

## CITY OF PARRAMATTA

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# Indoor Recreation Network

Indoor recreation facilities and programs help build stronger, healthier, happier and safer communities

Indoor recreation facilities provide opportunities for residents to be active and to interact with other residents. They are common ground areas that are focused on inclusivity, while fostering a culture of health and wellbeing in the communities they serve. Recreation facilities are especially important in increasingly urbanised environments.

### Defining our Indoor Recreation Facilities

Indoor recreation facilities are built facilities that cater for individual and group indoor active recreation, play and fitness activities, as well as sporting competition and training.

They typically contain indoor sports courts, most commonly used for basketball, as well as indoor gyms and other amenities such as change rooms, toilets, canteens and other spectator areas.

The focus of this chapter is on community level indoor recreation facilities, which provide single and multipurpose spaces and courts, with a variety of playing surfaces and equipment.

Aquatic facilities, private gymnasiums or private health facilities are not included.



# INDOOR RECREATION NETWORK

# Current Situation



1

Council Owned Indoor Recreation Court

13

Other Agency Owned Indoor Recreation Courts

**KEY:** ● Council owned ● Other agency owned

City of Parramatta Council (Council) currently plays a very small role in provision of indoor recreation.

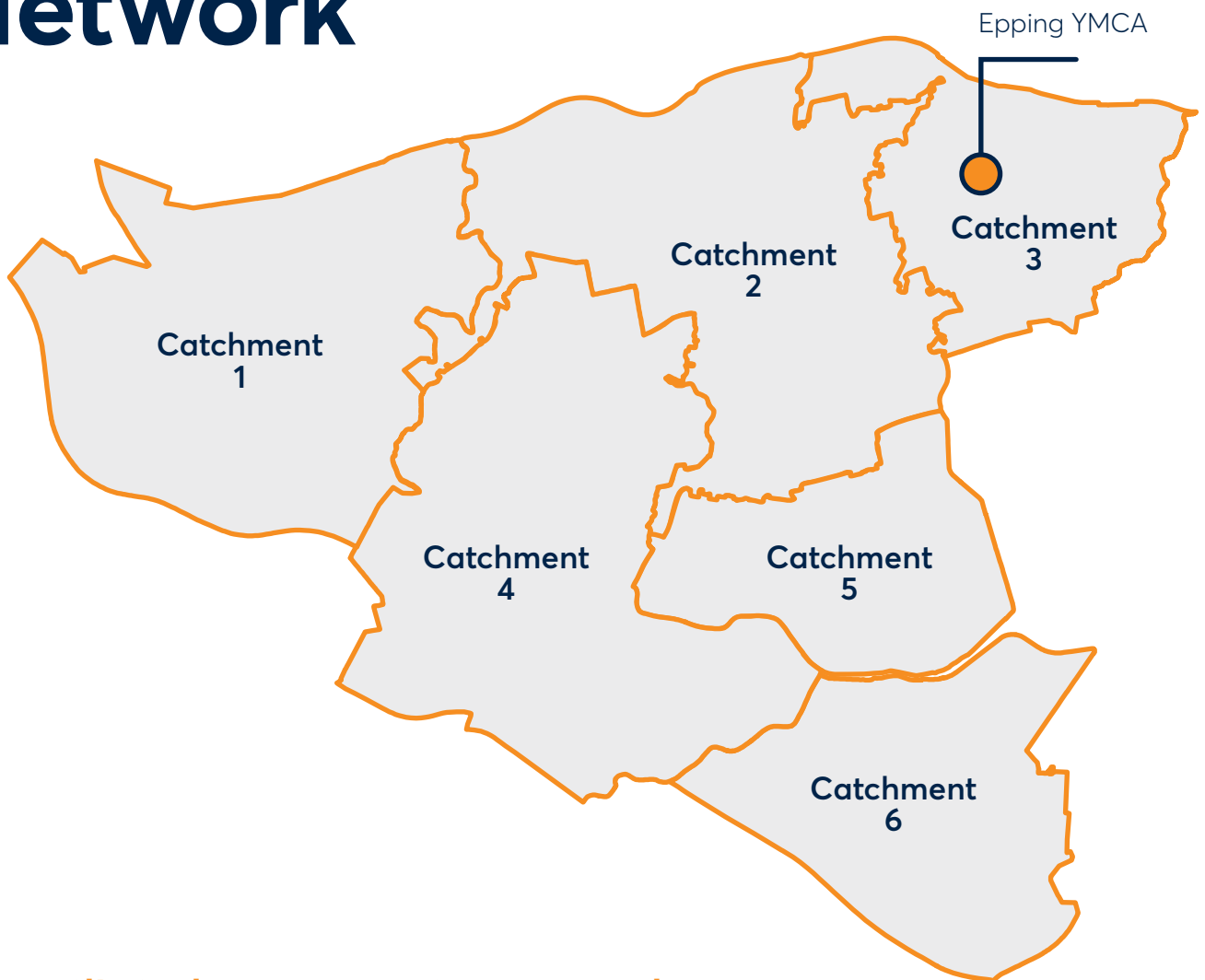
Council's indoor recreation facility at Epping has 1 large indoor court and is managed by YMCA Epping.

Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre has 13 indoor sports courts, including the sports centre which has 5 indoor multi-purpose courts.

Indoor recreation facilities are also provided at some schools, churches, private fitness clubs, gyms as well as commercial rehabilitation and wellness businesses; but these typically have limited access for the general public.

**What is provided now?**

# 2019 City of Parramatta Council Indoor Recreation Network



## Council's indoor recreation network

CATCHMENT 3	OWNERSHIP	COMPONENTS
<p><b>YMCA</b></p> <p>15 Ward Street Epping, 2121</p>	<p>Council owned land and building. Leased to YMCA to operate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 large court facility (can accommodate 1 basketball court or 4 badminton courts)</li> <li>• Gymnastics area</li> <li>• Fitness facilities</li> </ul>

## KEY NON-COUNCIL INDOOR SPORT AND RECREATION CENTRES ADJOINING CITY OF PARRAMATTA

Name	Address	Facility Description and Potential Catchment
Auburn Basketball Centres	Wyatt Park, Church Street, Lidcombe 2141	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 indoor courts</li> </ul>
PCYC Auburn	Church Street, Lidcombe 2141	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 indoor courts</li> </ul>
Granville Youth and Community Centre	3 Memorial Drive, Granville 2142	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a proposed upgrade at this site. This upgrade will include a multi-purpose centre to provide a mix of community space, library and arts space</li> </ul>
Brickpit Sports Stadium	1A Dartford Road, Thornleigh, 2120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 indoor courts</li> </ul>
Hills Sports Stadium	Caterson Drive, Castle Hill, 4154	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 indoor courts</li> </ul>
Castle Hill Indoor Sports Centre	3/18 Anella Avenue, Castle Hill, 2154	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 indoor courts</li> </ul>
Macquarie University Sport and Aquatic Centre	10 Gymnasium Road, North Ryde NSW, 2109	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 indoor courts</li> </ul>
Ryde Community Sports Centre	109 Kent Road, North Ryde, 2113	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 indoor courts</li> </ul>

### Travel time to access each of these facilities varies:



#### 4km from Parramatta CBD (within 15min drive)

- Granville Youth and Community Centre



#### 12km from Parramatta CBD (within 45min drive)

- Auburn Basketball Centres
- PCYC Auburn
- Ryde Community Sports Centre
- Sydney Olympic Park



#### 16km from Parramatta CBD (within 60min drive)

- Macquarie University Sport and Aquatic Centre
- Castle Hill Indoor Sports Centre
- Hills Sports Stadium
- Brickpit Sports Stadium



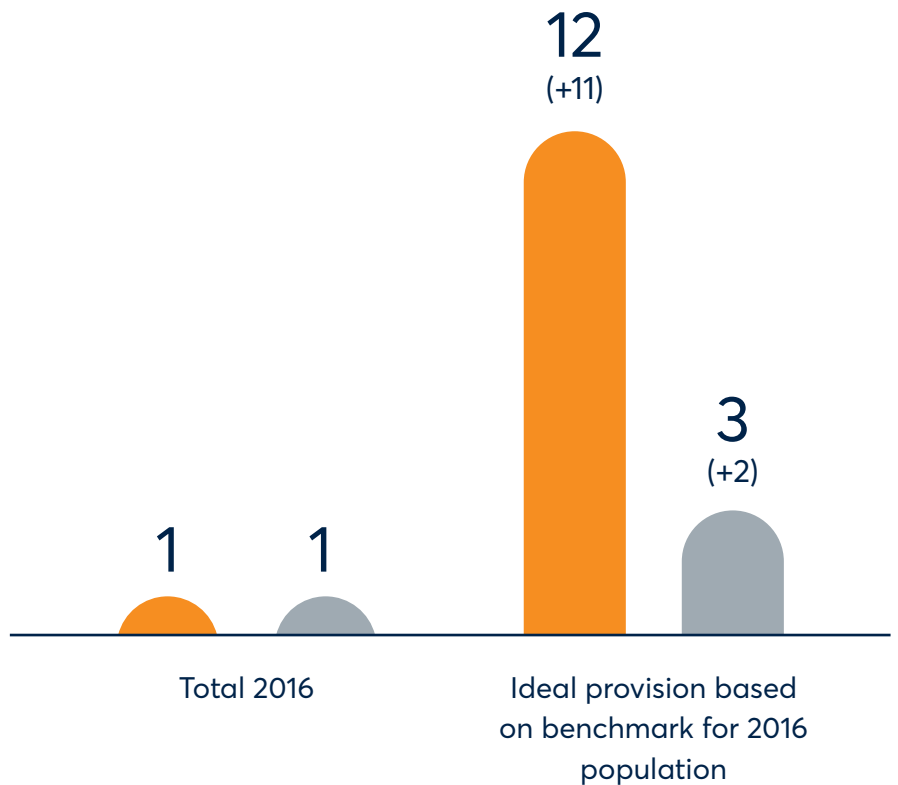
# Rates of Provision

## City of Parramatta: 2016 indoor recreation provision against benchmark

Current provision of indoor recreation available to the general public in City of Parramatta is lacking.

Benchmarking would suggest that at least five courts contained in two higher order indoor sports centres would be ideal to meet City of Parramatta's current resident population of approximately 235,000 people.

Analysis also shows that there is very limited access for communities living in Catchments 1, 2, 4 and 5.



**KEY:** ● Indoor Courts ● Indoor Sports Centres

*\* Benchmark based on standard identified by Parks and Leisure Australia, Guidelines for Community Infrastructure 2012.*

## Indoor Recreation Benchmarks

Parks and Leisure Australia provide the following industry benchmark for provision of indoor courts:

**Indoor Courts**  
1:20,000 people

**Indoor Sports Centre**  
1:50,000 – 100,000 people

They note the ideal indoor sports centre would include 4+ multi-function courts, a gymnasium, and fitness facilities.

For more information on the application of benchmarks and their strengths, weaknesses and considerations, refer to the 'Table of Benchmarks' pp. 58-59

# How well positioned is our current Indoor Recreation Network?

## The strengths of our indoor recreation network include:

- There are non-Council owned indoor recreation facilities which support communities across the LGA.
- Several indoor recreation centres are located in adjoining council areas and provide further opportunities for our community participation in district or regional level recreation activities.
- There is good provision of indoor sport facilities in the southern part of the LGA, due to the provision of facilities in Sydney Olympic Park (SOP) and surrounding council areas.

## Despite some strengths, our indoor recreation network has weaknesses:

- Council's provision of indoor recreation space available for the general public is severely limited. Our community relies heavily on the provision of services by other agencies which do not meet the needs of all people within our community.
- We have very limited spaces that are welcoming for young people within our LGA.
- YMCA Epping is a popular facility but is operating above capacity.
- There is a lack of community awareness about the recreation offerings available within privately operated facilities.



# Epping YMCA



The Epping YMCA is located at 415 Ward Street, Epping. This facility is owned by Council and is leased to the YMCA to operate.

The Epping YMCA was built in 1966 and is one of the YMCA's largest sport and recreation facilities in NSW.

This centre is a cornerstone for the community and provides a diverse range of sporting and recreation opportunities for people of all ages.

The facility was recently refurbished in 2012 as part of a \$1.1 million redevelopment, and now includes a new Family Health and Fitness Centre.

This facility includes:

- Two meeting rooms
- Health and fitness facilities
- Indoor stadium with one sports court
- International standard gymnastics area
- Free parking
- Kiosk facilities

*\*Information and image sourced from YMCA Epping*

*Image credit: YMCA Children's Programs*



# Ultimo Community Centre

## Indoor Recreation within a Community Centre

The Ultimo Community Centre is located at 40 William Henry Street, Cnr Bulwarra Rd, Ultimo and is owned by City of Sydney.

Built in 1996, this centre combines a library, community spaces, child care and indoor recreation in a multipurpose centre that caters for the local community including children, workers, older people, and a culturally diverse population. One drawback of the centre is the poor interface with the street.

The facility includes:

- Community hall (100 people capacity) suitable for seminars, activities and events. The hall can be set up for:
  - ¾ court basketball
  - 1 volleyball court
  - 1 badminton court, or
  - 1 futsal court
- 2x multipurpose rooftop outdoor courts which can be set up for:
  - 2 futsal courts
  - 2 basketball courts
  - 2 tennis courts, and
  - 1 netball court
- Table tennis tables are available, as well as equipment such as basketballs and badminton racquets
- Community spaces and services:
  - 680m<sup>2</sup> library
  - Large community room (80-120 people) and two small seminar rooms (20 people each).
  - Art and craft room for painting, pottery (20 people)
  - Child care (45 places) and OSHC (60 places), and
  - Senior's services and activities.

# Emerging Trends

City of Parramatta LGA continues to undergo transformational change. The experience of living in urban environments is changing the way we consider and view indoor recreation space.



## **Council considers the following trends as critical to the future of our indoor recreation network:**

### **Demand for indoor sports.**

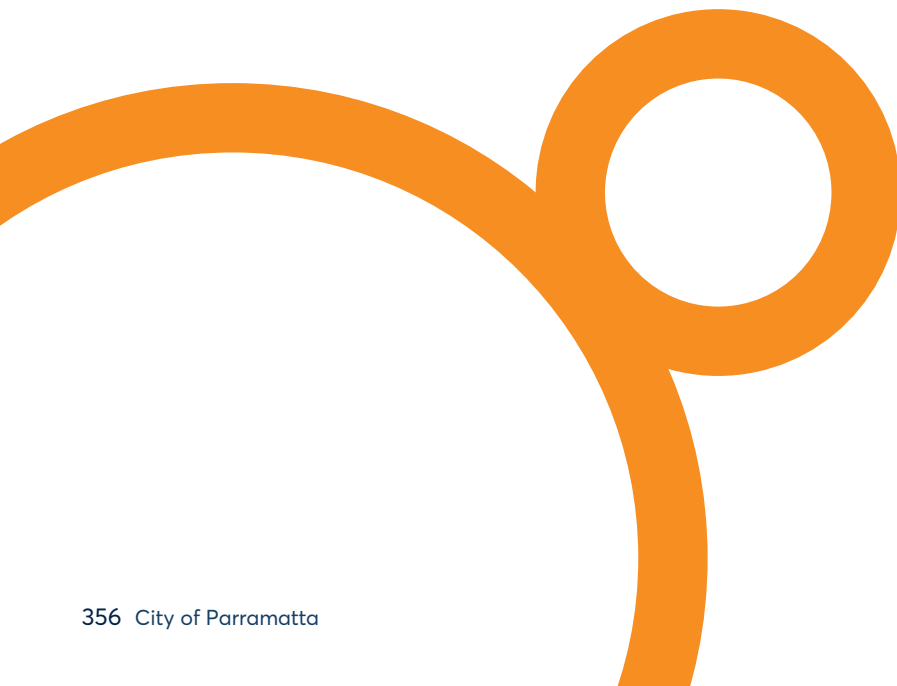
High level trends show an increased need for indoor sports facilities to cater for rising demand. There is current demand for basketball, futsal, badminton and table tennis facilities. Given the cultural diversity of our community, many of whom have Asian backgrounds, this demand is likely to continue.

Schools also have high demand for indoor recreation facilities to support sporting needs. Schools have limited infrastructure themselves and this is likely to continue to be the case as increasingly upgraded or new schools within urban environments are built vertically using less land resource. Increasingly, student requirements for recreation and sporting facilities will need to be met 'off site' within the community.

Growth in the number of older adults participating in sport also provides an opportunity for indoor venues to target this market during the day when the demand for competition for indoor courts is typically lowest.

### **Flexible and multiuse facilities to meet diverse customer preferences and skill levels.**

Increasingly, indoor recreation facilities will need to be flexible in design and programming to provide for sport competition delivery as well as social and more flexible options aimed at wider participation interest levels, including those of neighbouring residents, workers, corporates, students, and mixed teams.



### Supporting access and inclusion.

Indoor recreation facilities provide opportunities for people of varied physical capability to recreate, exercise, compete and socialise. Sports including wheelchair rugby, para-chair, badminton, powerchair football, and wheelchair basketball require appropriate facilities. There are approximately 9,400 people in City of Parramatta that have some form of disability and require assistance with core activities, needing support to live well and fully participate in community life.

### Increased availability.

Indoor recreation facilities should have high utilisation and be operable over 12 – 18 hours per day and in some instances for 24 hours per day. Indoor facilities will also increasingly be an option for overcoming weather conditions including heat, rain and wind that can be barriers to participating in outdoor sporting competitions.

### Co-location and ancillary uses.

Co-locating sports, recreation and leisure facilities close to other community assets, such as retail precincts, arts precincts, libraries and other facilities is increasing. This enables maximum visibility and ease of use by the community. Also increasing is the design of sports, recreation and leisure facilities integrated with meeting and social places. New large scale aquatics offerings now typically include indoor recreation facilities within their design.

### Non-traditional sites.

Population growth, limited available space and increasing demand on current indoor recreation facilities to meet a variety of needs means that the use of non-traditional sites for the provision of indoor recreation is increasing. This requires increased collaboration between organisations and new ways of managing, monitoring and operating indoor recreation facilities.

### Shared and joint use arrangements.

Leading practice in indoor recreation planning and provision, as well as the realities of building and operational costs, has seen many local governments seeking partnerships with schools and other bodies to accommodate a different model of indoor recreation provision. This could include sharing the use of indoor recreation facilities and amenities with schools and other organisations, or jointly funding facilities that would be used by schools and the broader community. Councils can consider the benefit of exploring funding agreements to share the upgrade and maintenance costs of facilities to meet the recreation needs of the community.

# King George V (KGV) Recreation Centre

## Highly Utilised Space, CBD Location

King George V (KGV) Recreation Centre is located at 15 Cumberland St, The Rocks, NSW and is owned by City of Sydney.

Built in 1998, this is one of the most well utilised community recreation centres in Sydney, in particular by workers in the CBD. The building is 3,045m<sup>2</sup> (35m X 87m) with approximately 1,000m<sup>2</sup> of outdoor space. It is owned by the City of Sydney.

The internal space can be set up for:

- 2 international sized basketball courts
- 2 netball courts
- 2 futsal spaces
- 2 international-sized volleyball courts or 4 smaller courts
- 6 badminton courts, or
- 1 large 17x60m space for special events.

There is also:

- Group fitness room with shock absorbent floor and mirrors on the walls
- Outdoor court with synthetic grass surface with sand underlay which can be set up for futsal or tennis
- Community room with kitchenette, and
- Private outdoor children's playground.

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*\*Information and image sourced from  
City of Sydney*

# What Our Community Has Told Us...

Between August – October 2017, the draft Community Infrastructure Strategy was on public exhibition

**This period of engagement allowed Council to better understand the needs and expectations of our community. This information, together with community feedback received during engagement on new aquatics and recreation facilities, has been used to strengthen the document.**

Through this consultation process we heard that...

## Our community values:

- Facilities that provide opportunities for both formal and informal recreation throughout the Parramatta LGA
- The social interaction experienced at indoor recreation facilities
- The role that indoor recreation facilities play in improving quality of life

## Our community would like to see:

- An indoor recreation facility within Parramatta for sports like basketball, futsal, badminton etc.
- A larger facility combining a wide range of both aquatic and indoor sports and recreation services that is affordable to access
- Indoor recreation facilities to support young people
- Indoor recreation facilities that are associated with sporting opportunities and events that enable services to connect with young people

"...Provide connection points for people to socialise across all cultures."

- Resident submission to public exhibition

"...Need for increased activities for older children and young adults."

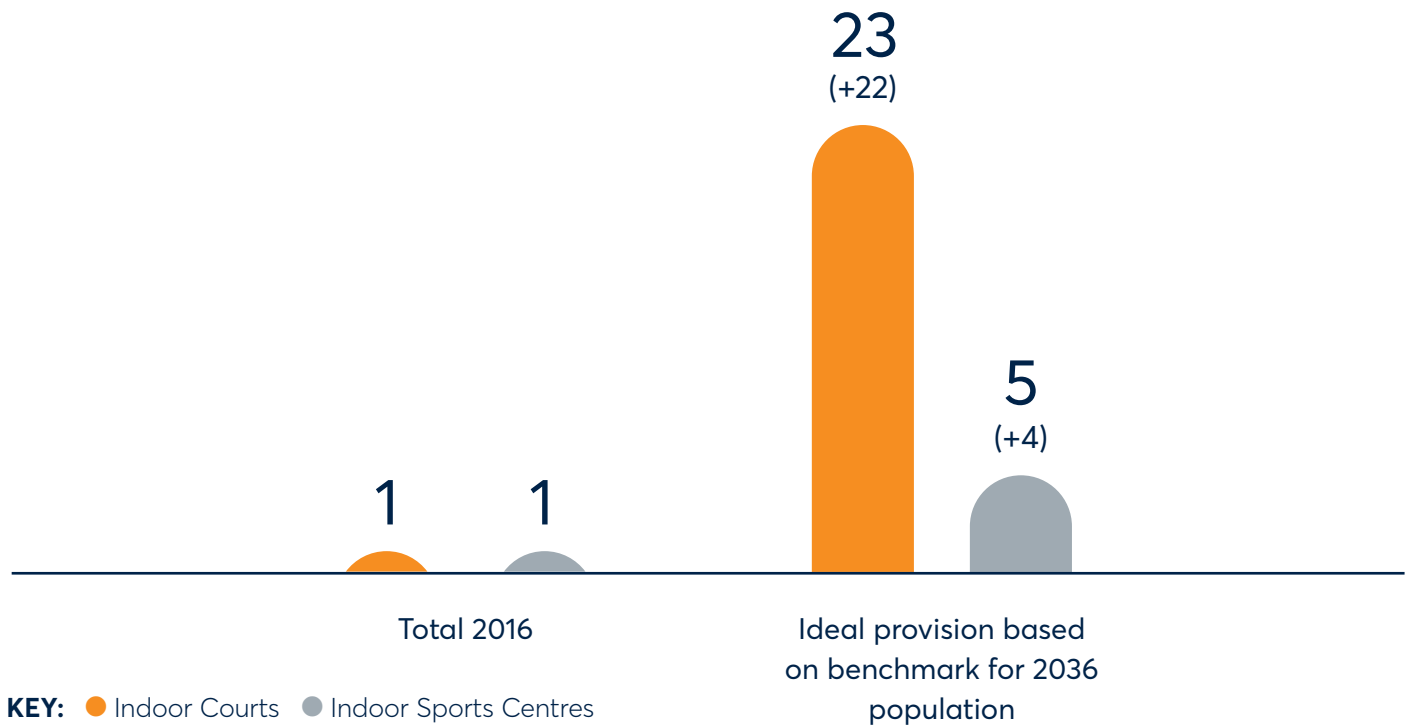
- Resident public submission

# INDOOR RECREATION NETWORK

# Future Needs



City of Parramatta: 2036 indoor recreation provision against benchmark



**KEY:** ● Indoor Courts ● Indoor Sports Centres  
*\* Benchmark based on standard identified by Parks and Leisure Australia, Guidelines for Community Infrastructure 2012.*

## Benchmark Analysis

City of Parramatta's current provision of indoor recreation available to the general public is severely lacking. City of Parramatta's future population is estimated to grow to almost 466,000 people by 2036.

Based on population benchmarking this would justify up to 23 indoor recreation multiuse courts or 5 higher order indoor recreation courts.

# The Strategic Challenges We Face Together

As City of Parramatta's housing density increases, our indoor recreation network will be critical to supporting healthy active living for our residents and fostering broader community wellbeing, through access to additional informal and formal sporting and recreation opportunities. Importantly, they will work to alleviate the pressure being placed on parks and sportsgrounds.

**We will need to plan and use our resources to find solutions to the following critical strategic challenges:**

**Q.** What partnerships and collaborations will assist us to greatly expand the network of indoor recreation facilities and other alternative spaces across our LGA that our community can access for both formal and informal sport and recreation?

**Q.** How can we develop our indoor recreation network so it remains flexible and responsive to accommodate the changing sporting and recreation needs and preferences of our community in a growing and more high density urbanised environment?

**Q.** How can we utilise an expanded indoor recreation offering to support the needs of young people in our LGA?

**Q.** What funding strategies will be most successful for delivering and operating best practice indoor recreation facilities in both the short and long term?



# Indoor recreation facilities will help City of Parramatta to overcome some of the gaps in its open space, parks and outdoor recreation network

**The current and future community of City of Parramatta faces a severe and growing gap in provision of open space for formal and informal recreation.**

City of Parramatta’s future population is estimated to grow to almost 466,000 people by 2036. Benchmarking would justify 316 additional hectares of sportsground space, bringing this to a total of 466 hectares.

This shortfall is equivalent to 316 additional playing fields. This cannot be realised in the current and increasingly urbanised environment of City of Parramatta.

## City of Parramatta by Catchment at 2036: open space\* provision compared to population benchmark

	Catchment 1	Catchment 2	Catchment 3	Catchment 4	Catchment 5	Catchment 6
Existing Recreation and Sport Open Space (HA)	70.9ha	81.4ha	31.3ha	82.6ha	73.6ha	14.8ha
2036 Population	65,321	73,375	45,275	136,133	49,609	54,432
2036, ha/1,000 people	1.09	1.12	0.69	0.61	1.48	0.27
2016, ha/1,000 people	1.30	1.60	0.99	1.45	2.07	0.78
Potential Gap in Provision by 2036 (ha/1,000 people)	0.91	0.89	1.31	1.39	0.52	1.73

\*Council owned or managed parks and sportsgrounds only - excludes natural and general community use



Strategies have been developed to expand Council's current sportsground sites through redesign and capital works, and to work with others to share sportsgrounds and realise additional playing fields where possible. However, regardless of strategies to increase use and expand fields, there will still be a gap in sportsground provision for our fast growing population.

Council acknowledges that indoor recreation facilities will play a vital role in complementing our existing sportsground, parks and outdoor recreation network and alleviating some of the demand on our open spaces.

Council will need to plan for, prioritise, grow and manage our indoor recreation facilities to operate in conjunction with our green open spaces providing increased opportunities for our community to engage in formal and informal recreation. The gap in indoor recreation facility provision that currently exists within our LGA demonstrates that the need is not met solely through the private market. Council has a significant role to play in advocating for and delivering indoor recreation facilities to meet this growing demand.

# Northern Beaches PCYC

## Indoor recreation, community spaces and youth centre

The Northern Beaches PCYC is located at 40 Kingsway, Dee Why, NSW. It was built by the Northern Beaches Council and is now run by PCYC.

The new Northern Beaches PCYC is located close to the B-Line and Dee Why Junction major bus stops. The project cost was \$28 million.

The total site area is 5,100m<sup>2</sup> and the building area is approximately 4,000m<sup>2</sup>. A partially translucent curved roof is a striking feature that also allows for sustainable natural light. Green walls surround the façade to help blend in with the natural surrounds.

The centre includes:

- 2 multipurpose indoor courts
- 3 multi-purpose community/program rooms
- A youth hub/chill out/study area with big screen TV, IT stations, table tennis tables, chill out area and counselling rooms
- Café
- Office space
- Forecourt/reception/pool table, and
- 348 parking spaces under the centre.

*\* Information and image sourced from Australasian Leisure Management*

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## INDOOR RECREATION NETWORK

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# Future Directions



# Strategic Directions

To meet the needs of City of Parramatta's growing and increasingly diverse community, and to address the severe and mounting pressures on Council's parks and sportsgrounds, Council will seek to realise appropriate indoor recreation space in the right locations.

This will enable residents' access to facilities and programs to support healthy active living and more broadly build community wellbeing.

It is appropriate for Council to continue to work in this area, as this provision is often not met by the private sector, and demand is growing.

**City of Parramatta Council will focus on the following strategic directions:**

- **Seek to expand Council's indoor recreation facility provision in high growth areas**, in partnership with developers and government, to be run either by Council or not-for-profit organisations.
- **Seek to increase access to non-council indoor recreation facilities** for the general public through shared and joint use arrangements.
- **Advocate for additional non-council indoor recreation facility provision by others in our community**, that are skilled and well placed to do so.



## City of Parramatta Indoor Recreation Network: 20 YEAR PROVISION TARGETS

Through collaboration, partnerships and the resources of many, we seek to achieve the following targets for our community:

### Indoor Recreation Individual Indoor Courts

1

2016 Current supply



2036 Future supply based on population growth

### Indoor Sports Centres

1

2016 Current supply



2036 Future supply based on population growth



# Key Recommendations

## CATCHMENT 1

## RECOMMENDATION

### Westmead

- Deliver a new indoor recreation facility of at least 4 multipurpose court capacity, close to areas of high density dwelling growth and public transport.
- Ideally, this would be integrated as part of a recreation or community hub development.

## CATCHMENT 2

## RECOMMENDATION

### Carlingford

- Deliver a new indoor recreation facility of at least 4 multipurpose court capacity, close to areas of high density dwelling growth and public transport around the future light rail stop.
- Ideally this would be integrated as part of a recreation hub linked with Cox Park.

### Telopea

- Deliver a new Telopea Neighbourhood Centre of 1900m<sup>2</sup> that includes:
  - 300m<sup>2</sup> of space for indoor recreation/community hall.
  - 900m<sup>2</sup> for 2 rooftop recreation spaces.

## CATCHMENT 3

## RECOMMENDATION

### Epping

- Redevelop the indoor recreation facility at Epping to expand the indoor recreation offering to approximately 3-4 courts.

## CATCHMENT 4

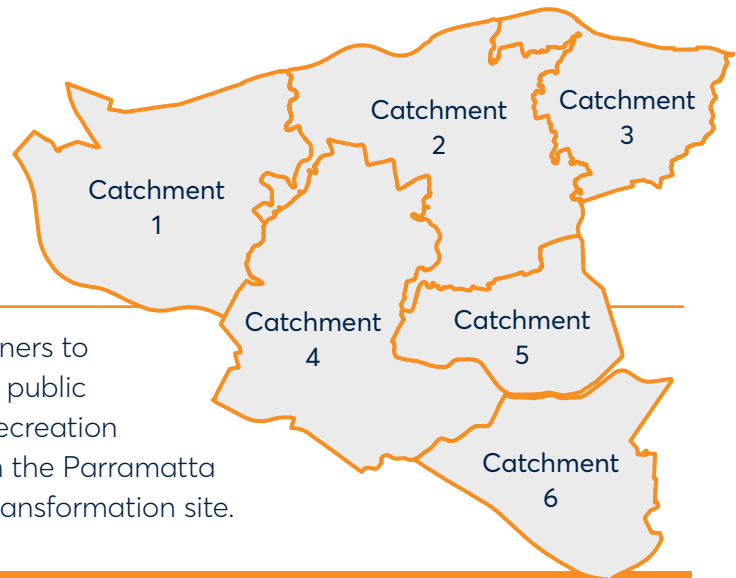
## RECOMMENDATION

### Camellia

- Deliver a new Child and Youth Hub of approximately 5,000m<sup>2</sup> which includes a minimum of 2 indoor multi-use courts.

### Parramatta

- Deliver a new indoor recreation facility of 4 multipurpose courts to cater for local resident and worker need.
- Work with the NSW Department of Education to enable general public access to any indoor recreation facilities that form part of new school developments occurring in the CBD.



**Parramatta North**

- Work with partners to enable general public access to the recreation hall building on the Parramatta North Urban Transformation site.

**CATCHMENT 5**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Rydalmere, Ermington, Melrose Park**

- Deliver a new indoor recreation facility of at least 4 multipurpose court capacity, close to areas of high density dwelling growth and public transport around the future light rail stops. Ideally this would be integrated or close by to a community hub.

**CATCHMENT 6**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Carter Street, Lidcombe**

- Work with NSW Department of Education to deliver new indoor recreation facilities, ideally with 2 multipurpose courts, shared use by the community and school students on or nearby the future new school site.

**Wentworth Point**

- Deliver a new indoor recreation facility of at least 4 multipurpose court capacity.

# Criteria to Guide Decision Making for New Indoor Recreation Facilities

The following criteria complement and are to be used in conjunction with City of Parramatta's stated principles for community infrastructure planning found on page 61-63.

Council will use them to guide decision making and discussion with stakeholders and partners about new indoor recreation facility opportunities.

For all scenarios, will the additional Indoor Recreation Facility:

Align with City of Parramatta Council's indoor recreation network strategic directions?

Contribute to and complement the current indoor recreation offerings throughout City of Parramatta?

Be justified in terms of meeting an unmet need?

Be financially viable as demonstrated through a financial feasibility assessment, covering construction, ongoing maintenance and renewal costs as well as operational costs?

Reflect universal design and support inclusivity?

Be located close to public transport?

Accomodate a range of uses and be responsive to market changes and changing participation trends?

Be intergrated with supporting services and facilities to provide a range of leisure oppotunities, including:

- cafe
- merchandising/retail
- health & fitness centres
- wellness options
- multi-purpose indoor sports courts
- multi-purpose program spaces
- multi-purpose meeting rooms

For all scenarios,  
will the additional  
Indoor Recreation  
Facility:  
*(Continued)*

Be able to accommodate competitive events through provision of high quality facilities?

Be sustainable in design and operations, as demonstrated through a sustainability assessment?

## For More Information:

This Community Infrastructure Strategy draws on the knowledge and experience of many staff from across Council who have a passion for enabling socially sustainable communities. Together with feedback from our community, and our key stakeholders, this document has been a shared effort.

For further information on City of Parramatta's Indoor Recreation Network, or Council's key strategic directions, the following resources are available:

- "Sharing the Opportunities of Growth for All – Socially Sustainable Parramatta Framework"
- City of Parramatta Council's Website: [www.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au)
- City of Parramatta Customer Contact Centre: **9806 5050**
- For access to demographic data log onto: <http://profile.id.com.au/parramatta>