

3.5. School Infrastructure NSW - Asset Sharing

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PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to present information on how asset activations can open public schools for joint and shared use of school facilities within the North Sydney LGA. This includes use outside of school hours as well as during school holidays to help provide more active open space to the community.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides information on the potential for Council to:

- collaborate with Schools Infrastructure NSW (SINSW) on joint use and shared use of school facilities outside of school hours; and
- increase the availability and use of active infrastructure within the North Sydney LGA.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT** the report be received by the Sport and Recreation Reference Group.
- 2. THAT** Council's Parks and Reserves Manager continues to liaise with SINSW on shared use of school facilities.
- 3. THAT** the Sport and Recreation Reference Group thank Tessa Pentony of SINSW for her attendance at the meeting.

Background

The SINSW Asset Activation team work with stakeholders on providing shared/joint use of school facilities outside of school hours.

The Asset Activation team made contact with Council's Manager of Parks and Reserves in late 2022 to discuss options for shared use of Public-School facilities within North Sydney.

Report

Within the North Sydney LGA there are four Public Schools:

- Anzac Park,
- Cammeray,
- Neutral Bay, and
- North Sydney.

and three (public) High Schools:

- Cammeraygal,
- North Sydney Boys, and
- North Sydney Girls.

These schools have sporting infrastructure such netball/basketball courts, futsal courts, and cricket practice nets that could be utilised outside of school hours by the local community and/or sports clubs.

SINSW can review what community use is already in place as well as opportunities for additional use at these schools. This would be for both indoor and outdoor sporting facilities.

Considering North Sydney's severe shortfalls in sporting infrastructure there is an opportunity to bridge that gap. The Asset Activation team has been very supportive to date and has been cooperative in providing guidance to Council.

Options

The Sport and Recreation Reference Group has the following options in relation to this matter:

1. Take no action
2. The recommended option

These options are assessed in the table below.

Option	Finance/Resourcing	Risk/Opportunity	Consultation
1.	Currently no additional financial or resourcing issues.	Continuing issues with the supply of sporting infrastructure outweighing the demand.	Under this option there would be no community consultation undertaken.
2.	Currently no finance or resourcing issues.	An increase in the amount of available sporting infrastructure for community use.	Consultation between Council, Schools and neighbouring residents around the terms and hours of use.

Option 2, is recommended for the following reasons:

- Minimal financial or resourcing issues. Requirements in Finance and Resourcing
- Will aid in providing additional sporting infrastructure for use by the community and sporting clubs.

Consultation requirements

Community engagement is not required.

Financial/Resource Implications

There are no financial/resource implications associated with this report.

Legislation

There are no legislative requirements or considerations required as part of this report.