

CITY OF PARRAMATTA

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

What is provided now?



1

Council-owned indoor recreation court

17

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 one large indoor court and is managed by YMCA Epping.

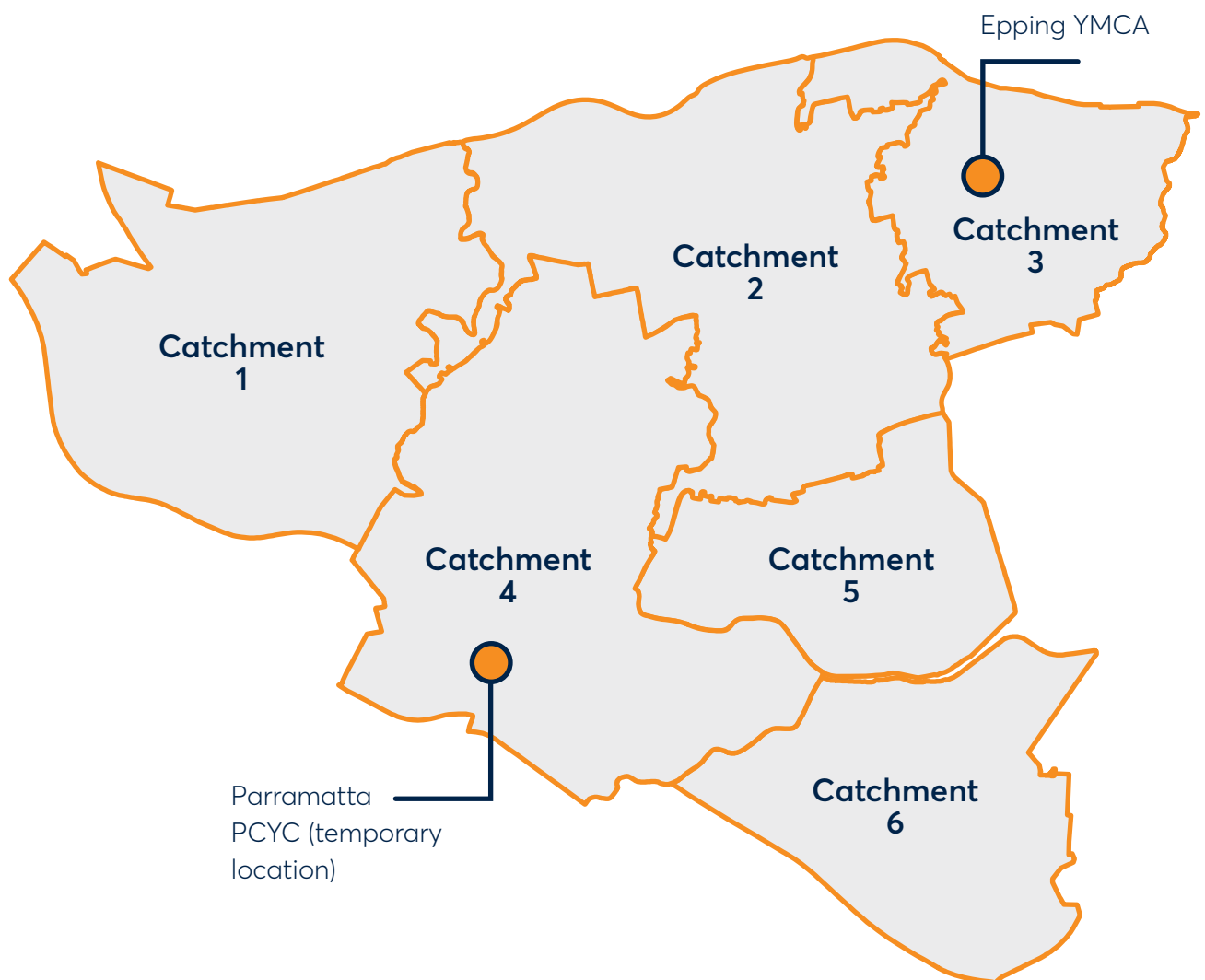
Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre has 17 indoor sports courts, including the sports centre which has five indoor multipurpose courts.

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.

There is a Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC) located in the Parramatta CBD in a temporary premises. The facility contains a gym, boxing

rings and activity rooms, but no indoor recreation courts. In the longer term, PCYC NSW plans to develop a new facility in the Parramatta CBD that will include up to three multipurpose indoor sports courts. Council will work with PCYC NSW to help realise this outcome.

2019 City of Parramatta Council Indoor Recreation Network



Council's indoor recreation network

CATCHMENT 3	OWNERSHIP	COMPONENTS
<p>YMCA</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">• One large court facility (can accommodate one basketball court or four badminton courts)• Gymnastics area• Fitness facilities
CATCHMENT 4	OWNERSHIP	COMPONENTS
<p>Parramatta PCYC</p> <p>107 George St, Parramatta 2150</p>	<p>Privately owned premises under short-term lease.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gym and fitness centre• Boxing fitness centre• Multipurpose rooms• Youth hub



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

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

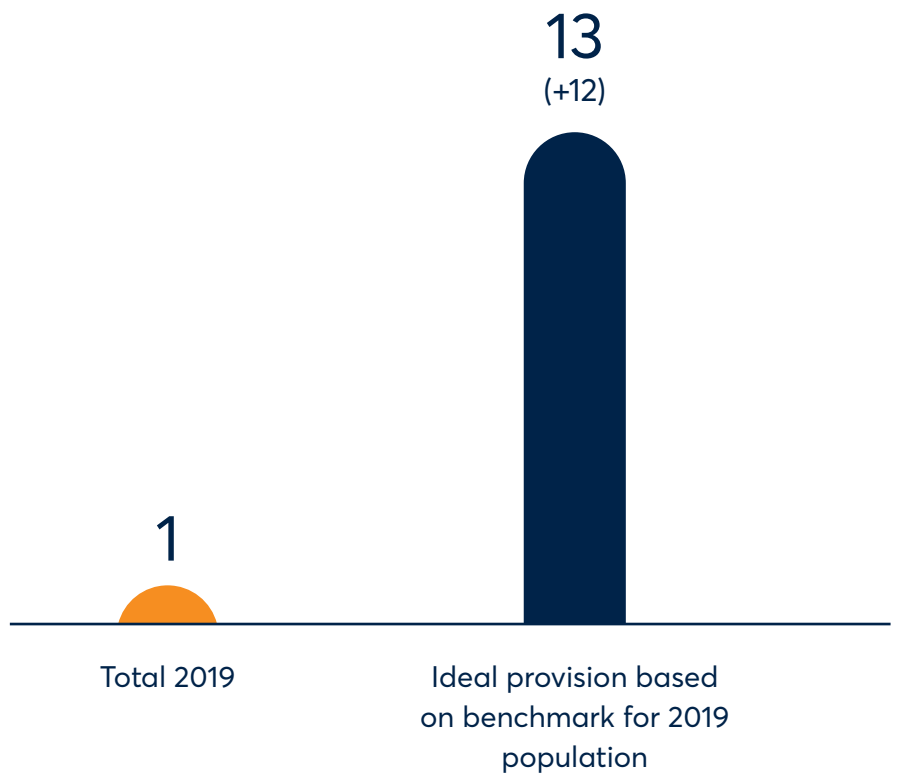
Rates of provision

City of Parramatta: 2019 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 13 indoor courts would be ideal to meet City of Parramatta's current resident population of approximately 266,000 people. Research suggests courts function best within indoor recreation centres of 4 or more courts per centre.

Analysis also shows that there is very limited access for communities living outside catchments 3 and 6.



KEY: ● Indoor courts

** 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 four or more 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' pages 60-61.

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 south-eastern 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.
- Parramatta has no permanent PCYC, with the current facility occupying a private premises under short-term lease, and without any indoor sports courts.

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 (capacity for 100 people) suitable for seminars, activities and events. The hall can be set up for:
 - ¾ court basketball
 - A volleyball court
 - A badminton court, or
 - A futsal court.
- Two multipurpose rooftop outdoor courts which can be set up for:
 - Two futsal courts
 - Two basketball courts
 - Two tennis courts, and
 - Two netball court
- Table tennis tables are available, as well as equipment such as basketballs and badminton racquets.
- Community spaces and services:
 - 680m² library
 - Large community room (capacity for 80-120 people) and two small seminar rooms (capacity for 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, 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 3,045m² (35m X 87m) with approximately 1,000m² 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.

CASE
STUDY



**Information and image sourced from
City of Sydney*

What our community has told us...

The first version of this Strategy was publicly exhibited between August and October 2017, and the updated draft Strategy was publicly exhibited between September and November 2019.

These engagement opportunities 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 useful for strengthening this document. Through the 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, public submission

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

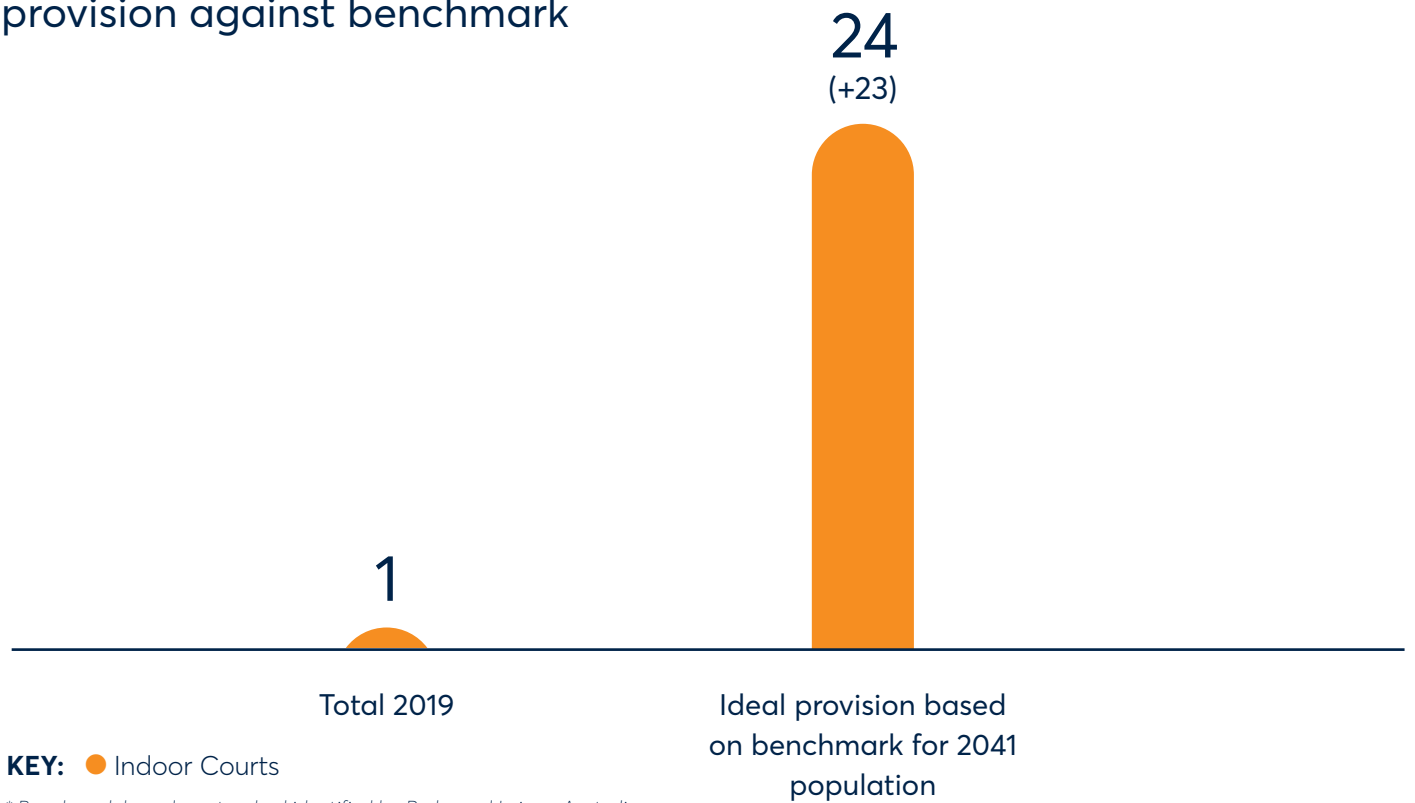
- Resident, public submission

INDOOR RECREATION NETWORK

Future needs



City of Parramatta: 2041 indoor recreation provision against benchmark



* 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 488,000 people by 2041.

Based on population benchmarking this would justify up to 24 indoor recreation multiuse courts.

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 488,000 people by 2041. Benchmarking would justify 338 additional hectares of sportsground space, bringing this to a total of 488 hectares.

This shortfall is equivalent to 338 additional playing fields. This cannot be realised in the current and increasingly urbanised environment of City of Parramatta.

City of Parramatta by catchment at 2041: 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
2041 population	80,722	77,026	47,324	160,554	57,317	64,790
2041, ha/1,000 people	0.88	1.06	0.66	0.51	1.28	0.23
2019, ha/1,000 people	1.28	1.49	0.84	1.15	3.63	0.56
Potential gap in provision by 2041 (ha/1,000 people)	1.12	0.94	1.34	1.49	0.72	1.77

*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 5,100m² and the building area is approximately 4,000m². 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:

- Two multipurpose indoor courts
- Three multipurpose 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

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

2019 current supply

31

2041 future supply based on population growth

While benchmarks indicate the need for 23 indoor recreation courts, this Strategy identifies 30 additional indoor recreation courts to be provided across the local government area. There are several reasons for recommending a future provision that is higher than the population-based benchmarks:

- Green space deficit
- Cost of acquiring additional green space for formal sport
- Significant population growth
- Weather-proofing recreation options

** Future supply based on the number of indoor recreation courts that can be realised via the following key recommendations*

Key recommendations

CATCHMENT 1

RECOMMENDATION

Westmead

- Deliver a new indoor recreation facility of at least four 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 two 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 1900m² that includes:
 - 300m² of space for indoor recreation/community hall.
 - 900m² for two rooftop recreation spaces.

CATCHMENT 3

RECOMMENDATION

Epping

- Redevelop the indoor recreation facility at Epping to expand the indoor recreation offering to approximately three to four courts.

CATCHMENT 4

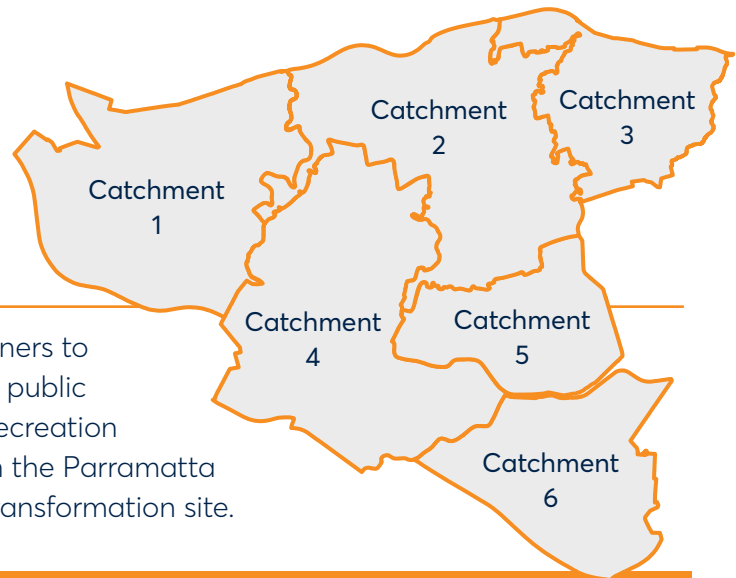
RECOMMENDATION

Camellia

- Deliver a new child and youth hub of approximately 5,000m² which includes a minimum of two indoor multi-use courts.

Parramatta

- Deliver a new indoor recreation facility of four 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.
- Work with PCYC NSW to plan for a new Parramatta CBD club facility that includes indoor sports courts.



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 two 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 two 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 four 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 pages 63-65.

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
- multipurpose indoor sports courts
- multipurpose program spaces
- multipurpose 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": <https://www.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au/sites/council/files/2018-09/socially-sustainable-parramatta-framework.pdf>
- City of Parramatta Council's website: www.cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au
- City of Parramatta Customer Contact Centre: **9806 5050**
- For access to demographic data: <http://profile.id.com.au/parramatta>