

SPORTING CLUB FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS RESERVE DEVELOPMENTS POLICY

Policy Number:		Directorate:	Community Services
Approved By:	Council	Officer:	Team Leader Leisure Development
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1. PURPOSE

To provide Council and community sporting groups with a consistent framework nominating financial contributions to fund facility developments/improvements at Council sporting reserves.

2. CONTEXT

This Policy supersedes the Sporting Club Financial Contributions Towards Reserve Developments Policy (2011).

Council's Sporting Club Financial Contributions Towards Reserve Developments Policy provides a consistent financial framework for the development/improvement of sporting reserve facilities.

The Policy can be applied to determine Council's and community sporting group's financial contributions towards developments and upgrades particularly in a context of increasing pressure being placed on current and future budget allocations.

The Policy seeks to fulfil the following six key action areas identified within Council's Leisure Plan 2014-2019:

1. Information provision and communication;
2. Club viability, volunteer support and partnerships;
3. Structured sport planning, trend, fees and charges;
4. Service/Facility planning standards and service levels;
5. Health promotion and active living infrastructure; and
6. Targeted access initiatives.

The Policy supports Council's Sporting Reserve and Facility Development Policy. The Policy provides specific breakdown of financial contributions for developments and/or improvements at Council's Sporting Reserves; including:

- Improvements to sporting pavilions;
- Social facilities;
- Sports Lighting;
- Fencing/caging;
- Specialised playing surfaces;
- Additional practice;
- Car parking;
- Ground development; and
- Playing surface maintenance schedule

3. SCOPE

The Policy applies to the development of infrastructure projects on Council's sporting reserves and supports the planning and assessment of submissions to Council's Capital Works and Minor Grants processes.

Other Council sporting facilities which fall outside the scope of this policy include:

- Knox Regional Sports Park (Basketball and Soccer);
- Knox Park Athletics Complex;
- Kings Park Athletics Track (Oval 3);
- Knox Park BMX Track;
- Knox Skate & BMX Park;
- Carrington Park Leisure Centre;
- Boronia Basketball Stadium;
- Knox Leisureworks;
- Bayswater Bowling Green;
- Waterford Valley Golf Course;
- Carrington Park Radio Controlled Car Track;
- Boronia Park Radio Controlled Car Track;
- Eastgate Court Radio Controlled Car Track;
- Wadhurts Road Radio Controlled Car Track;
- The Knox School Hockey Facility;
- Lewis Park Skate Bowl;
- Knox Regional Netball Centre;
- Rowville Community Centre;
- H.V. Jones Community Hall; and
- Knox Gardens Reserve Community Hall.

These facilities are considered to be specialty venues and financial contributions towards facility upgrades will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Where appropriate, funding contributions will be determined as per the relevant occupancy agreement, whilst factoring in the level of contributions for other sports facilities as set out in this Policy.

The policy does not apply to infrastructure not located on sporting reserves.

The Policy acts as guidance to both Council and the community in providing the required infrastructure to allow active community life to prosper. It does not remove Council's responsibilities or obligations under a number of legislative and policy documents including:

- Knox City Council Access & Inclusion Plan, 2011-2015;
- Knox City Council Crime Prevention for Environmental Design Principles, 2013;
- Building Code of Australia, 2013 update;
- Knox City Council Water Sensitive Urban Design Policy, 2012;
- Knox City Council Graffiti & Vandalism Action Plan, 2007-2010; and
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (Federal).

4. DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Renewal	Expenditure on renewing an existing asset or a portion of an infrastructure network which increases the service potential or extends the life, e.g. renewing amenities, painting etc.
Sports Field	A rectangular shaped sporting facility used for soccer, rugby or rugby league purposes.
Sports Oval	An oval shaped sporting facility used for football or cricket purposes.
Sporting Pavilion	A pavilion used by the respective tenant sporting club(s), predominantly for changing and social purposes.
Upgrade	Expenditure on upgrading the standard of an existing asset or infrastructure network to provide a higher level of service to community users, e.g. replacing kitchen elements to increase storage space and/or capacity, etc.
Community Hub	A facility which is tenanted by multiple community groups or organisations, including non-sporting, that share usage of the facility.

5. COUNCIL POLICY

The consistent financial framework for both Council and club financial contributions towards the developments and/or improvements of sporting reserves is nominated as:

Type of Project	Maximum Council Contribution	Minimum Club Contribution	Other Comments
Separate Bar Facilities	0%	100%	
Social Rooms	50%	50%	In accordance with the Sporting Reserve and Facility Development Guidelines Policy.

Type of Project	Maximum Council Contribution	Minimum Club Contribution	Other Comments
Pavilion improvements in accordance with Council's Sporting Reserve and Facility Development Guidelines Policy (except for social rooms)	100%	0%	
Pavilion improvements exceeding Council's Sporting Reserve and Facility Development Guidelines Policy	0%	100%	
Sports lighting	50%	50%	New installations only. Repairs and maintenance to be funded by the Club.
Supporting Infrastructure (i.e. Players shelters, Timekeepers box, spectator, shelters etc)	50% (Maximum of \$2,500 each)	50%	New installations only. Repairs and maintenance to be funded by the Club.
Goal Posts (per oval)	50% (Maximum of \$2,500 each)	50%	New installations only. Repairs and maintenance to be funded by the Club.
Fencing/Caging	50%	50%	Includes players races, cricket nets, batting cages, playing fields, courts, etc.
Specialised Playing Surfaces	50%	50%	Includes tennis courts and synthetic playing surfaces.
Additional Practice Wickets (turf/concrete)	50%	50%	Works include additional amenities such as caging, water supply and site reinstatement.

Any additional facilities which are not listed in the table above will be managed on a case-by-case basis.

Council's financial contribution to develop and/or improve sporting facilities is subject to available funding and will be determined as part of Council's annual budgeting process.

Should clubs be able to demonstrate exceptional circumstances as to why a Council contribution towards proposed pavilion improvements exceeds the nominated standards (as defined within Knox Policy – Sporting Reserve and Facility Development Guidelines Policy), Council may consider the merits of such a request on a case-by-case basis

Funding contributions for elements within facility upgrades which are deemed to be genuine 'Community Hubs', will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

In these circumstances, it is expected financial contributions will also be received from other, non-sporting user groups.

6. TENNIS ASSET REPLACEMENT FUND

Under this policy all tennis clubs occupying Council facilities will be required to maintain an asset replacement fund for the replacement of court surfaces and associated infrastructure (i.e. netting, lighting fencing etc). At the commencement of the asset replacement fund scheme, all tennis sites will be inspected and the remaining life of tennis playing surfaces and related infrastructure will be determined. Based on this data and the estimated cost to replace the assets, clubs are required to set aside a specified financial amount each year of its occupancy with such annual amounts to be held in a reserve fund held by the respective tennis clubs for this purpose.

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS & REFERENCES

- Supersedes Sporting Club Financial Contributions Towards Reserve Developments Policy, 2011
- Council's Leisure Minor Capital Works Grants Scheme Policy, 2014
- Tennis Facilities Strategic Plan, 2012
- Sporting Reserve and Facility Development Guidelines Policy, 2011
- Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards, 2010