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## 1. Statement

Council is committed to creating an Active City through the provision of sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation opportunities to the Ipswich community through the goals of *Increased Participation; Better Places; and Stronger Partnerships*.

## 2. Purpose and Principles

The Active City Policy provides a strategic framework for all sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation undertakings conducted by Ipswich City Council. Council will deliver upon the Active Cities Policy through:

- Rigorous strategic planning and policy;
- Provision of programs for increased participation opportunities;
- Development, management and activation of fit-for-purpose facilities and settings;
- Strong community partnerships;
- Provision of a high quality service to deliver sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation to the City;
- Supporting community groups that facilitate community participation opportunities.

The following principles underpin the objectives of the Active City Policy:

- **Community engagement** - Ensure appropriate stakeholder input in the planning, development, management and activation of facilities, programs and services.
- **Diversity, Choice and Opportunities** - Provide diverse facilities and programs for participation in sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation.
- **Enjoyment** - Provide residents and visitors the opportunity to enjoy participation, develop skills, interact socially, achieve goals and meet personal challenges.
- **Inclusivity** – provide residents fair access to facilities, programs and services regardless of socio-economic status, ethnicity, age, gender, ability or geographic location.
- **Quality** - deliver quality participation opportunities, facilities, programs and services.

- **Research and Plan** - Support research and planning that identifies current and future trends, needs and industry best practice.
- **Safety** - Support the development and maintenance of safe fit-for-purpose facilities and settings, activities and programs.
- **Sustainability** - Provide opportunities that are environmentally, culturally and socially responsible and sustainable.

### 3. Strategic Plan Links

This policy aligns with the following iFuture 2021-2026 Corporate Plan themes:

- Vibrant and Growing
- Safe, Inclusive and Creative
- Natural and Sustainable

### 4. Regulatory Authority

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Cultural Heritage Act 2003*
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992*

### 5. Human Rights Commitment

Ipswich City Council (Council) has considered the human rights protected under the *Human Rights Act 2019 (Qld)* (the Act) when adopting and/or amending this policy. When applying this policy, Council will act and make decisions in a way that is compatible with human rights and give proper consideration to a human right relevant to the decision in accordance with the Act.

### 6. Scope

The Active City Policy applies to all undertakings conducted by Ipswich City Council, including high quality planning, policy, programs, facilities, partnerships, activities and services aimed at increasing sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation participation opportunities for residents and visitors in Ipswich. Where appropriate, Council will:

#### Increased Participation

- Undertake research and monitor demand in active community participation trends, profiles, rates and issues.
- Develop appropriate policy, guidelines and initiatives to ensure optimum community involvement and participation levels.
- Undertake the planning, development and delivery of programs aimed at increasing community activity participation and physical activity levels.
- Ensure residents and visitors of all abilities and ages have the opportunity for involvement and access to participation opportunities.
- Facilitate a program of education and training workshops to build the sustainability of local sport, recreation, physical activity and outdoor/nature-based recreation groups.

- Encourage sport and outdoor/nature-based recreation clubs and organisations to assist in the development, management and maintenance of activities, programs and services.

**Better Places**

- Assess the need and demand for the provision of activities, facilities and settings.
- Identify suitable locations for the provision of facilities and settings to support a variety of activities and user groups based on demand, population catchment, site suitability, proximity to other facilities, land use designation, accessibility and capacity.
- Provide forward planning and site based design for the development of new and existing facilities and settings that meet specific activity standards and community expectations.
- Develop facilities that are safe, optimise community usage, and ensure residents of all abilities have opportunity for access to a variety of activities.
- Allocate and manage the use of facilities to cater for a variety of activities and users.
- Plan, develop and deliver programs to activate the use of facilities and settings.
- Manage and maintain facilities and settings to Council’s desired standard of service and accepted activity standards.

**Stronger Partnerships**

- Seek, plan, establish, support and implement strong working partnerships with key internal stakeholders and external organisations aimed at ensuring the provision of quality facilities, programs and services for all Ipswich residents.
- Support local groups to share information and increase ease of access to Federal, State and local funding, training and development opportunities.
- Support user groups that commit to enhancing their existing activities and operations by adopting financially sustainable plans and practices.
- Provide support to sports persons who excel by representing Queensland and Australia.
- Provide a variety of support to a wide range of local sport, recreation, physical activity and outdoor/nature-based recreation functions, activities and events.
- Encourage and attract major state and national sport and outdoor/nature-based recreation events to Ipswich.

**7. Roles and Responsibilities**

DEPARTMENT	RESPONSIBILITIES
Community, Cultural and Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activate community through sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation programs and services</li> <li>• Activation and management of sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation facilities and settings.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning, design, development and maintenance of sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation facilities and settings.</li> </ul>
Planning and Regulatory Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic land use planning for provision of sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation facilities and settings in</li> </ul>

	accordance with Planning Scheme land use designations and development requirements.
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**8. Key Stakeholders**

- Community, Cultural and Economic Development Department
  - Community and Cultural Services Branch
  - Marketing and Promotions Branch
- Infrastructure and Environment Department
  - Infrastructure Strategy Branch
  - Environment and Sustainability Branch
  - Works and Field Services Branch
- Planning and Regulatory Services Department
  - City Design Branch

**9. Monitoring and Evaluation**

The effectiveness of this policy will be measured by the following:

- **Increased Participation** - participation in sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation programs, activities and events has increased;
- **Better Places** - sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation facilities and settings meet the community’s needs and expectations;
- **Stronger Partnerships** – effective partnerships with community groups and organisations that facilitate community and visitor tourism and participation opportunities.

**10. Definitions**

<b>Active Travel</b>	An efficient, cost effective, healthy, sustainable and accessible form of transport which has many benefits for the individual and the community. E.g. walking and cycling.
<b>Facility</b>	Constructed and/or maintained sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation settings, grounds, fields, ovals, courts, clubhouses, change rooms and supporting infrastructure that allows people to participate in sport, recreation, physical activity, active travel and outdoor/nature-based recreation.
<b>Nature-based Recreation</b>	Activities dependent on the natural environment; have an appreciation of nature as a motivational factor; do not require substantial modification to the natural environment; and are environmentally sustainable.
<b>Opportunity</b>	Particular combinations of activities in particular settings. Each combination of activity and setting constitutes a different recreation opportunity.
<b>Outdoor Recreation</b>	Recreation or sport activities undertaken in natural, rural and urban open space without significantly changing those places.
<b>Physical Activity</b>	All forms of bodily movement which, if pursued for sufficient duration, is capable of deriving a health benefit.

<b>Setting</b>	A recreation setting is defined through the particular biophysical, social, cultural and managerial attributes of a place in which recreation takes place.
<b>Sport</b>	All forms of active sport both organised and informal.
<b>Sustainable</b>	Something that can be continued or a practice able to be maintained at a certain rate or level, without compromising or harming the future needs

**11. Policy Owner**

The General Manager (Community, Cultural and Economic Development) is the policy owner and the Manager (Community and Cultural Services) is responsible for authoring and reviewing this policy.