



PARKS & LEISURE
AUSTRALIA
(WA)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

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THANKS TO:

PLAWA acknowledge the valuable contribution and advice from many individuals and organisations for the development of the Community Facilities Guidelines project. This project commenced in 2010 and includes a collection of documents, research and data that are intended to be amended, expanded and updated to reflect changes in our communities. As PLAWA's largest and longest collaborative project, we are most grateful to the 32 local governments in the Perth and Peel region who helped collect data, provide advice and peer review proposals and information. The continued contribution of local governments with regular updates of facility data is critical to the success of this ongoing project. PLAWA would like to thank the following contributors for volunteering their time, expertise and assistance in the project. Many others have been involved in various committees, peer review, and data analysis since 2010 and we thank you.

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City of Canning	City of Kalamunda	Shire of Peppermint Grove	Town of Victoria Park
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Department of
**Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries**

The State Government through the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries is a major supporter of Parks & Leisure Australia in Western Australia. Sport and Recreation builds stronger, healthier, happier and safe communities.

Parks and Leisure Australia WA acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

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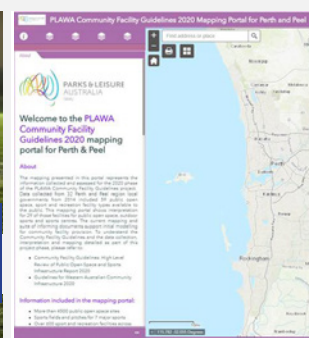
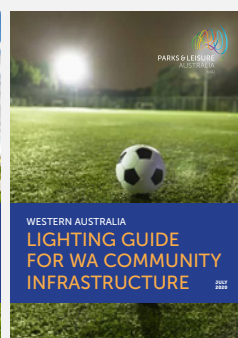
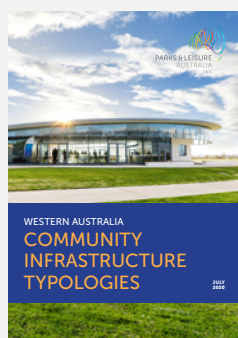
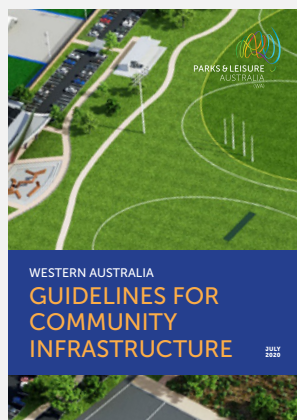
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1. INTRODUCTION

This publication is one of a number of documents collectively referred to as the Community Facility Guidelines (CFG) project initiated by Parks and Leisure Australia in Western Australia (PLAWA) in 2010. The CFG project is aimed at developing resources for industry practitioners to assist with public open space (POS), sport and recreation facility strategic planning and development.



PLAWA have developed evidence based guidance resources:

- [WA Community Facility Guidelines Mapping Portal 2020](#), an inventory of facilities currently provided in metropolitan Perth to provide a mechanism for validating the per capita provision ratios.
- [Community Facility Guidelines Report: High level public open space and sports on public open space data review, Perth and Peel, 2020](#), a summary analysis of current POS and 7 primary sports on POS provided in the region, with recommendations for improving sport and recreation planning.
- [Guidelines for Community Infrastructure 2020](#), this publication providing guidance for the provision of new community infrastructure development within existing or new development areas primarily in the Perth and Peel region.
- [WA Community Infrastructure Typologies 2020](#) developed from extensive research, case studies, industry guidance notes and regulations, to be used as a starting point for scoping the required components of specific sport and community facility developments.

- **Lighting Guide for Community Infrastructure 2020**, which sets out lighting standards for training, amateur and competition level sports pitch and court night-time lighting requirements, application to local governments in Western Australia.
- **Guidelines for Community Facilities (Stage1) 2010**, a reference point and overview of planning documents for development of a series of policy and guideline statements that support parks and leisure professionals' participation in the land use planning process (2010). This document is now under review.

The CFG publications and professionals' tools will continue to be reviewed, expanded and updated with further guidance for specific community facilities and with information of new and upgraded facility developments and changes in policy direction and practice.

They are one of a suite of planning tools available within the industry for the development, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of community infrastructure. It is essential to ensure a balanced approach is taken when determining the appropriate level and standard of provision within a given development area by using a variety of tools and measures.

PLAWA does not intend the CFG or this document, the *Western Australia Guidelines for Community Infrastructure 2020 (Guidelines)* to be applied as a standard or rule. The *Guidelines* have been developed from extensive research and actual provision verification. They are intended for those working in the Western Australian planning field to ensure appropriate recognition is given to the development of various types of community infrastructure. In this document the allocation of a required level of infrastructure is referenced by population bandings which indicate the threshold at which point various facilities should be considered.



2. APPLICATION

The Guidelines are most applicable through population and catchment hierarchies for the Perth and Peel region and its planning and policy framework. They may also provide guidance for regional centres and towns where a range of community infrastructure are strategically planned to meet minimum design, technical and spatial standards.



2.1 Perth and Peel metropolitan region

In 2012 PLAWA established draft *Guidelines* from research applied within Australia and elsewhere. The infrastructure guidelines set out in the table following are most applicable to the Perth and Peel region and have been reviewed and updated against actual community facility provision in the Perth metropolitan area.

2.2 Outer metropolitan Perth and regional centres

Current state land use planning and infrastructure frameworks completed in 2018 are to guide accommodating growth of the Perth and Peel region population to 3.5 million people by the year 2050. The planning and policy frameworks aim to deliver city liveability largely through increased density, consolidation and improved transport networks.

Providing an indication of the extent of community infrastructure to be considered and provided within greenfield and infill developments is essential for meeting modern standards of liveability. The facilities referenced relate to the extent of infrastructure needed to provide adequate social opportunity to service a given community.

As Perth continues to grow, the outer metropolitan areas will need to allocate adequate land to provide the range of services and facilities for future generations. Current infrastructure in established areas will be severely impacted as the population grows, which in turn reduces local community access and current facility provision. Land allocation and planning for community infrastructure for future generations is therefore critical to meet need with appropriate and timely investment.

Western Australian regional centres may be considered to have similar community requirements to that of the Perth and Peel region. Regional centres have traditionally been the focus of community sport, leisure, recreation and social activities and infrastructure that serve a broad regional catchment. It is anticipated that the extent and types of community facility infrastructure in regional centres will be determined by their strategic position, rather than through the use of population and standard catchment triggers. The *Guidelines* could be most appropriately used as a checklist for establishing the appropriate mix of community facilities to service a wider catchment in regional centres.

2.3 Rural regional areas and regional towns

Regional rural areas and towns will have areas of community infrastructure need that cannot be aligned to population guidelines. Providing a wide range of community infrastructure and services to service a given community may not be viable.

It is essential to establish the need of the community on a case by case basis and to ensure that where infrastructure is provided that it meets minimum design, technical and spatial standards and provides suitable opportunities to provide outreach services. It is also important that POS and facility provision is not strictly aligned to population and catchment hierarchies. For example, single facility provision that accommodate senior sport and recreation will meet the needs of a greater proportion of the population than only junior scaled facilities.



3. BROAD DEFINITIONS

These Guidelines highlight the extent of community infrastructure provision required within a developed or developing urban area. It is essential that opportunities to co-locate facilities or provide for shared use of infrastructure are explored.



PLAWA advocates for the provision of community facilities that are determined across multiple criteria analysis for meeting economic, social and environmental objectives and long-term flexibility and viability outcomes. Duplication of provision or the development of facilities that can only be used for a single purpose with restricted access is not generally supported.

The 2020 *Guidelines* revision was based on contemporary research, industry guidance and current facility provision data analysis. The data and information review principally analysed access, equity and fairness as the primary criteria for considering comparative levels of provision across the Perth and Peel region. Therefore, physical landscape, land use, transport barriers, cross community equal access and consistency of facility provision across all local government areas are some of the key considerations for planning for community infrastructure. A variety of multi-functional and co-located developments that demonstrate careful consideration of community need, quality design and good practice utilisation and management have been identified through PLAWA's research and case studies.

The following examples present opportunity to further explore models and learnings to apply to community infrastructure provision in Western Australia:

3.1 Sporting and recreational open space

PLAWA support the definition for open space advocated by the Western Australian Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) for public open space, namely:

- **Sports Spaces:** To provide a setting for formal structured sport activities such as team competitions, physical skill development and training. Designed to accommodate the playing surface and infrastructure requirements of specific sports.
- **Recreational Spaces:** To provide a setting for informal recreational and social activities which enhance physical and mental health through activity that provides relaxation, amusement or stimulation. They can be accessed by individuals or family and friends to play, socialise, exercise, celebrate or participate in other activities which provide personal satisfaction or intrinsic reward.
- **Nature Spaces:** Spaces managed to protect and enhance environments with ecological and biodiversity values which provide opportunity for low impact nature based recreational activities, such as picnicking, watching, walking, cycling or exploring.

3.2 Community hubs

Community hubs are conveniently located public places valued as places facilitating access to a wide range of community activities, programs, services and events. They can be a single building or several buildings with associated outdoor social meeting areas to deliver services and activities. Community hubs can be cost effective in delivering a range of community services, sharing resources and linking other activity areas, audiences and target groups. Typically a community hub would:

- Provide for a compatible range of services/ functions that are co-located.
- Provide facilities used by a diverse range of community organisations, agencies and groups on both permanent and casual basis.
- Provide opportunities for the co-location of key service delivery such as childcare, aged care and library services.
- Be located within or close to population centres and in close proximity to public transport.
- Be economically viable and provide opportunities for community partnerships where resources are shared and efficiencies can be demonstrated.
- Possibly include health and aged care; family and children's services; social and recreation and lifelong learning.

3.3 Shared use facilities

To meet a range of changing and variable community needs, it is more important to ensure that there is flexibility in the way that facilities are planned and provided. PLAWA support the development of facilities that have greater potential for:

- Multiple uses and services.
- Compatible and complimentary uses and services.
- Co-location or partnerships with other providers who enhance economic and social viability.
- Linkages between facilities and programmes for outreach and other services.
- More readily accessed for community members; and
- Staging developments to meet community need over time.

The shared use (sometimes referenced as dual use) of school facilities is a common mechanism for delivering shared use community infrastructure. In 2018 the Department of Education (WA) established a policy statement *Community Use of School Facilities and Resources in Public Schools* encouraging use of school facilities by community groups and educational providers, and for use of publicly funded facilities by schools. This policy is aimed at increasing school benefits, school financial return, access to other community facilities *and more efficient utilisation of the community's large investment in school facilities and resources*. The 2019 *Shared Use Facilities in Sport and Recreation* guide by the DLGSC sets out a framework for establishing agreements for development, management and use of shared facilities to benefit the community. The guide is complimented by an MOU template and licence agreement. The *Department of Education Accommodation Schedule 4.4.1*. (2015) sets out a limited schedule of sport infrastructure for schools based on size for generic primary schools and secondary colleges. PLAWA advocate for the development of shared senior facilities in lieu of junior facilities only without complimentary club facilities.

Private schools can agree to provide community access, subject to agreement. When developing partnerships for the community use of school facilities consideration should be given to:

- Meeting an identified need in the local community.
- Benefits to both the school and the community.
- Making the most of school and community resources.
- Strengthening relationships and social networks between schools and communities.

Other educational campuses such as those associated with universities and secondary colleges, provide student and community use facilities. They also often utilise community facilities for sporting competitions and other social and academic activities. The principles for providing community access to these education facilities should be similar to those identified for school facilities. Multiple benefits for the local community should be considered for any shared use agreement.

3.4 Multi-functional facilities

Multi-functionality should apply to the design and adaptability of single buildings, playing fields, pitches and court spaces.

This refers to the design and adaptability of single buildings and/or playing field, pitch and court space. New community infrastructure must address the dynamic and changing nature of communities. The design process needs to deliver flexible, innovative and adaptable facilities to meet the needs of a variety of users and use requirements of a changing demographic. Business viability can also be provided by a range of complimentary services to diversify income and commercial support of a facility.

PLAWA encourages the joint use and co-location of services that are compatible and where the management of services allows for multiple benefit from use with other services. Reference is made in these *Guidelines* to different types of service provision and opportunities to co-locate them within one building or sports playing area.

3.5 Sport hubs and lifelong learning

Specific variations of the hub, multi-use and shared use development of community facilities include multi-sport hubs, lifelong learning centres and learning villages/sports villages.

Multi-sport hubs utilise a range of shared sporting services within one combined location under a single management arrangement. This provides a more effective and viable operation.

A sports village developed through a number of commercial and public bodies with an aim of regenerating communities by attracting a range of sporting (both elite and community infrastructure), educational, residential and non-sporting services to a single site. The commercial development underpins the community sporting resource and examples of this model can be found England and Wales.

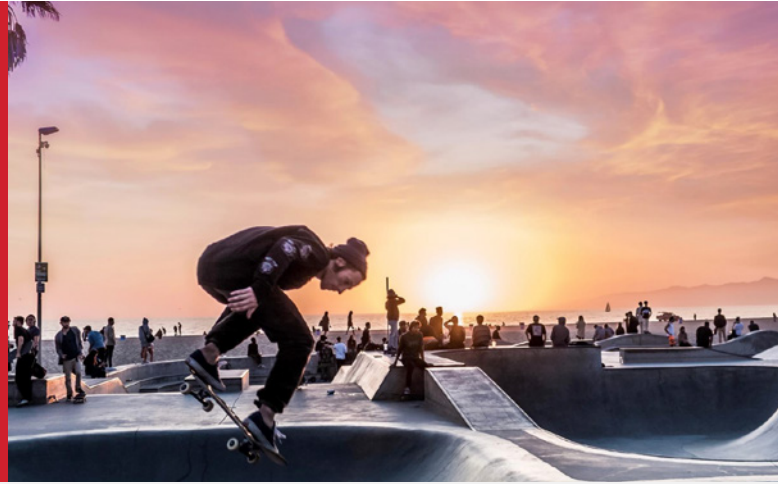
The learning village concept focusses school, library or secondary college by attracting a range of complementary services to one location (health care, family care, social care). There are examples of this approach in Victoria.

A recommendation for future review of the *PLAWA Guidelines* is to combine the definitions for Playgroup, Outside School Hours Care, Child Care Centre, Occasional Care and Maternal Child Health Service under *Family day care and education, and care service premises* to fit with the national framework, regulations, and guides adopted from 2011 for the care of children 6 months to 12 years of age. This would also assist with planning for multi-functional community hubs.

Ideally when developing new community facilities in new or regenerated areas, opportunities should be explored to include health, education, social, sports, leisure, parks and green spaces, arts and cultural facilities as an integral part of major development. This should be supported by a community infrastructure plan, or other such strategic document. PLAWA have developed a resource for this strategic planning purpose: *Recreation Strategy: A development Checklist 2019*. A plan for community infrastructure may be secured by a range of funding measures including, government, not-for-profit and commercial sector investment in addition to developer contributions.

4. 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.



General principles and approaches to the development of community facilities:

- **Hierarchy of development:** The key to a successful network of facilities is the organisation of facilities within a hierarchy framework.
- **Catering for a defined catchment:** Ideally, facilities should be central to a catchment with equitable access and should be central and accessible to the population they are intending to serve.
- **Accessibility:** Should be readily accessible to people of all abilities and be compliant with the requirements of the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and Australian Standards 1428.
- **Equity:** Should be readily accessible by all members of the community irrespective of age, mobility, sexual orientation, gender, cultural background or religious belief.
- **Visible:** Facilities are generally located to promote visibility and accessibility to maximise use and services to meet identified social needs.
- **Location:** As a general principle, community facilities should ideally be located within 400 metres walking distance of a regular public transport stop.
- **Co-location:** The focus is on integrated / co-located facilities, programs and services to maximise opportunity, use and benefit.
- **Service Integration:** Design community buildings to enable the sharing of resources and increase the level of service integration.
- **Flexibility of use:** Facilities should be designed, built and managed to maximise flexibility in use (particularly multiple uses), so they can respond and adapt as needs change.
- **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.
- **Design:** The design should be presented as a reflection of local culture.
- **Adaptation:** Community facilities should be of sufficient size and design to enable expansion and adaptation (both internally and externally). There is a need to future-proof community infrastructure to ensure they can respond to changing demographic and technical requirements.

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- **Financial viability:** Community facilities 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.
 - **Multiple criteria performance:** Community facility and site specific treatments should utilise contemporary design and construction innovations to achieve the highest possible thermal performance, energy and water efficiency, lowest embodied and operational energy, within available budgets.
 - **Safety and security:** Community facilities should utilise contemporary innovations and *Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)* principles.
 - **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.
 - **Optimise land use:** Ensure sufficient space is allocated to provide for the 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.
 - **Asset management and lifecycle costing:** At the outset of a building /site development, a clear understanding of the asset management obligations must be acknowledged (including reactive and planned maintenance / replacement programs).
 - **Incorporate smart technology:** The integration of technology into public places and as part of conducting everyday businesses and services is now accepted. The desire for people to connect through social media and access information instantly is the norm in public activity areas. This also provides opportunities for the collection of anonymous data on these activities to support decision making for appropriate facilities and services.

5. GUIDELINES

The table overleaf identifies the facility types, relevant definitions and appropriate population range to be used as a starting point for determining the level of community infrastructure provision.



The table also includes the population catchment and spatial components for some primary facilities at different hierarchies. The nominated population catchments and POS/facility hierarchies formed the basis of the 2020 CFG review and analysis mapping.

Ideally community need and opportunities should be the premise that underpins the justification for facilities falling within the broad population catchments identified. In order to comply with the requirements of State Planning Policy 3.6 (Developer Contributions) a hierarchical approach to community infrastructure provision cannot be solely based on arbitrary population projections, but must be informed by analysis of current use, trends, future demographics and an analysis of projected use. Consideration of *Guidelines* in such circumstances should be used as an indicator to inform a more detailed and specific assessment process.

The 2020 CFG project phase confirmed the need for detailed assessment and modelling studies when planning for facilities matched to the given service population and in particular, where they are to be managed by providers in partnership or on behalf of the property owner. The scope of an infrastructure project should be based on robust needs assessment, feasibility and business planning.

PLAWA have developed a number of resources to assist professionals with planning for community infrastructure. Your feedback on the *Community Facility Guidelines* project is encouraged to further refine, improve and expand the suite of publications and tools for your use. Please contact PLAWA's Executive Officer Leith Fradd at leith@parksleisure.com.au

PLAWA Community Infrastructure Guidelines 2020

Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
1	Play Group	Diverse activities for child carers which include baby groups and first-time parents, toddler playgroups, three to four-year old playgroups, fathers' groups, children with a disability, grandparent groups, home playgroups and supported playgroups. Integrated within schools, neighbourhood or district community centres.	1:4,000 – 6,000	Home based or incorporated within: Neighbourhood community centre (Item 8) District community centre (Item 9)
2	Outside school hours care	Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) services provide care before and/or after school and/or during vacation time. Some services may also provide care on pupil-free days during the school term. Not-for-profit and for-profit providers may operate OSHC services or be incorporated within a school.	1:4,000 – 6,000	Incorporated within: Long day care centres (Item 3), or School sites where possible.
3	Child Care Centre (Long Day Care) 0-4 year old's	Centre for the care of children in early stage of growth/development. Normally by private sector providers, although some local governments invest in facilities, particularly where their commercial viability is questionable.	1:4,000 – 8,000	Within broader community care and education based infrastructure.
4	Occasional Care	Occasional Care Centre (OCC) or Creche is a centre-based short term form of child care. OCC is generally operated out of long day care facilities usually by private sector providers.	1:12,000 – 15,000 Lower for rural areas	Incorporated in: Long day care centres (Item 3), or Community centres (Items 8 and 9)
5	Maternal and Child Health Service	Facilities and programs organised for the purpose of providing medical and social services for mothers and children. Medical services include prenatal and postnatal services, family planning care and pediatric care in infancy.	1:30,000 – 50,000	Dedicated space within local community centres (Items 8 and 9) and occasionally part of a multi-use service offering.
6	Multi-Agency Service Centre	Provide a base for all state government support agencies, with potential to co-locate with complementary state health services and including localised service opportunities (bill payments, booking opportunities). Such a facility should be provided by state government.	Integrate within a multi-purpose facility most commonly within district community centres (Item 9).	While not a local government service, adequate land allocation should ensure access at a district or sub-regional level.

PLAWA Community Infrastructure Guidelines 2020

Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
7	Multi-functional Branch Library	<p>Various configurations of library space, which may include student study lounge, community meeting and activity space, education-related community office space, toy library, community gallery/display space to meet diverse community hub, activity and learning needs.</p> <p>Libraries can be proven to be viable as part of a local government service provision given the advances in technology and flexible lending and learning opportunities.</p>	<p>1:50,000 – 150:000 Regional</p> <p>1:20,000 – 50,000 District</p>	<p>A library business case should be based on ten-year population projections for the local government area, or its relevant catchment subdivisions and changing services and delivery needs of the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional library • District library • Neighbourhood mobile book lending services within a multi-use community facility (Item 8).
8	Neighbourhood Community Centre	Small local meeting rooms and activity spaces that can be used by local organisations for activities such as dance, fitness and outreach work. Various gross floor area configurations of approximately 300m2 to serve immediate community.	1:7,500	Determined by local need and research; size and design should reflect the unique local conditions and be integrated / co-located where possible within a local sports pavilion and sports space, or other active spaces serviced well by public transport.
9	District Community Centre	Multi-functional building or group of public buildings for the social, cultural, and educational activities of a neighbourhood or entire community.	1:15,000 – 25,000	Need and evidence is required to establish a business case. The design scope and catchment to be determined through local research and community need. Indicative building requirements of approximately 900m2 of community meeting/activity space.
10	Youth Centre/ Youth Space	A centre providing leisure activities and advisory support for young people. To provide space for a youth worker, employment training programs, drop in areas, formal areas and outreach programs.	1:20,000-30,000 - District level	<p>A diversity of youth infrastructure not competing with independent youth service providers, to address ages 12-25 or part thereof.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District level - spaces made available within a district centre facility (Item 9) • Neighbourhood - generally not provided at this level as the service provision will be accommodated in a generic neighbourhood community centre (Item 8). • Local - supplemented by access to youth meeting areas such as skate parks / informal BMX tracks / dedicated spaces within POS (Items 13 & 14).

PLAWA Community Infrastructure Guidelines 2020

Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
11	Aged Day Care	Provides HACC eligible people and other aged members of the community in need of companionship with an opportunity to participate in a range of social and recreational activities in a stimulating and safe environment. The service is principally available to frail aged, people with disabilities who are socially isolated in the community but can also benefit other socially isolated aged individuals. It is defined as a community facility with regular operating hours and staff that provide for a broad spectrum of health, social, nutritional and education services and recreational activities for older persons.	1:30,000 – 40,000 – District level It is questionable whether a population driven guideline is required by local governments.	Federal HACC programming and funding is gradually closing as it transfers into the NDIS program. This is not a core local government service although other organisations seek access to facilities from which these services can be provided. Generally aged day care is catered for within a multi-functional district community centre (Item 9) as an integrated service delivery
12	Seniors Centre	A place where older adults can congregate to fulfil many of their social, physical, emotional, and intellectual needs. Seniors activity should be part of an integrated service offering within a community hub.	1:20,000-30,000 for District level facility (dependent on aging demographic).	Dedicated seniors' facilities are not supported and should be co-located within a community centre. District (Item 9) Neighbourhood (Item 8)
13	Skate Park	Formal skate park facility generally within established public open space.	1:25,000-50,000 – Regional 1:10,000 – 25,000 – District 1:5,000-10,000 – Neighbourhood	Additional guidance is to be provided from a consultation process to establish need and the design of infrastructure to reflect youth within a specific given catchment. 2km local catchment population
14	BMX dirt track facility	Non racing tracks, typically smaller and narrower than a BMX race track, designed for smaller catchments and budgets. Designed along the lines of BMX race track layouts, which encourage single direction riding.	1:5,000 – 10,000 Neighbourhood	BMX dirt tracks and other surfaced wheel sports tracks: 2km local population catchment
15	BMX facility (formal bitumen track)	Dedicated track for specific BMX activity generally with a stone sub-base which can provide access for other wheeled sports activities (such as skate boarding) and be a focal hub for youth. A formalised activity space which may incorporate dirt jumps and ramps.	1:50,000 – 200,000 – Regional	The State Sporting Infrastructure Plan Review 2019 identifies one state centre to be developed at Midvale. 10km district population catchment
16	Community and Performing Arts	Centres for the purpose of undertaking dance, music, opera, drama, magic, spoken word and circus arts. They can be performance based (to an audience) or for the purposes of learning and development.	1:150 – 250,000 – Regional 1:50-150,000 – District	PLAWA advocates for the development of multi-functional shared use facilities on education sites where appropriate.

PLAWA Community Infrastructure Guidelines 2020

Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
17	Theatre	A building for the presentation of plays, films, or other dramatic performances.	1:250,000 – Regional	
18	Amphitheatre or other outdoor performance facility	An outdoor structure for the presentation of plays, community events, music or other dramatic performances.		Varied facilities specific to need.
19	Outdoor Meeting Place	A functional outdoor community meeting space with at least 1,000m ² dedicated space with ability to utilise adjacent grass provision for major events.		Integrated within a district centre.
20	Museum	A building, place, or institution devoted to the acquisition, conservation, study, exhibition, and educational interpretation of objects having scientific, historical, or artistic value.	1:250,000 Generally area/location specific	
21	Heritage facility (trails, information, historic)	Various infrastructure of a historic and/or tourism potential.	Area/location specific	
22	Arts and Cultural Centre	For the purpose of learning, exhibiting and developing community arts and cultural activities.	1:50,000 to 150,000	Integrated within a district centre.
23	Indoor Sport and Recreation Centre (dry)	A multi-functional, sport recreation and community meeting place. A minimum 3 court facility with ancillary changing room space including ancillary storage, café, offices, reception, changing, gymnasium/fitness component, etc. PLAWA does not support the development of single sport hall facilities due to their lack of viability and poor return on investment.	1:50,000 – 100,000 30,000 to 50,000 – District (combined multi-use community centre Item 9).	1-2 court facility within 5km population catchment to provide neighbourhood recreational level opportunities. 5km population catchment and when combined with other functional uses can be considered as viable for district level opportunities. 4+ courts within a 10km population catchment for regional (Association) level facilities.
24	Regional Sports Facility (including aquatics)	Large multi-functional sports facility (6/7 court facility, gym, aerobics, community meeting rooms, could be combined with aquatic infrastructure). Should be co-located with regional playing fields to minimise management and operational costs.	1:250,000	

PLAWA Community Infrastructure Guidelines 2020

Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
25	Play Space	A developed component within an area of public open space or building for play. Generally designed for children aged 6 months to 12 years of age.	1:2000 Neighbourhood 1:8,000 to 10,000 District 1:50,000 Regional	
26	Permanent Moorings/ Water Infrastructure (including marinas)	Structure used to hold secure an object by means of cables, anchors, or lines. Four basic types of permanent anchor moorings - Dead weight, mushroom, screw in; and triple anchor. Consideration should also be given to the provision of marinas in the planning of new residential developments adjacent to significant water bodies.	Area/location specific.	
27	Fire Services (Specifically volunteer services, Incl Bush fire)	Base for location and storage of firefighting equipment with ability to provide opportunity for training and development.	Standard pending: Dependent on distance to and from potential emergency incidents.	
28	Aerobics/ Fitness/ Gym (Local Government)	Private or public facility providing general fitness opportunities. Generally provided within a leisure centre or through a variety of commercial operators. Leisure Centre developments should only be developed where a gap has been identified in the market.		To be developed within an indoor sport and recreation centre facility (items 23 and 24) And complimentary to aquatic facilities (items 24 and 45)
29	Specialty Park – all abilities sensory park	Parks with unique play opportunities (i.e. for children with learning difficulties, disability access and/or mental health. A sensory park is where play is integrated with processing, organising and filtering sensory input.	Area specific. Integrated within district POS or above.	Consider along with other specific outdoor uses, eg dog exercise, specialty fitness and agility equipment.
30	Regional Public Open Space/ Park	Serves or is significant to residents of the whole of a local government jurisdiction and those from neighbouring local government areas, and potentially those from metropolitan Perth, the rest of the State, other states and overseas. A regional open space may support one activity or a particular range of activities although multi-use is desirable.	1:250,000	Reflective of the adopted <i>Classification Framework for Public Open Space 2012</i> . ≥ 15 hectares 10km population catchment

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Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
31	District Park	District open space and related facilities will generally draw people from a section of a community e.g. the northern, southern or central part of a City. This could be due to size, uniqueness, quality or activity focus.	1:15,000 – 25,000	Reflective of the adopted <i>Classification Framework for Public Open Space 2012</i> . ≥5 ha and <15ha 2km population catchment
32	Neighbourhood Park	Neighbourhood parks are the basic unit of the park system and serve as the recreational and social focus of the neighbourhood. Focus is on providing informal, active and reflective recreational options for all ages. Unique site character helps create a sense of place for the neighbourhood. Includes children's playground, paved games courts, unstructured open play areas for practice or pickup games, low impact recreation options.	1:5,000	Reflective of the adopted <i>Classification Framework for Public Open Space 2012</i> . ≥1 ha and <5ha 800 metre population catchment
33	Local open Space	Serve broader purpose than neighbourhood parks. Focus is on meeting community-based recreation and gathering needs.	1:1,000	Reflective of the adopted <i>Classification Framework for Public Open Space 2012</i> . ≥0.4 ha to <1ha 400 metre population catchment (Small POS <0.4h within a 400m catchment)
34	Sports Space (to potentially incorporate sports identified with asterisks below)	Generic open space for the provision of grass sporting infrastructure that can be flexibly used to incorporate seasonal variations in sporting use. A minimum provision of 205m x 175m north to south (3.5ha) will meet the needs of the sporting community, maximise financial viability and use of the infrastructure. Floodlighting to minimum training level. A combination of oval and rectangular pitch provision with a shared pavilion and associated infrastructure. Sports will be identified based on local demand.	1:4,000 - 5,000	Provision of POS across all sub-regions per 1,000 head of population in 2019 indicated a provision of between 4.2ha and 5.68ha. District and regional POS (typically publicly accessible sports spaces) account for 1.93ha to 3.04ha per 1,000 head of population.

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Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
	34a. AFL ovals*	Senior oval grass pitch provision 2020	1:6,000 to 1:8,000 for senior sized ovals – Neighbourhood 1:1,500 - 1,800 lots i.e. a population of between 4,050 and 4,860 at 2.7 residents per lot for school/junior facilities.	1 senior oval in a 2km population catchment for neighbourhood level facilities 2+ senior sized ovals in a 5km population catchment for district level facilities Junior sized shared use for primary school sites, with associated club and training infrastructure.
	34b. Rugby Union/League*	Rectangular grass pitch provision preferred dimensions of 100m by 70m (rugby league) and 156m x 70m (rugby union).	1:20,000 and 1:50,000 Area/location specific. To be determined by local circumstances and demographic mix.	1-3 senior pitches in a 2km population catchment for neighbourhood facilities 4+ senior pitches in a 10km population catchment for district facilities
	34c. Diamond pitch sports*	Diamond shaped grass pitch – full sized and including outfield	1:10,000 - 1:14,000	1-2 pitches within a 2km catchment for neighbourhood facilities. 3+ pitches within a 10km catchment for district facilities.
	34d. Soccer pitches*	Rectangular grass pitch – full sized and including provision (adult 90-120m by 45-90m) small sided game for 6-12 age range varies from 30 by 20m to 60 by 340m	1:4,800 to 1:6,600	1 senior pitch in a 2km catchment for local facilities 2-3 senior pitches in a 2km catchment for neighbourhood facilities 4+ senior pitches in a 2km catchment for district facilities
	34e. Cricket ovals*	Oval grass pitch (Adult varies between 137 and 150m) with smaller dimensions for junior competition. Oval space and associated infrastructure, including synthetic surfaced match and practice wickets.	1:5,000 – 1:8,000	1 senior oval in a 2km catchment for neighbourhood facilities. 2+ senior ovals in a 5km catchment for district facilities.

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Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
	34f. Athletics (grass and synthetic)*	<p>Formal synthetic provision or marked grassed oval with ancillary jumping pits and throwing areas</p> <p>Population driven requirement to justify development based on need and a viable business case.</p>	<p>1:250,000 plus – Regional Level (synthetic).</p> <p>1:40,000 to 1:50,000 district level (grass) infrastructure with training areas potentially located on a school site subject to a shared use agreement.</p>	<p>2km population catchment for neighbourhood facilities.</p> <p>5km population catchment for district facilities.</p>
	34g. Hockey pitches (grass* and synthetic – water, sand based and alternatives)	<p>Rectangular grass or synthetic surface (Adult 91.4m by 55m with 5m end and 4m side run-offs).</p>	<p>Synthetic pitch provision should be based on individual business cases due to the current market saturation. Grass provision to be area/ location specific.</p>	<p>1 x synthetic pitch and 2-3 grass pitches to service the needs of a club where a business case for investment in a synthetic grass pitch can be justified.</p> <p>1-3 pitches within a 2km population catchment</p> <p>4+ pitches within a 10km population catchment for district facilities.</p>
35	Multi-use synthetic surfaces	<p>Multi-use synthetic surfaces for multiple sporting activities including tennis, netball, hockey, football, cricket and basketball where the provision of grass ovals and court space is compromised by inadequate space, supply or capacity to accommodate individual local sporting need.</p> <p>Multi-use games areas (MUGA). The provision of hard surfaces for a variety of sporting uses which are multi-marked to accommodate a range of sporting activity, including typically a mixture of the sports of basketball, tennis, netball, small-sided soccer, roller hockey and other casual sporting use.</p> <p>Sports specific synthetic turf pitches where water limitations and lack of access to adequate levels of grass pitch provision.</p>	<p>Area/location specific.</p>	

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Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
36	Netball Courts	<p>Indoor and outdoor hard flat surface requiring 30.5m by 15.25m with minimum run-off of 3.05 or 3.65 between courts.</p> <p>This does not include multi-use court provision, but facilities which are principally dedicated to the delivery of netball.</p>	1:5,000 – 8,000 (outdoor) for training purposes.	<p>1 dedicated court / 8,000 head of population, offset by school provision for dedicated training programs.</p> <p>1-6 courts within a 5km population catchment for neighbourhood facilities</p> <p>7+ courts within a 5km population catchment for district facilities</p> <p>10+ courts within a 5km population catchment for sub-regional/regional facilities</p> <p>Development for an Association requires consolidation of 10-12 courts on one site for the purpose of running league matches and festivals at a district / sub-regional level.</p>
37	Basketball courts (indoor and outdoor)	<p>A flat hard surface 28m by 15m free from obstructions. Indoor provision requires 7m internal ceiling space and minimum run-off 2m.</p> <p>Minimum number of indoor dedicated courts to suit the level of provision.</p> <p>Multi-marked outdoor courts with the capability of providing for basketball training and competition.</p>	1:3,000 – 4,000 (outdoor)	<p>4-8 dedicated indoor courts for association/regional centre, with indoor/outdoor training courts, within a 10km population catchment.</p> <p>4 -8 dedicated indoor courts for district / sub-regional centre, with associated indoor/outdoor training courts, within a 5km population catchment.</p> <p>1-4 dedicated courts for neighbourhood level provision, within a 5km catchment.</p> <p>2km population catchment for outdoor court provision.</p>
38	Volleyball (indoor and outdoor – beach and traditional)	A flat hard surface (9m x 18m) or sand based surface (8m x 16m) free from obstructions. Minimum run-off 3.5m (side) and 3.8m (end) for competition use.	.	<p>To be integrated with compatible indoor / outdoor court recreation centres (Item 9).</p> <p>1-2 courts within a 5km population catchment for a neighbourhood facility.</p> <p>3+ courts within a 5km catchment for a district facility.</p> <p>4+ courts within a 10km catchment for an association/regional facility.</p>

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Item	Facility	Definition	Population Guideline	Facility hierarchy, distance & spatial components
39	Lawn Bowls	Square flat grassed or synthetic surface of 40m by 40m surrounded by a ditch.	1:35,000 to 50,000 – District	<p>It is recognised that bowling clubs often function as community hubs for a target demographic, with a diverse range of sport and recreation participation based on the wider community need and economic viability of a facility.</p> <p>1-2 grass / synthetic greens within a 5km catchment for a neighbourhood facility.</p> <p>3+ grass / synthetic greens within a 5km catchment for a district facility.</p>
40	Tennis multi surface hard courts and grass	<p>Rectangular synthetic surface preferred 23.77m by 10.97m with 6.4m depth of baseline. Orientation of courts should be north-south.</p> <p>Club facilities rather than stand-alone single, double or triple court facilities.</p> <p>Club floodlit courts to be available for public booking uses.</p>	<p>1:15,000 to 30,000 - District</p> <p>1:30,000 to 60,000 – Regional</p>	<p>Within a 5km population catchment:</p> <p>8 court minimum club/district facility</p> <p>16 courts for a regional tennis centre</p> <p>Tennis Australia (2018) use a ratio of 1 court / 5,000 residents for club/recreation provision by local governments.</p> <p>Rationalisation and consolidation of courts / clubs is required where there is a defined over-provision.</p>
41	Golf Course	Grass links and parkland provision, which varies from pitch and putt/short hole to 9-hole and 18-hole combinations.	PLAWA do not advocate for further provision of golf by local governments in the Perth and Peel region	Any golf facility within a 10km population catchment
42	Cycling facility	Would generally refer to combined running/walking tracks and should be incorporated within Trails strategies. A velodrome would be the formal competitive infrastructure provided at state level and is not considered within this definition.	Integrated with tracks and trails	It is important to incorporate end of trip facilities (bike storage, toilets, showers etc.) and recreational cycle ways in planning.
43	Trails (walking, cycling and bridle paths)	Combined running/walking tracks and should be incorporated within Trails strategies.	No established Australian standard	It is important to incorporate end of trip facilities (bike storage, toilets, showers etc.) and recreational pathways in planning.

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44	Climbing walls / Centres	Commercial or publicly provided centres for the specific purpose of developing rock climbing, abseiling and motor skill. Climbing walls can be located attached to or within existing leisure centres, but are more commonly provided through the commercial sector.	Climbing centres are generally provided through the commercial sector and are not considered to be a high priority for local government investment.	
45	Aquatic facilities -indoor/ outdoor	Indoor and/or outdoor facility of various constructions but generally include rectangular 25m or 50m pool including 6 to 8 lanes of 2.5m each. Local government pools developed for recreational purposes include leisure water space in addition to formal lap swimming facilities.	1:150:000 – Regional 1:75,000 – District 1:30,000 – Neighbourhood	50m lap pool and other water space – Regional facility at a 10km population catchment. 25m - 50m lap pool for recreational and club water space – District facility at a 5-10km population catchment. 25m lap and leisure pool and/or leisure water space – Neighbourhood at a 5km population catchment. While some facilities may be required at a District 5km catchment, facilities should be considered for 10km regional population catchment.
46	Off-road recreational motorsport	Formalised activity areas for two, three and four wheeled motorsport activities.	Area specific: To balance reasonable demand with the need to protect the environment.	The WA <i>State Trail Bike Strategy</i> 2008 provides a reference point for the objectives for off-road vehicle and trails planning.
47	Men's shed / Women's Shed	A community facility primarily for sharing and developing trade skills, while improving mental and physical health outcomes. Typically they incorporate workshops, kitchen spaces and a meeting room varying from 200m ² to 1,000m ² .	Area/location and need specific.	Typically provided through local government strategic community plans as an important local resource. The local government role should not be one of provision, but to facilitate the potential development on appropriate land where need, community benefit and viability is evidenced. Capital funding is usually sourced through external grants and fundraising.

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48	Community garden	<p>Community gardens and orchards bring people together as a way of educating children and adults in the horticultural environment.</p> <p>They have a significant role in connecting communities and enhancing individual's health and wellbeing.</p>	Area/location and need specific.	<p>Typically provided through local government strategic community plans as an important local resource.</p> <p>The local government role should not be one of provision, but to facilitate the potential development on appropriate land where need, community benefit and viability is evidenced. Capital funding is usually sourced through external grants and fundraising.</p>
49	Aboriginal meeting place / respecting heritage	Recognition of Aboriginal / Indigenous heritage and the need to provide opportunities to meet / yarn.	Area/location and need specific.	<p>Provision should be integrated within broader community development objectives to maintain the local heritage values and needs of the community (see Item 19).</p> <p>Need and scope to be determined on a case by case basis through more effective stakeholder consultation processes.</p>
50	Croquet	<p>A sport played by two to eight players using mallets to hit wooden balls through small metal hoops fixed into the grass.</p> <p>1 court requires 1,066m² (25.6m x 32m court, plus 4m buffer zone).</p> <p>2 courts require approximately 2,132m²</p>	Not referenced	<p>Given the low level of participation and limited growth in this sport and the level of current infrastructure, further investment in new facility infrastructure is not supported for local governments.</p> <p>Existing facilities could increase sport and recreation participation diversity and look to shared use multiple use pitches and opportunity for consolidation with tennis, lawn bowls and similar facilities,</p>
51	Squash	A ball sport played by two or four players in a four-walled court - a front wall, two side walls, and a back wall (9.75m by 6.4m with an internal height of 5.64m).	<p>Not referenced</p> <p>2019 data did not provide base population triggers for community provision.</p>	Given the low level of participation and other commercial facility provision, squash is not considered a priority for local government. Where a specific business case demonstrates local demand, facilities may be included in a district or regional level multiple use indoor sport and recreational facility.

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