to deliver specialised programs, allied health, food and beverages, and fitness and well-being classes, for example, that the Shire is not able to deliver.

What the community and clubs said

Key points raised about this issue in the community and stakeholder engagement included the following:

For participants:

- More accessible facilities for wheelchair users in the leisure centre
- distance to compete against other clubs and lack of transport and
- Transitioning between junior and senior and into representative pathways is difficult due to travel costs.
- Assistance is needed to sponsor player registrations for those who cannot afford it.
- The people who abuse umpires are contributing to dwindling match official numbers. People choose to watch the live stream as they feel threatened by behaviours at the game.

For organisations

- Some clubs affiliate with NT despite being in WA as closer and receive better service
- Hiring Shire facilities is expensive, and transparency is needed about hiring costs.
- There is a lack of qualified coaches and officials, as they need to comply with state requirements and insurance.
- Some groups want more support from the Shire to facilitate programs.
- There is a need for more space next to fields of play for administration and umpire safety.
- Heavy reliance on a low number of volunteers. Need for assistance to encourage and manage volunteers.
- Limited opportunities for clubs to fundraise, i.e. to sell food
- Need for enhanced communication between service providers, clubs, leagues and Shire.
- The East Kimberley Football League Women's need to partner with the WAFC to improve the competition and introduce the same awards as the men (e.g. association medal). Using the women's competition as a pathway for more female officials (coaches, umpires.)

Access and inclusion: Strategic Directions

9. Create a recreation development staff role to work with multi-delivery partners, clubs, and recreation groups to provide advocacy, connections, and information to groups to assist with club development and sustainability. Liaison with peak bodies on issues, addressing barriers, and encouraging all the community to participate.
10. Investigate (in conjunction with sports and other community groups) how children who may not have the means to pay registration and membership fees could be sponsored and how those willing to undertake training to become coaches, officials, could be supported.
11. Consider acquiring a community bus to transport clubs to Wyndham for games, carnivals

Partners and resourcing

- Consider seeking a community bus through a charitable organisation or sponsorship arrangement.

6.3 Indoor facilities that can be programmed extend the core active recreation/events season and provide evacuation centres

Issues related to potential demand

There is a strong need for indoor, air-conditioned spaces in Kununurra and Wyndham to ensure people have opportunities to participate in sports and recreation outside the dry season. See Chapter 4.

In line with the growth in group fitness and non-sport club physical activities, there is a demand for a wide range of programs that are currently not offered by the Shire, such as Pilates and yoga fitness classes. See details in Chapter 5.

Extended capacity for indoor sports would allow for more activities and minimise conflicts between existing and new activities.

Issues related to Infrastructure

The indoor spaces, such as the Leisure Centre/ gym/ squash courts in Kununurra and the school, are at capacity. Some clubs, dependent on existing facilities, have limitations on their time, and courts are being used for facilities that could use small spaces, but they are not available.

The school only has one indoor court, which needs to be used by different age categories throughout the year. The lack of school space impacts children's ability to develop sports skills and transition into clubs.

What the community said

Key points raised about this issue in the community and stakeholder engagement included:

- Need for another squash court: courts are not compliant and are at capacity.
- A multipurpose room in the Leisure Centre for Pilates/yoga, dance, fitness, and strength classes.
- Consider how gym owners might be impacted/provide services
- Need for another indoor court for badminton, pickle ball
- A bigger gym -needs a rethink and upgrade.
- More storage facilities in the leisure centre.
- Roofs are needed on the basketball courts, like in other communities in the Kimberley.

Indoor programmable facilities: Strategic directions

12. Prepare the master plan for the extension of the Kununurra Leisure Centre, integrated with the Town Oval and outdoor courts precinct behind, parking, the swimming pool, pedestrian access ways
13. Extend the number of indoor air-conditioned basketball/ netball courts at the Kununurra Leisure Centre (and Wyndham) designed to meet evacuation and emergency response centre standards.
14. The Kununurra Leisure Centre should include a significant extension to the gym, 24-hour access, a program room for Pilates, fitness classes, and similar activities, four squash courts, and two indoor netball/ basketball courts with a dividing curtain. The centre's design should facilitate its use as an emergency evacuation centre.
15. Support the use of public indoor space (leisure centres, sports club rooms, by small fitness, Pilates, and yoga providers offering classes.

Partners/ Resourcing

There are multiple partners present in the Shire who can and do deliver indoor recreation programs. These include.

- Not-for-profit service agencies focused on target groups
- Small gym, fitness businesses
- PCYC
- Sports clubs
- State government sponsors

6.4 Greening and development of off-road trails

Issues related to potential demand

Features commonly requested across the country to enhance the use of the outdoors for informal recreation where there is growing demand were reinforced in the survey results and raised about most facilities in the Shire: the need for trees and shade, access to the water, the value of views, the need for green space in central/ convenient locations, and the benefits of wide open spaces.

Based on AusPlay state participation rates applied to the Shire population, more people are likely to use an offroad trail than any other recreation facility (over 4,000 residents). These facilities also have extremely high value for visitors.

Based on the community survey, there is a strong, unprompted demand for off-road trails for walking, running, and cycling.

Issues related to Infrastructure

Celebrity Tree Park is one of the Shire's most used parks.

The Shire's climate is conducive to rapid tree growth if they are planted at the beginning of the wet season and protected while they are established.

Some of the mature trees in the central Kununurra township have been colonised by lorikeets and appear under stress.

In new facility developments, project budgets should always include a component for tree planting, ensuring the species is suitable for its location and purpose, i.e. shelter, shade, play or screening, and adequate buffers to services, sports fields of play.

Development of off-road trails along the foreshore (as planned) and in circuits around large parks and sports facilities, in each township, and key destinations could add users to existing facilities, including those who currently do not exercise.

Trails to spectacular viewing areas and rock formations have multiple benefits; affordable exercise, contact with nature and well-being, safe separation from vehicle traffic for pedestrians, and access to facilities for those who cannot drive.



What the community said

Residents requested better shade and sun protection at nearly every facility in Kununurra.

The combination of trees, shade, and scenery was a key feature of Kununurra that survey respondents identified as what they liked about sports and recreation facilities in Shire.

If funds became available, the activities and key themes listed in the priorities identified were walk/run/cycle and green spaces/ trees and shade/natural features, second only to fishing and boating activities and facilities.

Residents identified the demand for trails for a wide range of activities, such as mountain biking, off-road running, and horse riding.

A separate Trails plan addresses these trail activities.

Greening and Off-Road Trails: Strategic Directions

16. Embark on a major tree planting program in public spaces, streets and around the perimeter of parks and sports facilities, ensuring adequate buffers and root barriers are in place to protect sports fields of play and public infrastructure.
17. Incrementally develop off-road trail circuits in Wyndham and Kununurra, along the foreshore, and to key destinations (e.g., Kelly's Knob/Goowiyeng and Elephant Rock/ Thethebeleng), connecting these to the foreshore trail and into circuits.
18. Where possible, accommodate a shaded perimeter path in the master planning processes for the large sports reserves and recreation sites.
19. Develop a foreshore trail and road alignments at water-based nodes that protect a sustainable area for social family recreation and water-based activities close to the water and provide a lower order circuit trail at each to minimise the conflict between activities (e.g. at Swim Beech)
20. Provide a continuous pathway around Celebrity Tree Park, including around both road edges. to create a complete circuit, safe separation between cars and direct access to the jetty. Manage vegetation to maintain habitat for small birds and views, and to provide backdrop to events.
21. Infrastructure projects should always include a component for tree planting, ensuring the species is suitable for its location and purpose,

i.e. shelter, shade, play or screening, and allow adequate buffers to services, sports fields of the game

22. Progressively enhance Celebrity Tree Park as a natural space, replacing plaques and trees at the end of their lives. Plant additional ornamental canopy trees along the road frontage suitable to the park's uses and setting, limbed up for views and leaving an open area for events with a backdrop of the water.

Partners/Resourcing

Local partners, such as Landcare, schools, and the community, could be engaged to plant trees in specific locations as fun community activities.

State government bodies and many volunteer conservation and land management organisations.



6.5 Consolidated and shared sport and recreation infrastructure in existing hubs with greater capacity

Issues related to potential demand

Trends in recreation facility use reflect the strong human desire for convenience and the ability to achieve multiple things in one place. There is also almost universal demand for additional indoor space for recreation to minimise the impact of weather and extend available hours and convenience in use.

This trend is reinforced by local demand for capacity in the existing centrally located, accessible sports and recreation facilities, so that sports and recreation might include indoor group fitness programs and sports such as diamond sports and cricket that may come and go, to have the opportunity of developing.

With identified skill shortages, facilities in hubs such as swim, gym, sport, and fitness, possibly paired with civic administration or youth services, provide opportunities for career development, staff rotation, and productivity increases.

This is supported by the Smart Cities and Liveable Neighbourhoods vision of the World Health Organisation and the federal and state governments.

Each township community needs modest central facilities to cater to all ages, gender identities, cultural backgrounds, and abilities to encourage physical activity. These should be in shared facilities that are cost-effective to staff and maintain, provide for community activities and gatherings, and enable use by multi-delivery partners.

Issues related to infrastructure

Sports grounds are likely to be significantly better used and more feasible to develop and maintain at the existing sites in the townships. Similarly, event organisers deem events in central areas more viable.

Many facilities have reached the end of useful life, are not sustainable as separate facilities, or do not reflect current standards or the core functions required to serve current and future community needs.

The school sports and recreation facilities in Kununurra are well-used, including the indoor court. The school relies on the Ingrid Harvey Oval for sports activities due to its large student numbers and close proximity. The Ingrid Harvey Oval and school oval are essential sporting spaces that could be enhanced to meet capacity and community needs.

Facilities in Wyndham around the pool, Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre, and oval could be consolidated and combined, and enhanced

facilities could be developed that are more cost-effective to manage.

The Town Oval in Kununurra and its extended precinct, including the outdoor courts and the Leisure Centre, could be enhanced to replace functionally obsolete infrastructure, reduce duplication, extend opportunities to meet community needs and minimise resourcing costs.

The priority and scale of works required at the Town Oval and Leisure Centre precinct and the Ingrid Harvey Oval mean the racecourse (and its distance from town) is not as practical or a priority to develop as a central outdoor sports facility hub.

The racecourse facilities would, however, benefit from improvements to accommodate equestrian, community and private functions and niche events.



The development zone at the Race Club precinct could retain the public riparian corridor and the overflow camping facility for events. The precinct and local clubs would benefit from a public jetty/pontoon and mooring facility.

The golf course and speedway are highly valued facilities in the Shire and have the potential for more events. These facilities target different population groups and enhance the diversity of available recreation opportunities.

A wastewater irrigation plan for greening the golf course and further improvements to the Speedway's safety and support facilities are desirable.

What the community said

Key points raised about this issue in the community and stakeholder engagement included the following:

- Consolidate and centralise facilities close to town
- More shared use of the Ingrid Harvey Oval: better water access, so less reliance on Maggies for toilets and water.
- It is a great community space for family and social interaction at the Town Oval, but public change and toilets are needed so clubs can have a home.
- It is good to have different sports in one spot, such as indoor cricket, bowls, etc.

- The oval is great, location to town, central hub

Consolidated and shared facilities: Strategic Directions

23. Retain the three ovals in the town (Ingrid Harvey Oval, Town oval, and school oval in Kununurra) as shared-use facilities suitable for school, community, and ag society activities and events.
24. Provide a shared facility incorporating a club/community room, toilet change facilities, and food and beverage in association with the Town oval, bowls and cricket facilities.
25. Provide public changerooms and toilets at the Ingrid Harvey Oval for school, casual, and community event use.
26. In the Wyndham township, focus on developing two sport and recreation hubs: one in conjunction with the Wyndham pool and Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre and the other at Clarrie Cassidy Oval. (see Issue 5.)
27. Continue to support the Golf and Speedway clubs with club development and infrastructure projects where resources allow.

Race club precinct

28. Require lessees to remove dilapidated infrastructure and restrict public access to uncompleted works.
29. Support improvement to the road to the Race Club) to encourage activation of the precinct.

30. Prepare a master plan for the precinct, including action sports, race club, rodeo and the Ord River Paddlers area, to encourage the development of:

- A hub of integrated facilities
- Public access to the water jetty and boat launching area
- Protection of foreshore vegetation and the crown riparian reserve.
- Use of the area for events
- Additional tree planting and protection of foreshore vegetation with select areas for viewing onto the water.
- Continued camping areas for the race club and rodeo during events
- Services such as access to power
- Facilitating a race club /community gathering space to support race days, club meetings, small events, and hireable function space.
- Encourage the development of walking routes, including to Thethebeleng (Elephant Rock).

Ingrid Harvey Oval

31. Retain the Ingrid Harvey Oval for football codes/athletics, the Kununurra show, and other events and sporting activities, including school sports.
32. Allow for reconfiguring the oval north/ south in the longer term if required to better locate support facilities on the nth west so they can be shared with other users



33. Provide additional public toilets and support facilities overlooking the ground from the northwest.
34. Consider the feasibility of the proposal to relocate the equestrian area to the south and adjacent to Ingrid Harvey Oval, and develop the ground into an oval for sports and recreation.

Kununurra school oval

35. Consider collaborating with the school to increase the quality of the oval to serve school sports in addition to the long-term possibility of hosting community outdoor cricket.

Town Oval and outdoor courts

36. Remove and/or replace the cricket wicket in the oval, which is currently dangerous
37. Collaborate with the indoor cricket group to upgrade the covered indoor cricket nets and carpet
38. Prepare a master plan for the oval, outdoor courts, and associated support facilities, car parking, and vehicle and pedestrian movement
39. Collaborate with the oval users and Sporties to develop a consolidated, accessible, and code-compliant building overlooking the oval in this location. The building should include change facilities for the oval bowls and cricket, a shared community space for clubs and community activities/programs, and a kitchen to provide food and beverage to support the activities on the oval.

40. Reconstruct the tennis courts, provide courtside shade, and support facilities
41. Upgrade the sports lighting on the oval
42. Ensure master planning and upgrades of the oval, netball, basketball and tennis courts, and Leisure Centre are considered as an overall integrated precinct that supports the use of the individual components, addresses drainage, pedestrian safety, effective vehicle movement and provides support facilities that are central, convenient and functional for all users.

Support clubs improving the diversity of opportunities

43. Progress wastewater irrigation plan for greening the Golf Course

Resourcing partners

Collaborate with all partners, including peak sporting bodies, the Ag Society, schools, clubs, and other user groups, to grow participation and develop shared facilities at key central hubs in each town.

6.6 Essential community recreation facilities in Wyndham

Issues related to potential demand

While Wyndham has a smaller population than Kununurra, it is an important settlement and community hub for outlying residents because of its history and economic development. There is some growth potential due to large projects related to the Port. Wyndham has two schools, a hospital, and the Port.

Stakeholders noted the importance of having a good range of community recreational facilities, including a gym, to ensure the town can continue to attract residents and remain viable.

Issues related to Infrastructure

Some basic community recreation infrastructure is required to continue supporting the settlement's sustainability, as well as core community infrastructure that can be cost-effectively shared and managed.

The oval has new lighting and changing rooms.

Considerable shade is needed around the perimeter of the oval and to shade the changing facilities. The oval also has an exceedingly small playground that is in poor condition.

The Peter Reid Memorial Hall is in relatively poor condition.

The Wyndham Community Club is a small social club out of town. It has an undercover cricket facility, which has reached the end of its life and needs considerable work.

The Wyndham Memorial Swimming Pool requires an upgrade of the changerooms which are old and do not comply with accessibility standards. New perimeter fencing is due to be installed in 2025. A new shade sail system is required to keep the water cool over the busy wet season from October to April.

The adjacent open space to the north of the pool would be ideal for an integrated play and skate facility.

The Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre has a covered outdoor basketball court, small air conditioned program room, kitchen and offices. Integrating infrastructure into a consolidated facility, such as a new community hall, should result in considerable savings in staffing.

There are no community facilities or shops at the Port where most tourists go.

There is no gym in town.

What the community said

The key themes in the community consultation included:

- There is a need for baseline facilities to attract residents to live in Wyndham, especially a gym.
- Indoor cricket is being played at the community club. It is very strong, but the facility needs to be looked at. Is it in the right location?
- A playground, public gym, water play and skate park would be good
- Wyndham is often forgotten/ disadvantaged
- We drive our children once a week to sports in Kununurra at night. Please think about a transport service.
- See Wyndham as a place of equal opportunity to Kununurra
- Provide some events in Wyndham that promote its history

See Appendix 5.

Wyndham Facilities: Strategic Directions

44. Provide two hubs in Wyndham for sport and recreation facilities and core community infrastructure, which are cost-effective to staff and maintain and encourage multi-delivery partners: one at the Clarrie Cassidy Oval and the other in conjunction with the swimming pool/ Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre with a gym, evacuation centre/indoor court and associated covered court. Include a multi-use program room, community and an administration space.
45. Develop a community playground and integrated skate park next to the swimming pool with high-quality landscaping, canopy trees, and a circuit path around the precinct.
46. Replace the swimming pool change facilities with accessible and functional ones.
47. Enable staff to share responsibilities for the pool, courts, programs, and community facilities, as well as any activities/classes by others.
48. Provide a covered cricket facility at the oval, and a small community club facility that replaces the existing facility, provides food and beverage, supports the sports on the oval, and allows for the potential development of junior cricket.
49. Consider options to provide a seasonal facility at the Port for basic supplies/coffee, a small shelter and toilets to support tourists, residents, and organisations
50. Erect a major sign on the highway to promote the Wyndham swimming pool to visitors and the community.
51. Support and/or conduct one or more community events in Wyndham that may include a sports carnival

Figure 6 Small coffee shop in a house in Tasmania



6.7 Encouraging and supporting sustainable events that benefit the community

Issues related to potential demand

The Shire attracts a wide range of events that are highly valued by the community and for regional economic development.

Of the existing events held in the Shire, the Kununurra Show and the Ord Valley Muster at Celebrity Park attract the largest number of attendees then the camp draft, rodeo and races.

Events are especially important to the Shire for entertainment, cultural and economic development. The Shire's climate, the short season, distance from and competition with other locations make the cost of staging these high, and the market fickle.

Key Issues related to Infrastructure

Central and prominent locations are essential for events, as are some scalable infrastructure supports and accommodation availability. Presently, there is not sufficient accommodation in Kununurra to support a range of sporting and cultural events (Event and Tourism Stakeholders, Staff).

Appendix 8 and 10 outlines the range of events held in the Shire by location and the strengths and weaknesses of each facility.

The following table outlines recommended development by site, which would benefit events

Key themes

Some consistent themes were raised by the inspection of facilities and in consultation with event providers and the community.

- For many local events, facility issues are primarily related to ageing infrastructure, a lack of support facilities such as toilets, lights, and changerooms at sporting venues, the condition of surfaces, and a lack of power, drinking water, and grey water disposal.
 - The Ingrid Harvey Oval, the Town Oval, and the race club/rodeo/paddlers are venues that need better support facilities, toilets, and change facilities to facilitate events. New facilities would support private functions and community sporting activities.
 - The Race Club, however, needs a very high level of investment, and apart from some private functions, no regular events or sports that would make this development feasible have been able to be identified. In the short term, better returns are likely to be gained from the modest development of support facilities at the Ag and Town ovals, facilitating a wide range of community, sporting, and school use.
- More reliable and accessible toilets are also sought at foreshore locations to support waterbased events. These include places such as Swim Beach Park, Ski Beach, and Celebrity Tree Park (planned), which event attendees and casual users can use. Hardy, off-the-shelf products that are cost-effective to install and may include those that are transportable and installed only for the dry season may meet this need.
- The cost of staging events in the Shire is high, with support facilities and equipment having to come from Darwin, often when, due to the season, there is a lot of competition. Basic services like 3-phase power, drinking water, toilets, grey water disposal, lights, etc., that events could use would be beneficial to be available on-site to reduce costs to providers and provide the flexibility to stage events.
- Event organisers do not want new primary permanent stages but rather more affordable access to more flexible staging, equipment, portable toilets, etc., that enable events to be cost-effectively scaled and configured to suit the nature of activities. The stage at the golf club is rarely used as it is not a good fit with demand and the location.
- There is not one logical events space dedicated to and or able to be developed for significant events, and such a space is not likely to become available or viable in the Shire.



- Large events that may warrant the dedication of a large site, for example, surrounding the 2028 eclipse (with camping and music), could be orchestrated by leasing a large property or promoting several small live sites just for viewing. On 22 July 2028, the Australian Solar will cross the Kimberley and continue across the country, passing directly over Sydney. The eclipse will be total at around 11 am (AWST) in the Kimberley.
- The Shire does not have a central civic space for events and large celebrations. There are also very few indoor public facilities that can accommodate functions and events in the Shire, which are air-conditioned and have a commercial kitchen. The Kununurra Leisure Centre, which is at capacity, should ideally be extended to accommodate recreational demand; however, even if it were to include two additional indoor sports courts, the priority for use would be community and school with some additional carnivals, leaving little time for events. The leisure centre is being used for activities such as funerals without other more appropriate facilities.
- Event organisers state there is also demand for multiple small spaces of different scales, accessible and at least covered, to cater to niche and smaller cultural /social events.
- There are opportunities to introduce more outdoor sporting carnivals/ sports charity days,

especially with better support facilities and upgraded golf course greens. An additional squash and basketball court could host more tournaments.

- The agricultural oval is an essential sports and event space that is central, close to the school and should be retained.
- There is a growing mountain bike community in the Kimberley, and additional mountain bike challenges are likely in demand, which would promote the spectacular country across the Shire.
- There are significant opportunities to expand the range of water-based events in the Shire. However, the development of more or larger water-based events is constrained by launch facilities and safe places to access the water.
- Reliance on small operators and community clubs also limits the opportunities to expand these sporting and water-based recreation events.
- The availability of accommodation presently limits the capacity of larger events and festivals targeting visitors.
- Any new events should be scheduled on either side of the dry season unless additional accommodation options are provided.
- One location where a fee-paying caravan park could increase event opportunities is

the Race Club/Rodeo grounds and Paddlers. If the road to the racing club precinct is upgraded, a caravan park here may be more suitable for the riverside context than other commercial developments.

Table 6 outlines sites requiring investment that benefit events, recommendations and priorities.

Considerations in Determining Investment Priorities

- Event spaces need to be suited to providers needs for make events feasible: central, prominent sites with good access, adequate size, and basic support facilities and services.
- A central and prominent site to maximise patronage and use of existing businesses (food and beverage, retail)
- Sites with a connection to the river/ other significant scenic destinations that add value to the event experience
- The investment will also encourage additional local use outside the event season (i.e. leave legacy facilities for sport, promote participation and pathways to higher levels of competition, increase the depth of competition)
- Sites that support events with significant numbers of attendees and local use (greatest

number of user groups/ clubs that would benefit)

- Sites with affordable accommodation adjacent or close by
- Sites that have low environmental and social impact (including noise impact on permanent residents)
- Sites with suitable road access/traffic/entry design and parking
- Events that can be scheduled outside the peak season
- The site is Council owned or managed land
- It requires limited investment, such as roadworks, site fencing, major building design and development
- Development that has or will cost-effectively deliver access to 3-phase power/ some permanent kitchen, access to water/ ability to provide storage/wastewater disposal
- Support events that have local content and highlight local businesses, culture and the region's local competitive strengths.
- The extent of other benefits or economic impacts specific to the event/ site.
- Allow flexibility to scale up and down depending on the event
- Provide facilities/ services that assist in attracting new/ and retaining existing population

- The investment will create opportunities for ongoing regular use of the facilities/ and generate funds to maintain new facilities.

What the community said

Feedback from the community and stakeholder engagement was mixed and reflected opposite opinions making it difficult to confirm trends. There was consensus on the following:

- The Kununurra markets and the Show are strongly supported by community survey respondents. More respondents attended these regularly than other events.
- Generally, survey respondents want more local and indigenous content/stalls and acts and more diversity at events.
- Celebrity Tree Park ranked the highest as the preferred event space, followed by The Golf Club, Swim Beach, and Rotary Centenary Park, Kununurra (which ranked equally as a high priority and low priority).

The Wyndham community would like more events, especially those that highlight its rich history.

Other comments included:

- Ski Club: Stunning, cheap, family-friendly events, community grassroots management
- Better lineups, variety of activities, better range of activities/ family-friendly activities
- More local music events / traditional owners' music/ local musicians/artists



- Sealed road access/ better road maintenance
 - More stalls, local sporting and community events, agricultural events, animals and a car show at the Show.
 - The Show is a fabulous event—a favourite for our family.
 - Events in town, so as not to promote drink-driving and opportunity for all to attend if they do not have transport.
 - Food: It would be great to have some more diverse offerings than vendors we can go to every week. Maybe other food stalls, if they use local suppliers, should be invited.
 - Improved access to rivers would improve the Barra Bash- a significant event on the northern Australia fishing calendar.
 - The golf and race clubs are great facilities for bigger events, but they are out of town and create logistical challenges for event access.
 - The race club has an iconic backdrop of elephant rock, near the lake, camping space, and out of town, so there are fewer noise issues, lots of space to grow bigger, and various stages and breakout areas.
 - Upgrade the kitchen and bar facilities at the race club to better service the demands of the crowd
 - The racetrack is subject to significant damage if the infield is used for events leading to safety and environment issues for the race club
 - Do not desecrate the golf course. It is widely used by visitors and needs to be left as it is - it is unique.
 - The Ingrid Harvey Oval! That is the best event space, bar none.
- The town lacks some nice indoor event spaces that are usable year-round.
- Celebrity Tree Park is close to town, has a big open space, and has a beautiful setting.

The sites requiring investment that would benefit events

The following table lists the key event spaces with recommended developments for events and comments on the above considerations.

Table 6. Proposed Sites For Investment for Events

Event Space	Recommended developments for events	Comment re priority for events
Parks	Suggested development	Comment
White gum Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced ground surfaces and regular cleaning program for the market and community events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential for the market to keep one of the most central sites in good condition for public use.
Celebrity Tree Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Path development, power upgrade and access. Toilets. Access to portable staging kitchen. Waste water disposal. Tree planting to create space and improve a visual connection to water. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High priority due to centrality, accommodation, scenic setting, etc., use for all the community and only minor investment required.
Swim Beach Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade toilets and relocate the boat ramp away from swimmers. Clearer demarcations are needed to avoid mixing user groups, cars, and pedestrians. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium event priority. Supports mainly small-scale events but necessary for sustained general local and visitor use.
Ord River / Lake Argyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for selective development of access points, safe car parking, jetty and toilets by others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The priority is to support the growth and safety of water-based events with regional competitive strengths and economic value.
Council facilities	Suggested development	Comment
Town Oval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A consolidated, accessible, and code-compliant building overlooking the oval, including change facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High priority due to centrality, potential use, benefits to sustainability of local clubs, flexibility for events, and enabling a replacement venue when Ingrid Harvey Oval is being used.
Ingrid Harvey Oval	A toilet and change facility and a small social space on the northwest of the ground. Reconfiguration of the oval north/ south in the longer term. Dedicated car parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High priority to support the largest event in Kununurra (Show) for locals, as well as for local sports and schools use. Central to school and town.
Kununurra Leisure Centre	Additional indoor ball courts and an expanded gym to meet local community, and school demand and enable regional sports carnivals.	High priority for other local year-round sports, recreation and emergency services use, although events may limit regular local sports.
Peter Reid Hall, Wyndham	Ageing facility. Integrate a community hall into a new consolidated development, including an indoor court, meeting, and program rooms at the Ted Birch Youth & Recreation Centre.	Remove once a consolidated building with a stage is provided with the Ted Birch Youth & Recreation Centre.



Event Space	Recommended developments for events	Comment re priority for events
Ted Birch Youth & Recreation Centre, Wyndham	Redevelop into one indoor court, meeting and program rooms, gym and new support facilities for the pool. Retain an additional outdoor court for free access.	A high priority for Wyndham is to provide a sustainable community hub, but events will be primarily small community events and sports carnivals.
Clarrie Cassidy Oval, Wyndham	Provide a covered cricket facility at the oval and a small community club (that replaces the Community Club building, which is at the end of life) and provide food and beverage and social space for sports on the oval. Provide trees for amenity value and shade around the oval and better signage from the town centre and highway. Provide additional storage.	The site is a high priority for hosting large-scale events in Wyndham due to its size and proximity to the caravan park.
Bastion 5 Rivers Lookout, Wyndham	May use transportable toilets for any community event. Encourage additional events during the day to promote views and at night. Make existing facilities accessible to people using a mobility device.	•
Leased Facilities		
Kununurra Water Ski Club and Swim Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Power upgrade. Master plan of the site identifying the leased and public areas. Realign the road away from water to provide adequate event space, provide dedicated event car parking for pedestrian safety, and upgrade public toilets. Provide space for storage in the leased area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High priority for public water-based events and high return for general community use/ club sustainability.
Kununurra Race Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade services, such as power, water, sewer, building and support facilities, and accessibility for the whole precinct, provide a function space and commercial kitchen to serve both the race club and private functions. If the racecourse is to be used for large or outdoor events, the entry road will need to be sealed, and the turf grass / and surround will need to be upgraded. Demand for trail routes, public toilets, river launching sites and campground in the wider precinct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a low demand for use as an outdoor event space. Demand for club and private function space would have local benefits. Low return for events for very high investment needed and likely level of use.
Kununurra Rodeo Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade services such as power, water, sewer, building and support facilities, and accessibility for the whole precinct as an integrated facility, including access to a function space and commercial kitchen. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An integrated facility with the Race Club would be much more viable, but dedicated facilities for rodeo and campdraft do not have a wider application for events.
Kununurra Golf Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress wastewater irrigation plan for greening the Golf Course. Consider the viability of retaining the existing stage – given the low value for event providers. • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The siting of the roadway is awkward, and the access roadway is a limitation. Some distance from town but close to the airport. An update of the course would enable additional small-scale events and provide a more viable club.

Supporting sustainable events: Strategic direction

52. Maintain the focus of the main events in high profile locations close to the centre of Kununurra and water-based event nodes.
53. Support events by upgrading power, internet, water, access and septic tank points in key locations including Celebrity Tree Park, Ingrid Harvey Oval, and for smaller events at the Race club, Swim Beach and the Golf Club.
54. In upgrading sports facilities support the development of a commercial kitchen, for events, for example at Town oval and the race club.
55. Acquire transportable water carts, seating, staging and toilets, including one accessible toilet and changing room equivalent to a “changing places” facility for all events.
56. Support accommodation in precincts that support arts, cultural and sports events (including consideration of a new campground for paid use at the Race club/ Rodeo precinct.
57. Support events being staged in Wyndham at the oval.
58. Provide public toilets at Ingrid Harvey Oval to support events and shared sports use.

Partners and resourcing

In the master planning of key sites work closely with event providers and accommodate use by events.



6.8 Prioritising capital works and performance measures

Community Plan Goals

This plan supports and aligns with the existing goals in the community Plan: *Liveability*, *2. Connection*, and *3. Sustainability*.

Community Priorities

The facilities that should be a priority, identified by survey respondents in descending order.

- Waterways / Boat ramps
- Expansion of spaces/Development of the Leisure Centre
- Enhancement of Swim Beach
- Shade/ Tree planting and Trails to, and around, natural features

Other than general tree planting activities, advocacy and seeking support, all major capital works will require considerable resources that will need to target specific grant programs from federal and state government and philanthropic organisations when projects match funding priorities.

However, as a general rule in each focus area, actions can be prioritised by applying the additional principles.

Criteria to guide capital projects

To guide the prioritisation of master planning, project development and funding of capital works the priorities should be those which meet most of the following criteria.

- **Criteria 1.** Promote national, state and local sport and recreation priorities, and those in the Shire's Community Plan especially equity in distribution and opportunities for people of all ages, abilities, gender identities and cultural backgrounds.
This principle supports the Community Plan goals G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G6, G8, G9, G10.
- **Criteria 2.** Deliver Integrated, shared, co-located and multi-purpose facilities. Community facilities supporting clubs at ovals and courts should be shared and multi-purpose, and promote gathering, viewing and community use for other fitness / recreation activities.
This principle supports the Community Plan goals G1, G4
- **Criteria 3.** Develop core co-located community facilities that are centrally

located hubs (e.g. Swim/ gym/ indoor sports and fitness, community gathering) in each town, integrated to enhance sustainability, use, and sharing of staff resources.

This principle supports the Community Plan goals G1, G2, G5, G6, G9.

- **Criteria 4.** Support increased capacity of sport facilities and provide recreation opportunities in the wet season. Expand or enhance existing facilities where viable and sustainable.
This principle supports the Community Plan goals G1, G2, G4, G6 G9.
- **Criteria 5.** Consider lifecycle and operational costs of facilities and Infrastructure to ensure sustainability and affordability.
This principle supports the Community Plan goals G2
- **Criteria 6.** Maximise the amount of and affordable participation by all.
This principle supports the following Community Plan goals G2, G6.



- **Criteria 7.** Infrastructure developments on the foreshore should be dependent on a water body/foreshore location.
This principle supports the Community Plan goals G2, G9.
- **Criteria 8.** Facilitate liveability benefits; green open space and additional trees, address the effect of the heat, and promote the competitive strengths of the Shire, can attract new residents and visitors to the Shire.
This principle supports the Community Plan goals G1, G2 G6 G3.
- **Criteria 9.** Support clubs, small businesses, not for profit groups and event organisers (multi-delivery partners) and schools to provide recreation and sports opportunities to residents.
This principle supports the Community Plan goals G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, G9, G10.
- **Criteria 10.** Apply good project planning and development processes to ensure project viability and success.
This principle supports the Community Plan goals G6, G10

Other considerations to determine priority include:

- Projects that benefit the largest number and range of people, including visitors.
- Projects that do not have planning or environmental impediments that will be costly and take a long time to resolve.

Measuring our success

Typically, performance measures might include numbers of people by target group participating per year

However, due to the condition of infrastructure and the cost involved in introducing counts, the initial focus should be on achieving targets associated with master planning, and funding.

In future, after facilities are developed, management could develop more specific participation targets by population group.

7.10 Community Infrastructure Development Principles

When planning to meet future community infrastructure need, and developing strategies and projects for their delivery, a number of common principles apply to ensure the long term viability, suitability and ease of access for the facility and service users.

Below are some general principles and approaches to the development of community facilities as proposed in the 'Guidelines for Western Australian Community Infrastructure 2020' document by Parks and Leisure Australia (WA)

1. **Cater for a defined catchment:** facilities should be central and accessible to the population they are intending to serve
2. **Accessibility:** readily accessible to people of all abilities and be compliant with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and Australian Standards
3. **Equity:** readily accessible by all members of the community irrespective of age, mobility, sexual orientation, gender, cultural background or religious belief
4. **Visible:** located to promote visibility and accessibility to maximise use and services to meet identified social needs
5. **Co-location:** integrated and co-located facilities, programs and services to maximise opportunity, use and benefit
6. **Service integration:** design community buildings to enable the sharing of resources and increase the level of service integration
7. **Flexibility of use:** facilities should be designed, built and managed to maximise flexibility in use (particularly multi-use) so they can respond and adapt as needs change
8. **Social connectivity:** programs, activities and services offered should respond to the needs and interests of the people who live and work around it and should foster long term social benefits for the community
9. **Design:** reflection of local culture
10. **Adaptation:** community facilities should be of sufficient size and design to enable expansion and adaptation (both internally and externally) to future proof infrastructure to respond to a changing demographic and technical requirements.
11. **Financial viability:** community infrastructure should be financially viable for long term and provide value for money for their users, owners and operators. Ongoing operational costs need to be built into the initial planning process, and facilities should be scaled to respond to those aspects.
12. **Environmentally Sustainable Design:** site specific design and construction innovations to achieve the highest possible thermal performance, energy and water efficiency, lowest embodied and operational energy within available budgets
13. **Safety and security:** utilise contemporary innovations and Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.
14. **Diversity of use:** ensure a facility provides for greatest interaction and cohesion between people of the widest demographic, and in keeping with the facility's intended range of opportunities
15. **Optimise land use:** ensure sufficient space is allocated to provide for service as well as the primary infrastructure such as car parks, play spaces, utility/service space, storage, landscaping, park furniture, safety zones, shared use paths and social gathering spaces

7. Strategies and actions

The following table outlines the key strategies and actions recommended based on the Strategic Directions identified in each section of the report.

Each action is Identified as requiring a policy direction and/or requiring internal resources, a capital works project that should be implemented incrementally, or as a priority. An indication of the performance measure and timing is provided.

1 = High Priority 2 = Medium Priority 3 = Low Priority

Recommendations

Strategies and Actions	Policy / Internal resources	Capital works - incremental	Cap. work priority	Performance measure
1. Improve fishing and boating facilities, protect foreshore quality and develop key foreshore areas				One upgrade every 5 years
1.1. Investigate options for creating a public corridor along the foreshore for a variety of recreational uses, including those that highlight important views and habitat.	✓			
1.2. Develop sustainable foreshore nodes that promote social family recreation and water-based activities. Connect the nodes to the wider foreshore trail and provide a circuit trail at each node for localised recreation		✓		
1.3. Progressively enhance Celebrity Tree Park as a natural space, replacing plaques and trees at the end of their life. Plant additional canopy trees along the road frontage, leaving an open area for events with a backdrop of the water. Provide a continuous pathway around the park and down the road to the jetty.		✓		Master plan 2026/27
1.4. Seek federal government funds to upgrade Valentine's and Parry Creek Roads to provide safer access to waterfalls, swimming holes and fishing spots	✓		1	
1.5. Maintain existing boat ramps to support local and visitor use, including Buttons and Mambi Island boat ramps.	✓			
1.6. Support and advocate for the Lake Kununurra Barramundi Stocking Group to continue the stocking program	✓			
1.7. Promote existing water-based recreation events and develop more opportunities for fishing and bird watching tourism in conjunction with other regional partners	✓		3	



Strategies and Actions	Policy / Internal resources	Capital works - incremental	Cap. work priority	Performance measure
1.8. Construct a new public jetty and boat launching facility within the Kununurra Racing and Rodeo Precinct		✓		
1.9. Support local and State initiatives to remove weeds, protect riparian vegetation and views, and selectively develop high-quality water-based facilities at a manageable number of nodes		✓	1	
1.10. Develop a master plan for Swim Beach Park as a priority location for recreation and water-based activities in Kununurra and include the relocation of the public boat ramp and the development of a non-motorised watercraft launch area			2	Master plan 2026/27
1.10 Advocate for improved boat launching facilities at Lake Argyle.	✓			
2. Develop a master plan for the Kununurra Leisure Centre and Town Oval Precinct	1			Master Plan 2025/26
2.1 Develop a master plan to encompass the Town Oval and facilities, PCYC, outdoor basketball courts, tennis and netball courts, and Kununurra Leisure Centre and new aquatic facilities. The master plan should explore: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - covering and renewing the outdoor basketball, netball and tennis courts - upgrade of the Ord River Sports Club (Sporties) Facility - upgrade of the covered cricket nets and carpet - replacement of the cricket pitch on the oval - upgrade of sports lighting to LED - parking, pedestrian accessways, traffic flow, and drainage - facilities that are accessible and inclusive. 	✓		1	
2.2 Collaborate with the users of Town Oval and the Sporties to develop a facility that is multi-purpose, accessible, and modern that overlooks the oval. Facilities to include changerooms for the oval users, bowls and cricket, a shared community space for club and community activities/programs and a commercial kitchen to support the clubs and oval users.	✓		1	Feasibility 2026/27
2.3 Conduct an audit and review of existing sports lighting at all sports ovals and outdoor courts		✓		Audit 2027/28
2.4 Retain the Ingrid Harvey Oval and Town Oval for sport and recreation use and investigate locations for a third oval to meet future demand.	✓			



Strategies and Actions	Policy / Internal resources	Capital works - incremental	Cap. work priority	Performance measure
3. Redevelop the Kununurra Leisure Centre				Detailed design 2025/26
3.1 Develop a facility concept plan for the extension and upgrade of the Kununurra Leisure Centre to integrate and complement the new aquatic facilities. The facility should include an additional Indoor air conditioned court, major gym extension with 24 hour access capability, multi-purpose room for Pilates, fitness classes and recreational activities, improved administration offices, and storage. The Centre must also meet the requirements to function as an Emergency Evacuation Centre			1	
3.2 Investigate the need and feasibility of an additional indoor air-conditioned sports court and additional squash court as part of the KLC facility concept plan.			1	
4. Undertake improvements to Ingrid Harvey Oval and develop into a community sport and events precinct				Master plan 2025/26
4.1 Retain the Ingrid Harvey Oval for football codes, the Kununurra Agricultural Show, and other events and sporting activities, including school sports. Allow for reconfiguring the oval north/south in the longer term.	✓			
4.2 Provide public toilets and gender neutral changerooms at Ingrid Harvey Oval that meet the requirements for a variety of sports and to be used for school, casual, and community events.		✓	2	
4.3 Investigate the feasibility of relocating the equestrian area and to develop the ground for sport, recreation and event use.			3	
5. Develop a master plan for the Kununurra Racing and Rodeo Precinct				Master Plan 2026/27
5.1 Prepare a master plan for the Kununurra Racing and Rodeo Precinct to include the racing, rodeo, paddling and action sports lease areas. Include in the plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kununurra Racing Club master plan and facility concept - Kununurra Rodeo and Campdraft Club facility requirements - Ord River Paddling Club facility requirements - Finalisation of the BMX track and future facility requirements - Shared amenities such as toilets, car parking, and function room - Internal roads, large vehicle access and pedestrian links 	✓		1	



Strategies and Actions	Policy / Internal resources	Capital works - incremental	Cap. work priority	Performance measure
- The infrastructure requirements to enable the precinct to host large events, concerts, and temporary camping				
5.2 Improve the entry road to the Kununurra Racing and Rodeo Precinct.		✓		
6. Develop a Wyndham Community Hub and upgrade facilities at Wyndham Memorial Swimming Pool				
6.1 Co-locate sport, recreation, library and Shire civic and administration facilities, centralise and consolidate sport, recreation and event facilities in Wyndham.				
6.2 Undertake a needs and feasibility study for the development of an Integrated Wyndham Community Hub to consider: - Land availability and location - Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre and associated outdoor courts - Swimming pool - Community recreation facilities - Relocation of the Shire Administration Office and Library - Replacement of the Peter Reid Memorial Hall.	✓		1	Design 2025/26
6.3 Investigate a suitable area for community recreation facilities including a nature play space, skate park, outdoor fitness equipment, shade and picnic facilities.	✓		3	Feasibility 2026/27
6.4 Replace the changerooms at the Wyndham Memorial Swimming Pool to be accessible, functional, and to meet current building code		✓	2	Design & cost 2027/28
6.5 Replace the shade sails at the Wyndham Memorial Swimming Pool to a single operator motorised system built to high wind standards (wind region C).		✓	1	2025/26
7. Develop a master plan for the Clarrie Cassidy Oval				2027/28
7.1 Develop a master plan for the Clarrie Cassidy Oval to investigate the need for a covered cricket facility, a small community club room to replace the existing facility that provides food and beverage, supports the sports on the oval and allows for the potential development of other sports, events and activities	✓		3	



Strategies and Actions	Policy / Internal resources	Capital works - incremental	Cap. work priority	Performance measure
8. Improve and develop trails and increase shade				One section of trail each year
8.1 Develop a diversity of tree lined trails to encourage walking, running and cycling and provide increased opportunity for physical activity, recreation and tourism. Include routes along the foreshore and to key destinations (e.g. Kelly's Knob/Goowiyeng and Elephant Rock/ Thethebeleng and connect these to the foreshore trail.		✓	3	2027/28
8.2 Review the Trails Master Plan and develop an implementation strategy	✓		3	
8.3 Implement the Kimberley 2050 Cycling Strategy	✓		3	
9. Encourage and support sustainable events that benefit the community through the provision of shared infrastructure and diverse spaces				Set aside a capital works budget each year
9.1 Develop a plan to provide facilities and Infrastructure for a range of community and regional events. Review existing event spaces, their capacity and capability for hosting events of various size and type and identify gaps in provision. This may include upgrading power, internet, water, access and septic tank points in key locations. <i>Refer Appendix 9 Key Facilities Assessment and Appendix 10 Event Details, Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities by Site</i> Include a list of Investment Priority Areas for event support based on the 'Considerations in Determining Investment Priorities' in Section 6.7 of this strategy.		✓	1	Plan 2025/26
9.2 Advocate and support the provision of a variety of events and social spaces of different scales to suit niche, small and larger events, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kununurra Picture Gardens - Lake Kununurra Golf Club - Race and Rodeo Club precinct - Celebrity Tree Park - White Gum Park 	✓	✓	3	



Strategies and Actions	Policy / Internal resources	Capital works - incremental	Cap. work priority	Performance measure
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Swim Beach - Ski Beach - Town Oval - Ingrid Harvey Oval - Clarrie Cassidy Oval - Ted Birch Youth and Recreation Centre - The Bastion / Five Rivers Lookout - Private provision (e.g., function centres) 				
<p>9.3 Investigate options and feasibility of providing or advocating for a seasonal facility at Wyndham Port for coffee/food for tourists and Shire residents.</p>	✓		3	2026/27
10. Support not-for-profit organisations to be vibrant, sustainable and well governed.				
<p>10.1 Create a new staff position to work with multi-delivery partners, clubs and recreation groups to provide advocacy, connections, information and educational opportunities to assist with club development, local capacity building, sustainability, and viability. Establish relationships with peak bodies and promote access and inclusion and encourage participation by all of the community</p>	✓		1	2025/26
<p>10.2 Support sport and recreation clubs to develop strategic plans and to identify facility needs.</p>	✓			
<p>10.3 Promote the state Kidsport program and establish a grant program to support the development of athletes, coaches and officials</p>	✓			
11. Prioritisation of capital works				
<p>Adopt a set of criteria to guide the prioritisation of master planning, project development and funding.</p>	✓		1	Criteria adopted 2025/26
<p>1. Align with National, State, and Shire planning</p>				
<p>2. Deliver integrated, shared, co-located and multi-purpose infrastructure</p>				
<p>3. Deliver a community hub that provides buildings and outdoor social spaces in the one location to facilitate access to a wide range of services, activities, programs and events and promotes resource sharing.</p>				



Strategies and Actions	Policy / Internal resources	Capital works - incremental	Cap. work priority	Performance measure
4. Expand the capacity and capability of existing facilities to provide activity opportunities to increase participation, especially in the wet season				
5. Consider lifecycle and operational costs of the facility and infrastructure to ensure sustainability and affordability				
6. Provide opportunities for access to affordable and inclusive sports, recreation and events				
7. Provide increased access to the water for recreation, sport and events				
8. Improve liveability				
9. Support clubs, small businesses, not-for-profit groups, event organisers (multi-delivery partners), and schools to provide sport, recreation, cultural and nature-based activity and event opportunities for all				
10. Comply with the Shires Project Planning and Management Framework				
12. Community Infrastructure Development Principles				Principles adopted 2025/26
Adopt a set of principles and approaches to the development of community facilities as recommended in the 'Guidelines for Western Australian Community Infrastructure 2020' document by Parks and Leisure Australia (WA) and relevant to the Shire. Refer Section 7.10 of the Strategy.	✓		1	Principles adopted 2025/26



8. Appendices