



# AGENDA

## **Sportsground Advisory Committee Meeting**

**To be held on Wednesday 11 September 2024**

At 5:30 pm

Civic Centre, Council Chambers

24 Stuart Highway, Katherine NT 0850

The Chief Executive Officer of Katherine Town Council hereby provides notice of Sportsground Advisory Committee in accordance with Section 97(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*

**COMMITTEE**

- Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn
- Councillor Jeremy Trembath
- Allen Storey
- Nicole Gadd
- Nicole Simmonds
- Lauren Chapman
- Sue Sinclair
- Karin Spain
- Nat Dillon
- Karisa Morrison

**OFFICERS**

- Brett Kimpton – Manager Environment and Municipal
- Sammi Timm – Infrastructure Administration Officer (Minute Taker)

**VISION:**

**Katherine is a place of opportunities. We celebrate diversity as we live, work, learn and grow together.**

**MISSION:**

**Together, we will work effectively today to shape our exceptional future tomorrows.**

**VALUES:**

- 1. Accepting of diversity**
- 2. Sense of community**
- 3. Respect for people, environment, and culture.**

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## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the first nations people of the Katherine township and surrounding council communities. We recognise the first nations culture as one of the longest surviving cultures in the world and we pay our respects to Elders both past, present and future.

## 2 ATTENDANCE

### 2.1 PRESENT

### 2.2 APOLOGIES

## 3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

## 4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members Disclosure Conflict of Interest

Committee Members must declare any conflicts of interest in accordance with the Council's Conflict-of-Interest Policy. A copy of this policy can be downloaded from [www.katherine.nt.gov.au](http://www.katherine.nt.gov.au) or obtained by emailing [records@ktc.nt.gov.au](mailto:records@ktc.nt.gov.au)

## 5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 5.1 UNCONFIRMED MINUTES - TUESDAY APRIL 18 2023

Report Type: For recommendation to council

Attachments: 1. 18 April 2023 Unconfirmed Minutes Sportsgrounds Advisory Co [5.1.1 - 5 pages]

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### **Recommendation**

That the Sportsground Advisory Committee confirm the minutes of the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee Meeting held on 18 April 2023 as a true and accurate record.





**KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023 AT 5.30PM, CIVIC CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

**1. WELCOME**

Meeting opened at 5.36pm

Councillor Coburn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

In Attendance:

Deputy Mayor Coburn	KTC Elected Member - Chair (DM)
Karin Spain	Katherine Tennis Club
Allen story	Katherine Swimming Club
Kallum Peckham-McKenzie	Katherine Rugby league
Brendan Pearce	KTC Director Infrastructure & Environment (DI&E)
Virginya Boon	KTC Manager Operations

**2. APOLOGIES**

Lauren Chapman	Katherine Netball Association
Shayla Rice	Katherine Rugby League Club Inc

**3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

That the minutes of the Katherine Sports Ground Advisory Committee held on 8 February 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

K Spain / D Coburn

Carried 5/0

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

4.1 Fencing:

- DM Coburn advised he was not aware of the fencing that is and will be taking place at the Sports Grounds
- Clubs were advised that the fencing alongside the pavilion was going to be chain mesh and only approx. one metre high as is with other sporting fields
- Clubs were advised that there is going to be garrison style fencing along the Stuart Highway frontage of the Sports Grounds and that this has been funded by NT Government
- Allen Story asked if the pool was also going to be included in the fencing
  - DI&E advised that because of the upgrade it wouldn't be feasible to do any works in that area as it would probably be included in the upgrade

**5. GENERAL BUSINESS**

5.1 Oval 1 Lighting:

- Waiting on Pedro to get crane hire so he can finish off the work which is on one tower

5.2 Oval 2 Lighting and Temporary light Hire:

- KTC has lodged an insurance claim after the lightning strike on Oval 2 lights
- Waiting on a final quote before we get an answer from the insurer
- Insurer has agreed to help cover the cost of temporary lighting



**KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023 AT 5.30PM, CIVIC CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

- Need to clarify if the costs for temporary lighting cover training nights as well as Friday game nights
- 5.3 Pavilion Update:
  - Certifier coming tomorrow to inspect building and hopefully Certificate of Occupancy will be issued within two weeks after that
  - Looking at doing a BBQ for User Groups to show them how everything works in the building
  - DI&E briefly explained how the hire arrangements work for clubs
  - DI&E explained there were two office spaces to hire out and KTC would ask for expressions of interest for anyone who was interested
  - There are tokens for light and air conditioning operations
  - DI & E explained that the key system would be electronic
    - Kallum asked if there was a physical key in case this system failed
    - Clubs were advised that the system has been in place at other sites and is tried and tested and does work
  - Kallum asked if there was a PA system installed
    - Clubs were advised that there was no PA System but there was infrastructure in place to potentially have this type of system installed
  - Clubs were advised that there was also no scoreboard but there was potential to have one of these as well
- 5.4 Fencing Sports Pavilion:
  - Clubs were advised that Law Rural is currently fencing the ovals along the sides of the Pavilion. He has started on oval 1 then will be going straight onto Oval 2
  - DM Coburn asked if the fence between Oval 1 and the Playground was going to stay
    - Clubs were advised that the Playground needed to be fenced and locked up to prevent damage being done at night
- 5.5 Toilet Block – Adventure Playground & Softball
  - Clubs were advised that the playground side of the toilets was currently open for use
  - Clubs were advised that the Softball side of the toilets was not in use yet and that Council was working on how the area was going to be set up for fencing and parking
  - There was a suggestion to keep the bollards out from around the softball field and allow people attending the softball field to drive all the way around the field
- 5.6 Hire Agreements
  - Clubs were advised to come in and speak with Casey as soon as possible regarding their hire agreements for the season including the use of the pavilion
- 5.7 Aquatic Centre Upgrade
  - Swimming Club asked if there were any updates on the upgrade to the aquatic centre
    - Clubs were advised that Council had received a commitment of \$10m in funding for the upgrade project
    - Prior to the \$10m commitment, Council had an offer of \$300k and this funding can be used to do a feasibility study and scope of works for the project



**KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023 AT 5.30PM, CIVIC CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

6.1 Tennis Club:

- Asked how the repairs were going
  - The club was advised that the repairs were being undertaken this week
- Asked how they could get another key for their building
  - The club was advised to come in and speak with Casey

6.2 Softball:

- Kallum advised he would make contact with someone from Netball to ask if they could get a representative on the advisory committee

6.3 Car Parking – Netball:

- Request to put car parking for netball on the agenda for the next meeting

6.4 Actions List:

- All clubs were asked if they were happy for the current items on the action list to be removed as they had been dealt with and were quite old now
  - Clubs present agreed

**7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

14 June 2023.

**8. MEETING CLOSED**

6:41pm



KATHERINE  
TOWN COUNCIL

**KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023 AT 5.30PM, CIVIC CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

**ACTION ITEMS TABLE**

MEETING DATE	ACTION ITEM	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	STATUS / COMMENTS
18/4/23	6.3 Car parking at Netball to be added to agenda for the next advisory meeting	KTC	



KATHERINE  
TOWN COUNCIL

**KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023 AT 5.30PM, CIVIC CENTRE**

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UNCONFIRMED

## **6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### **6.1 ACTION UPDATE**

Report Type: For noting

Attachments: 1. Action items 18 April 2023 [**6.1.1** - 1 page]

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#### **Officer Recommendation**

That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note the Action update.



**KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2023 AT 5.30PM, CIVIC CENTRE**

**MINUTES**

**ACTION ITEMS TABLE**

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>ACTION ITEM</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER</b>	<b>STATUS / COMMENTS</b>
18/4/23	6.3 Car parking at Netball to be added to agenda for the next advisory meeting	KTC	Item has been added to agenda for discussion.

## **7 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

### **7.1 PRESENTATION - NORTHERN TERRITORY SPORTS ACADEMY AND SPORTS INTEGRITY UPDATES**

Report Type: For noting

Attachments: Nil

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NTG Sport and Recreation division will provide a presentation and update to the committee.



## 7.2 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Author:	Sammi-Jo Timm, I & E Administration Officer
Authoriser:	Ingrid Stonhill, Chief Executive Officer
Report Type:	For noting
Attachments:	1. Terms-of- Reference- Showgrounds-and- Multi- Purpose- Advisory- Committee [7.2.1 - 3 pages]
	2. Council Policy - Advisory Committee - Effective October 2022 [7.2.2 - 5 pages]

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### **Officer Recommendation**

1. That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note the Terms of Reference for the Showgrounds and Multi-Purpose Centre Advisory Committee.
2. That the Committee recommend the following amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Showgrounds and Multi-Purpose Centre Advisory Committee:
  - a. ....
3. That the Committee resolves to meet quarterly and on the second Tuesday of the month.

### **Purpose of Report**

To allow this Committee to review its Terms of Reference (TOR), make recommendations to Council regarding revision of these Terms, and therefore inform the next review of this policy, due on 1 November 2024.

### **Strategic Plan**

**1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.1 Strong Leadership - Lead a strong local democracy with a community that is actively engaged in Katherine's strategic direction.**

1.1.2 Ensure strong internal governance with updated policies and procedures in place.

### **Municipal Plan**

**1.1 Governance - Governance and Elected Members**

1.1.2 Ensure compliance with local government legislation.

1.2.2.2 Improve Council advisory committees' governance compliance with their Terms of Reference (ToR)

3.1.2.1 Ensure conformance with advisory committee Terms of Reference requirements

### **Background**

The Terms of Reference which govern the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee, and its meetings, are due for review on the 1 November 2024. Thus, the Committee is asked to provide recommendations to Council for its revision, particularly to better facilitate the activities of the Committee.

### **Discussion**

Quorum has not been achieved at a Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee meeting since 18 April 2023. The Advisory Committee Policy, which governs the Terms of Reference, requires Council's advisory committees to meet at least four times per annum, allowing strategic advice to Council. Nil meetings have been held in 2024.

Within the current TOR the following are not being adhered to. The Committee are requested to provide guidance on any change required:

- The provision requiring the Committee to include one [registered community organisation representative] under the age of 25 years.
- The section stating that “[in] the event the Chairperson is unable to attend a meeting, the Chairperson shall nominate an acting chair for that meeting”, noting that the Advisory Committee Policy stipulates a chair be selected via voting by present members.

The committee are requested to advise on changing the meetings to quarterly rather than bi-,monthly and preference of Tuesday or Wednesday.

### **Consultation Process**

There was no consultation process required for this report.

### **Policy Implications**

The Showgrounds and Multi-Purpose Centre Advisory Committee Terms of Reference state that the Committee must include members of certain demographics. This information is not formally collected and therefore this provision is not assessed as being met.

The Terms of Reference also state that the Committee will convene at a minimum of four times per annum, this provision was not met with validity in 2023, and nil meetings have been held in 2024.

The Advisory Committee Policy includes a provision stating “[the] Committee may co-opt additional members on a temporary basis for specific matters.” The current TOR do not include this.

### **Budget and Resource Implications**

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

### **Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications**

As per the Advisory Committee Policy, the Terms of Reference for the Showgrounds and Multi-Purpose Centre Advisory Committee must be approved by resolution of Council – and therefore any revisions to these Terms must be so approved.

### **Environment Sustainability Implications**

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

### **Council Officer Conflict of Interest**

We the Author and Approving Officer declare we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.



**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**SHOWGROUND AND MULTI-PURPOSE CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Type:	Terms of Reference		
Owner:	Chief Executive Officer		
Responsible Officer:	Director, Infrastructure and Environment		
Approval Date:	22 November 2022	Next Review:	1 November 2024
Records Number:	171361	Council/CEO Decision:	Council
Policy Reference:	Advisory Committee Policy		

**1 PURPOSE**

Katherine Town Council encourages input from the community about its services, operations and facilities. Council Advisory Committees are one way for the community to provide input or advice to Council on a specific topic or the strategic management of a facility on an ongoing basis.

The purpose of the Showground and Multi-Purpose Centre Advisory Committee is to provide Council with strategic guidance and/or recommendations in relation to the Katherine showground and multi-purpose centre on a regular basis. These Terms of Reference are to be read in conjunction with Council’s Advisory Committee policy.

**2 DETAILS**

The Katherine showgrounds and multi-purpose centre (the facilities), including the sportsgrounds, provide important community infrastructure in Katherine.

The showgrounds provide facilities including the racecourse, pavilions, campgrounds, grandstands, the oval, rodeo arena, storage sheds and ablution blocks. The multi-purpose centre includes sportsgrounds to facilitate baseball, cricket, BMX, netball, softball and refreshment kiosks.

Given the importance of this community infrastructure, it is essential that community members and groups that access the facilities have a mechanism to discuss key issues and engage with Council. The Advisory Committee will provide advice to Council in order to maximise the benefits to the Katherine community by supporting and enhancing agricultural and sporting activities in relation to facilities, infrastructure and events.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The Advisory Committee will comprise of registered user members including:

- One (1) each registered user community organisation representatives, one of whom is under the age of 25 years, and
- Two (2) Councillors.

Relevant Council staff will assist in providing information in an observer capacity but will not be voting members of the Advisory Committee.

Membership of the Committee shall be for a period of two (2) years unless a recommendation to the contrary is adopted by Council at an Ordinary or Special Council Meeting.

An increase or decrease in the Committee membership must be approved by resolution of Council at an Ordinary or Special Council Meeting.

One month prior to the expiration of a member's term on the Committee, Council shall seek nominations for a replacement, with the successful appointee being approved by Council at an Ordinary or Special Council Meeting.

#### **Appointment of community or community organisation members**

The external membership selection process for this Advisory Committee will include Expressions of Interest sought through a range of channels as decided by the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer or relevant Director, Infrastructure and Environment.

#### **Appointment of Councillors**

Councillors will be appointed to the Advisory Committee by resolution at an Ordinary or Special Council Meeting.

#### **Chairperson**

The Chairperson may be a Councillor or other member of the Advisory Committee determined by the members' majority vote.

In the event the Chairperson is unable to attend a meeting, the Chairperson shall nominate an acting chair for that meeting.

#### **QUORUM**

The quorum for the Advisory Committee shall be half the number of members of the Committee, plus one.

#### **MEETINGS**

The Advisory Committee will meet a minimum of four (4) times per annum. A schedule of committee meetings will be developed and agreed to by the members and additional meetings shall be convened at the discretion of Council. If a voting member is absent for two consecutive meetings, the Chairperson will write to that member seeking an explanation on why they should remain on the Committee.

The meetings will be an opportunity for Councillors to interact with the Group and receive views and opinions on matters relevant to the Committee. Meetings shall be Chaired by one of the Committee members.

Council staff are not permitted to vote or move or second recommendations but can contribute advice during discussions on any subject.

#### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Committee are to:

- provide Council with information and advice with respect to the views and concerns of all users and groups that use the facilities
- provide Council with a key link between the community, users and groups, and other community interest groups
- provide advice and recommendations to help inform Council's decision-making regarding services and policies related to the facilities, and
- assist Council to distribute information about relevant decisions to reach the targeted users and groups, and other community groups.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT**

Katherine Town Council will provide administrative support to the Committee by way of distributing the Notice of Meetings, creating, and circulating to the members an agenda, taking the minutes of each meeting, circulating to members the minutes of each meeting, writing an agenda report, and attaching the Committee minutes and including recommendations made by the Committee to Council for inclusion in the Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda.

Katherine Town Council staff will provide appropriate advice and administrative support to assist the Committee to meet its obligations.

**REPORTING TO COUNCIL**

Following each meeting, the Advisory Committee will provide a report of the meeting to Council with its guidance and/or make recommendations to Council.

The minutes of each committee meeting shall be attached to an agenda report to be dealt with accordingly at the Ordinary Council Meeting following the Committee meeting.

**3 ASSOCIATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS**

- Advisory Committee policy
- Privacy policy
- Confidential Information policy

Revision History

Version	Approval date	Details of change	Responsible officer
1	22 November 2022	Created	Director, Infrastructure and Environment

**TERMS OF REFERENCE – SHOWGROUND AND MULTI-PURPOSE CENTRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



**KATHERINE**  
TOWN COUNCIL

## COUNCIL POLICY

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY

Type:	Council Policy		
Owner:	Chief Executive Officer		
Responsible Officer:	Director, Corporate Services		
Approval Date:	27/09/2022	Next Review:	1 September 2026
Records Number:	169788	Council/CEO Decision:	Council
Legislation Reference:	Section 82 of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>		

#### 1 PURPOSE

Katherine Town Council encourages input from the community about its services, operations and facilities. Council Advisory Committees are one way for the community to provide input or advice to Council on a specific topic or the strategic management of a facility on an ongoing basis.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure consistency across the formation and operation of Council Advisory Committees.

#### 2 SCOPE

This policy applies to all elected members, employees and community members who are appointed to or involved in Council's Advisory Committees established from time to time by resolution of Council.

#### 3 DEFINITIONS

**Advisory committee** means a group of suitably experienced people appointed to give considered advice, recommendations in connection with Council business, established by resolution in accordance with section 82 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

**Committee member** means an individual or organisation represented by a delegated person who is appointed for the term of the Advisory Committee.

## 4 DETAILS

Council has adopted an Advisory Committee Policy to ensure that consistent practice is followed for the establishment, operation and administration of Advisory Committees.

Advisory Committees are appointed to provide regular advice and information to Council on specific subjects of interest to the community and Council. They promote the awareness of a specific topic within Council and the community, advise Council on current and emerging issues, provide a process for input into the planning and provision of services and facilities and a process for feedback from Council to the community.

### ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Council may appoint an Advisory Committee to address a specific topic or the strategic management of a facility for a maximum term that is equal to the current term of Council.

An Advisory Committee must be appointed in accordance with Section 82 of the *Local Government Act 2019* and:

- may only be appointed by Council resolution
- may include in its members persons who are not Councillors, and
- must have terms of reference, approved by council resolution, that set out its membership and functions.

Subject to any resolution to the contrary, if an Advisory Committee is appointed for a particular purpose or for a limited time, the Advisory Committee is abolished and appointment of members to the Advisory Committee is terminated upon the fulfilment of that purpose or the expiration of that time.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Committee members will be representative of the diversity of needs and issues relating to the specific topic of the Committee and will include Councillors and members of the community (both individual members and/or member organisations). Members may also include representatives from relevant State or Federal Government agencies, other Local Governments, professional or industry bodies or other parties as determined by Council.

Organisations, agency, professional or industry bodies represented on the Advisory Committee may nominate one (1) delegate from the organisation they are representing.

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, of an Advisory Committee may be a Councillor or another member of the Advisory Committee as selected by the members' majority vote.

Each year on the twelve-month anniversary of the establishment of an Advisory Committee, Council may resolve to provide the opportunity to rotate the existing members (including Councillor/s) of that Advisory Committee with other Councillor/s and members.

The membership of an Advisory Committee will be as stated in the Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.

The external membership selection process for an Advisory Committee will include an Expressions of Interest sought through a range of channels as decided by the Mayor, Councillors, Chief Executive Officer or relevant Director.

Committee members will be approved through a Council resolution at an Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The Committee may co-opt additional members on a temporary basis for specific matters.

### AUTHORITY

An Advisory Committee is a consultative Committee to Council that is designed to discuss key issues, engage with the community and make recommendations to Council as it pertains to the stated purpose of the Advisory Committee.

An Advisory Committee and members of the Committee may provide input on a specific topic or the strategic management of a facility, but it does not hold decision making powers concerning the operations of Council, nor can it commit Council resources or be delegated any powers.

## MEMBER ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following roles and responsibilities are conferred to each member of an Advisory Committee:

- all members are responsible for ensuring the Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and this Policy are adhered to, and
- all members of an Advisory Committee must ensure there is no conflict or possible conflict between the member's private interests and the honest performance of the member's role of advising or making a recommendation to Council.

A member of an Advisory Committee will not:

- improperly use information acquired as a member of the Advisory Committee to gain, directly or indirectly, a financial advantage for that person or someone else
- improperly use information acquired as a member of the Advisory Committee to damage Council's reputation
- release information that the member knows or should reasonably know is information that is confidential to Council
- release information that the member knows or should reasonably know is information that Council wishes to keep confidential
- make public or media comment on behalf of Council, unless the Member is authorised in accordance with Council's media policy.

## OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATION

The Director of the relevant Directorate, or nominee, will provide appropriate advice and administrative support to assist all Advisory Committees to meet their obligations. Meeting administration and protocols for an Advisory Committee will be in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2019* and as stated in the Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee.

The following key meeting protocols must be adhered to for each Advisory Committee meeting:

- a quorum for an Advisory Committee meeting shall be half the number of members of the Committee plus one
- the Chairperson will preside at an Advisory Committee meeting. However, if the Chairperson is absent or unavailable to preside, a member of the Advisory Committee chosen by the members present at the Advisory Committee meeting will preside
- a non-member may attend an Advisory Committee meeting as an observer only
- a member of an Advisory Committee (whether or not they are a Councillor) may vote on business before the Advisory Committee except Council employees, who are not allowed to Move, Second or Vote on recommendations, and
- recommendations of Advisory Committees will be by majority voting of members only.

An Advisory Committee must determine the dates, times and places for its meetings, however, must meet a minimum of four (4) times per year or as otherwise deemed necessary.

Minutes of each Advisory Committee meeting will be submitted to the next Ordinary Meeting of Council and will be publicly available unless Council has exempted the Advisory Committee to keep minutes of its proceedings in accordance with Council's Privacy Policy or Confidential Information Policy.



If any committee member is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without having obtained leave of absence from the Committee, the member's continued membership of that Committee will be referred to Council for determination.

## REMUNERATION

External Advisory Committee Members do not receive any form of remuneration except the external independent members on the Audit and Risk Management Committee or as approved by Council resolution.

## AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Council's Audit and Risk Management Committee is a special advisory committee established by Council under Part 5.3 of the *Local Government Act 2019*. The role of the Committee is to:

- monitor and review the integrity of Council's financial management
- to monitor and review internal controls
- to make recommendations to Council about financial management, audit and risk matters.

The members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee may consist of, or include persons who are not members of the council. However, the chairperson must not be an elected member of the Council or a member of the Council's staff.

**5 ASSOCIATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS**

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Privacy policy  
 Confidential Information policy

**6 REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION**

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*Local Government Act 2019*

Revision History

Version	Approval date	Details of change	Responsible officer
1	27/09/2022	Created	Director, Corporate Services

## 7.3 UPDATE REPORT

Author: Sammi-Jo Timm, I & E Administration Officer  
Authoriser: Ingrid Stonhill, Chief Executive Officer  
Report Type: For noting  
Attachments: 1. Katherine Aquatic Centre 3 D Map [7.3.1 - 1 page]

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### **Officer Recommendation**

That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note the updates at the Sportsgrounds.

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide an update to the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee of what has happened at the Sportsgrounds since the last quorum meeting on 18 April 2023.

### **Strategic Plan**

**1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.1 Strong Leadership - Lead a strong local democracy with a community that is actively engaged in Katherine's strategic direction.**

1.1.3 Improve transparency around issues affecting the community.

**3. SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS - 3.1 Sports and Civic Events - Provide sporting infrastructure and appropriate events to encourage community connectedness.**

3.1.2 Improve participation in user advisory groups and improve coordination of these groups on Council land.

### **Municipal Plan**

1.5.5.2 Promote Katherine Life as a resource for people considering investing and living in Katherine

3.1.2.2 Work with all users to ensure maximum utilisation of facilities

### **Background**

To update the Sportsground Advisory Committee on events of interest since the last quorum meeting in April 2023.

### **Discussion**

#### **Completed projects since April 2023:**

- Oval fencing stage 1 (fencing) - Completed May 2023
- Sportsgrounds wayfinding signage – Completed August 2023
- Oval fencing stage 2 (gates) - Completed October 2023
- Solar lights installed around playpark and skate park – Completed March 2024
- Carpark line marking at Aquatic Centre – March 2024
- Stage 1 fencing of Sportsgrounds (Stuart Highway) - Completed May 2024
- Repairs of Adventure Play Park toilet block – Completed July 2024
- BMX Electricity Metre (struck by lightning) - Completed August 2024

Projects in progress:

- Pavilion defects; one defect remaining – to be completed in September 2024
- Playpark east side access fencing – to be completed in September 2024
- Stage 2 fencing of Sportsgrounds (Chambers Drive) - to be completed in October 2024
- Aquatic Centre upgrade – currently scheduled for re-opening July 2025.

The redeveloped Katherine Aquatic Centre will include:

- the current 50-metre pool which will be extensively renovated
- a 25-metre, six-lane, 1.05 -1.4-metre deep, heated pool with an accessibility ramp, diving blocks on the deep end, and a ledge for learn-to-swim classes. The pool will be particularly suited to swimming lessons and fitness classes and it incorporates shading
- a splash zone with play area, activation toys, ground sprays and umbrella shades
- new plant and equipment rooms
- an assisted change facility to provide change room access to people with a disability.

The council is seeking further funding to incorporate:

- a solar energy upgrade to reduce running costs and carbon footprint
- a larger recreation/leisure area in the remaining space which could include BBQ areas and an additional playground.

This and additional information can be found via the following link:

<https://www.yoursaykatherine.com.au/aquatic-centre-upgrade>

Update on vandalism since April 2023:

- Athletics and Cricket roller doors replaced – August 2023
- Adventure Playpark Toilet Block lit on fire – September 2023
- Rugby Union shed – September 2023
- Tennis Club – multiple
- Grass fires - multiple

Number of reported vandalisms:

- Fence vandalism: 23 instances
- Buildings vandalism: 23 instances
- Sportsground in general: 25 instances

Actions taken to curb anti-social behaviour:

- Sportsgrounds sports lights being left on at night-time – started September 2023
- Stationing a Police camera outside the Tennis Club - Positioned August 2024

### **Council Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (RPPP) Application**

Council has applied for \$1,768,710 through the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program – Precinct Development and Planning for the Katherine and Big Rivers Multi Purpose Sport and Recreation Hub.

Katherine Town Council will partner with the NT Government, Katherine-based NGOs, Indigenous organisations and sporting and community groups to plan the development of a multi-purpose regional sports, recreation, and community hub linked to the existing Katherine Aquatic Centre and Sportsground environs. The project will redevelop an existing NT Government building into a modern indoor sports and community centre that will also serve as an evacuation centre for the Big Rivers region and a space to host large indoor social events and conferences, providing the Big Rivers region with year-round access to sporting and community events.

The project will upgrade and create better connectivity within the existing Katherine Sports Grounds. The Sports Ground's development is based on the Katherine Sports Ground Masterplan draft for 2018 – 2027.

The group, led by the Katherine Town Council, seeks funding for stakeholder engagement, feasibility and shovel-ready design plans for a new multipurpose facility and a masterplan for new elements of the surrounding precinct.

#### Aims:

- Redevelop the current NT government-owned Henry Scott Recreation Centre with a modern multipurpose facility providing indoor netball, basketball and hockey facilities. Its dual purpose will be as an all-weather community facility to host large community events, like regional conferences and balls, and operate as an emergency shelter to house people from outlying communities in significant weather events, such as floods.
- Provide a traffic flow, parking and pedestrian connection between the new multipurpose facility, the proposed future AFL ground and the (soon to be redeveloped) Aquatic Centre
- Provide an entry area connecting the three new facilities

The YMCA operates the Henry Scott Recreation Centre as a gym and recreation centre. The centre runs a community youth program to engage local youth through sports, interaction, and meals. The building is dated and requires redevelopment or replacement, allowing for all its existing functions.

The proposed redeveloped indoor facility would incorporate:

- Indoor netball and basketball courts of a standard to attract regional competitions
- Change rooms, public amenities and office space for allied health services
- An indoor, air-conditioned space to host large gatherings, including conferences and social events, such as balls
- The public library

The building will also function as an evacuation centre with space to co-locate NGO services during evacuations.

The Katherine Aquatic Centre, located next to the Henry Scott Centre, is undergoing an upgrade. This is currently considered as a standalone project, but there is the potential to link this design the larger precinct development, creating greater cohesion.

A future AFL ground is proposed to the east of the existing sports ground precinct, with support from native title stakeholders. This project may take several years to complete, but an entrance and link to this future facility can be considered now in conjunction with Henry Scott Recreation Centre redevelopment, subject to native title support.

This project endeavours to link these three elements and ensure that any development considers the future needs, traffic flow and human circulation between the three spaces.

### **Katherine Town Council publications released for the new Financial Year 2024/2025**

#### Municipal Plan 2024/2025

Katherine Town Council's action plan on the services, programs, events, facilities, and infrastructure Council will deliver and maintain for the community in 2024/2025. This plan also contains Council's annual budget.

[https://www.katherine.nt.gov.au/Profiles/katherine/Assets/ClientData/Documents/Municipal\\_Plan/Municipal\\_Plan\\_2024-25\\_WEB.pdf](https://www.katherine.nt.gov.au/Profiles/katherine/Assets/ClientData/Documents/Municipal_Plan/Municipal_Plan_2024-25_WEB.pdf)

#### Fees and Charges 2024/2025

<https://www.katherine.nt.gov.au/documents/561/fees-and-charges-20242025>

### **Engagement and Informational Platforms – Launched 2024**

#### Your Say Katherine

It's here that you can have your say on Council projects affecting our community. Give us feedback or share your knowledge and experiences. Your voice is important to help us make better decisions.

<https://www.yoursaykatherine.com.au/>

#### Katherine Life

Council have created this interactive tool to streamline essential information for new residents

<https://katherinelife-liveability.bubbles.orbviz.com/public/custom-71ac567025a049fb9aa3610c9d5588c5>

#### Know Your Council

<https://ktc-2023-24.bubbles.orbviz.com/public/sa-500c3da920484364/Infrastructure%20and%20Environment>

### **Consultation Process**

There was no consultation process required for this report.

### **Policy Implications**

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

### **Budget and Resource Implications**

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

### **Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications**

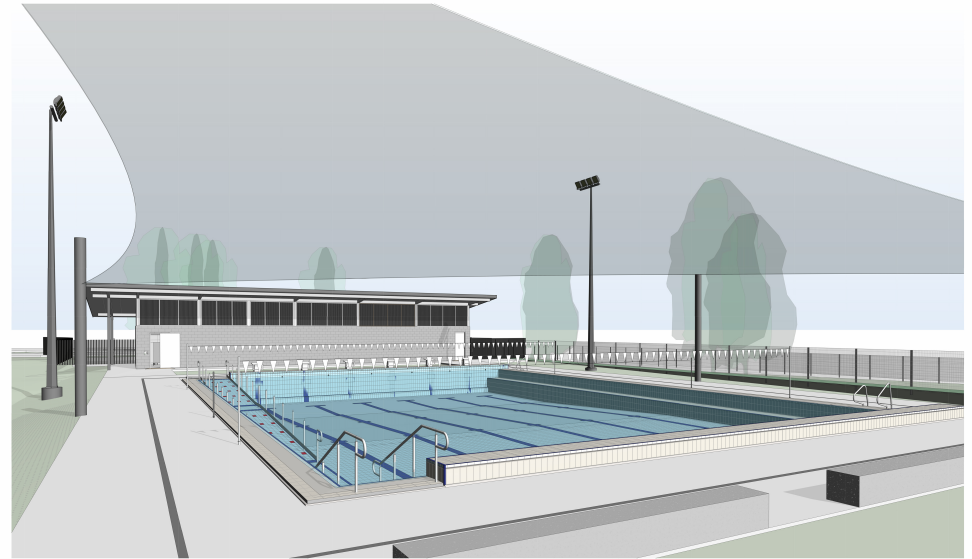
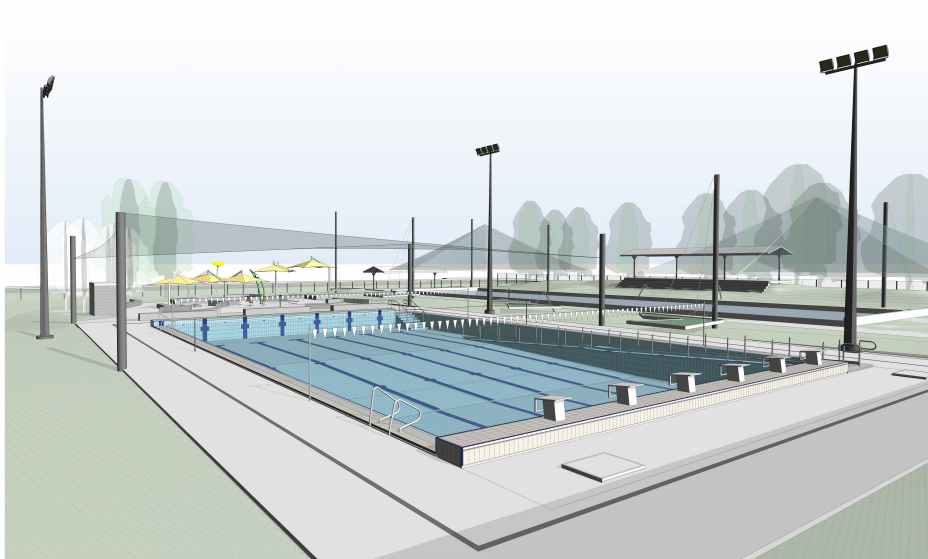
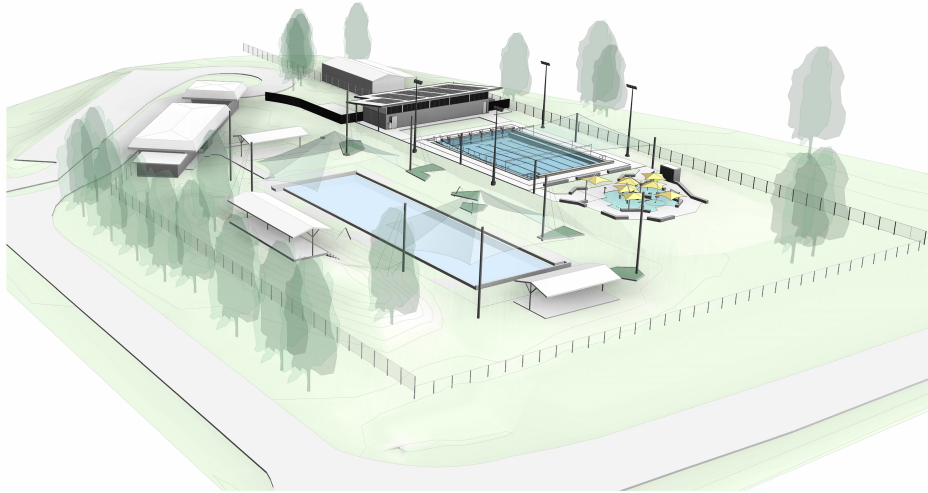
There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

### **Environment Sustainability Implications**

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

**Council Officer Conflict of Interest**

We the Author and Approving Officer declare we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.



# KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE





## 7.4 DRAFT 2018-2027 MASTER PLAN - KATHERINE SHOWGROUND AND MULTI-PURPOSE CENTRE

Author: Sammi-Jo Timm, I & E Administration Officer  
Authoriser: Ingrid Stonhill, Chief Executive Officer  
Report Type: For noting  
Attachments: 1. Katherine Sports Ground Reserve Master Plan V3 Dec 17 [7.4.1 - 26 pages]  
2. Katherine Sports Precinct - Dec 2022 [7.4.2 - 1 page]

### **Officer Recommendation**

1. That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note the Katherine Town Council 2018-2027 Master Plan for the Katherine Sportsground – Draft V1. 2.
2. That the Committee review the draft Master Plan and provide feedback by the next meeting.

### **Purpose of Report**

To request that the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee receive and note the 2018-2027 Master Plan for the Katherine Sports ground – Draft V1.

### **Strategic Plan**

**3. SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS - 3.1 Sports and Civic Events - Provide sporting infrastructure and appropriate events to encourage community connectedness.**

3.1.3 Develop key sporting infrastructure such as an all-weather/multipurpose sports arena.

**3. SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS - 3.2 Brand Identity - Develop and implement a brand identity that is uniquely Katherine's**

3.2.1 Craft Katherine's personality and identity by playing to our strengths.

**4. GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY - 4.1 Better Infrastructure - Identify infrastructure in need of upgrading, potential for new infrastructure, and develop long-term plans to anticipate opportunities for better infrastructure.**

4.1.3 Review Council's available land to consider potential utilisation opportunities.

4.1.4 Investigate an all-weather multipurpose facility.

### **Municipal Plan**

2.1.2.1 Assess the condition of public amenities throughout Katherine and implement remediation where required

2.2.1.1 Secure funding for the Katherine Sports Precinct expansion to include AFL field, Conference and Evacuation centre, improved gym facilities and undercover sports courts

3.1.2.1 Ensure conformance with advisory committee Terms of Reference requirements

3.1.2.2 Work with all users to ensure maximum utilisation of facilities

3.1.3.1 Incorporate indoor sports facilities in the design of the proposed multipurpose sports and recreation precinct

4.1.4.1 Funding for the multipurpose sport and recreation precinct expansion to include AFL field, conference and evacuation centre, improved gym facilities and undercover sports courts

**Background**

The 2018-2027 Master Plan was developed with community members, user groups – sporting and event - the Committee and Council, and is part of the larger Katherine Town Council Sport and Recreation Master Plan. It is intended to guide strategic planning to allow optimal use of the Sports ground as a Precinct of recreational, cultural, and sporting activities.

The committee provided support and endorsement of the Master Plan in 2021 although this did not progress to Council to formalise and adopt the plan.

**Discussion**

The Sportsground Advisory Committee is requested to review and provide feedback on the draft 2018-2027 Master Plan to advise Council on this vision for the Sportsground as a Precinct.

This Master Plan will be used as a basis should Council be successful in the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (RPPP).

**Consultation Process**

There was no consultation process required for this report.

**Policy Implications**

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

**Budget and Resource Implications**

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

**Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications**

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

**Environment Sustainability Implications**

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

**Council Officer Conflict of Interest**

We the Author and Approving Officer declare we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to this matter.

Katherine Town Council

# Master Plan

Katherine Sports Ground

3/1/2018

**MARCH 1, 2018** 2018 - 2027**Mayors Message****Consultation over an extended period of time to determine priorities**

Multipurpose facility which caters for a wide range of sports within the Katherine Community – Multipurpose sporting facility.

Provision of quality sporting facilities which provide a wide range of sport and active recreation opportunities is important for the health and well being of the community and the wider regional community.

- Contributing to quality of life by providing opportunities for a range of sporting and active recreational activities and provides for social networking might not otherwise be available.
- Sports Grounds establish a source of social capital for a community providing a means for cooperative activities and voluntary fundraising. The events provide a focus for voluntary activities, sponsorship and contributions.
- Clear, staged development strategies
- Maximum flexibility for the residents of Katherine to play structured and unstructured sport and recreation activities.



The Sports Ground play a role in sustainability and resilience of the regional community. The facilities recreational and social opportunities and sense of place provided by Sports Grounds are contributes to the actual and perceived quality of life and the desire to live in a community.

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## 1 The purpose of the Katherine Sports Ground Master Plan

The Katherine Sports Ground Master Plan (the Master Plan) has been developed, in conjunction with the Katherine Town Council, local sporting and community groups. This Master Plan lays the ground work to improve the usability of the Sports Ground, to cater for existing and future sporting codes and the active recreational user.

This Master Plan forms part of the Katherine Town Council Sport and Recreation Master Plan which covers three key sporting and recreation precincts under the ownership or management of the Katherine Town Council. Those grounds being, the Katherine Sports Grounds, the Katherine Show Grounds and Multipurpose Centre and Binjari Sports Grounds.

These documents will guide The Council in its forward planning to maximise use of the Sports Ground for formal sporting and training facilities, for active recreation activities and general community use. This Master Plan builds on the previous Master Plans undertaken in 2006 and 2010.

## 2 The Katherine Sports Ground Vision

At a workshop in March 2017 members of the Sports Ground Advisory Committee developed the following vision. The purpose of the Katherine Sports Ground (the Sports Ground) is:

**“The Katherine Sports Ground is a versatile, multisport, community facility catering for a wide range of sport and recreational facilities for Katherine and the wider regional community.”**

The Katherine Town Council (the Council) and the Katherine community will achieve this vision by:

By providing a range of quality community facilities which:

- Are flexible and attractive for a diverse range of sporting and active recreation pursuits and suitable for a wide range of ages groups
- Provide a range of quality venues for sporting and recreational activities
- Enable User Groups and the Council working together for the common good
- Are affordable for our primary User Groups
- Have a plan for continual investment in infrastructure and maintenance
- Are marketed to our wider community as an enjoyable location in which to play sport and undertake recreational activities.

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### 3 Ownership

The Council is the freehold owner of the Sports Ground. As such, the Council is responsible to the community for the development and maintenance of the grounds and their facilities. The Council consults with User Groups through the Katherine Sports Ground Advisory Group (the Advisory Group) which meets on a bi-monthly basis. This consultation provides comment to Council on the Sports Ground's development and maintenance. The Sports Ground is located in the centre of Katherine's suburbs and there is easy access from Katherine North, Katherine South, Katherine East and the CBD. The grounds have direct access off of the Stuart Highway so access from RAFF Base Tindal is convenient.

### 4 History

#### 4.1 Overview of development of the grounds

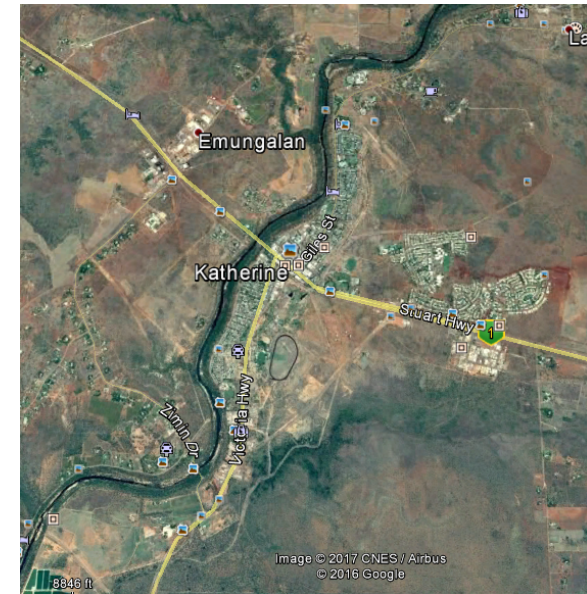
The Sports Ground first came into being as a sports ground location when the original pool and several sports fields were developed pre 1960's. Since that time the Sports Ground has slowly developed with new infrastructure being constructed as funding became available and as demand increased. The Don Dale Building was built in 1989 and was a major milestone for the Sports Ground. The construction of the Henry Scott building in 1999 was another major milestone for sports and recreational activity in Katherine.

Funding of minor projects is often sought by the User Groups in conjunction with the Council. There are currently 18 regular user groups, plus the YMCA who operate a wide range of programs at the Henry Scott Centre and the Aquatic Centre. The YMCA organises school holiday programs, yoga workshops, swimming programs, challenges, career expos, body pump sessions, zumba, body balance and skate park events. In addition to the regular user groups there are six school or community groups that book a range of facilities for sports days, other organisations book the grounds for physical events such as Run for Life and the number of participants and user groups are growing each year.

The Sports Ground has developed into a true "Sportsville" model. The Sports Ground is a multipurpose facility which caters for structure sports, unstructured activities and the general recreation needs of the wider Katherine and regional community.

### 5 Sports and Active Recreation Master Plan

The Sports and Active Recreation Master Plan (the Plan) recommends the sharing of sporting and recreation facilities across multiple sports and for multiple uses. The Plan also recommends on page 36, that the preparation of Strategic Master Plans are required for Multi-Use Precincts and that core infrastructure is shared. This sharing occurs regularly at the Sports Ground for example Oval One, Oval Two, Oval Three and the court areas are all shared facilities.



Sport and physical activity are strong threads in the fabric of life in the Northern Territory. Through sport and active recreation there are multiple pathways to a more active and healthy lifestyle for individuals and communities across the Northern Territory. Territorians and Katherine people in particular are keen participants in sport and active recreation.

The Master Plan acknowledges the following Principles:

- Sport and active recreation programs are important for social cohesion and stability
- Sport and active recreation is important to young people's positive use of leisure time
- Sport and active recreation has a positive impact on physical and mental health
- Sport and active recreation is critically important for remote communities
- Sport and active recreation programs open up pathways to employment and sporting success.

The Katherine Sports Ground is a multipurpose precinct which caters for a wide range of sports with structured and unstructured recreational pursuits undertaken. The grounds are home to a wide range of User Groups who encourage community and individual participation in sport and recreational pursuits.

## 6 Other facilities in Katherine

There are a range of other facilities in Katherine that are utilised for sport and recreational activities including the Katherine Show Grounds and Multipurpose Centre and the various school ovals are utilised at times for junior sporting activities. There is the view that given the high usage levels at the Sports Ground that some of the Junior Sports may be able to increase utilisation of several of the School ovals. Issues such as training lights, insurance coverage, access amenities and litter control would need to be addressed to facilitate more opportunities.

## 7 Katherine demographics

The population within the Katherine Town Boundary area was stated to be 11,188 people in 2015 (Statistical data Katherine Town Council, Local Government Area (LGA) Region, ABS period 2015). ABS stated that 25.5% of the Katherine LGA is Indigenous. The LGA has an average median age of 32.3 years which is seven years below the average median age in Australia. Katherine is the service centre for over 24,000 people. There are about 800 more males than females. The demographics indicate that the groups of ages are quite stable overall with the 5 -15 cohort being incredibly stable over the past five years.



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The town and region has a higher than normal percentage of people who engage in sport and there are new sports and activities being introduced every year. This coming twelve months will see Women and Girls AFL introduced and other groups in growth.

*Source ABS 2011- 2016 statistics about Katherine*

## 8 Community usage of the sports ground

### 8.1 Overview

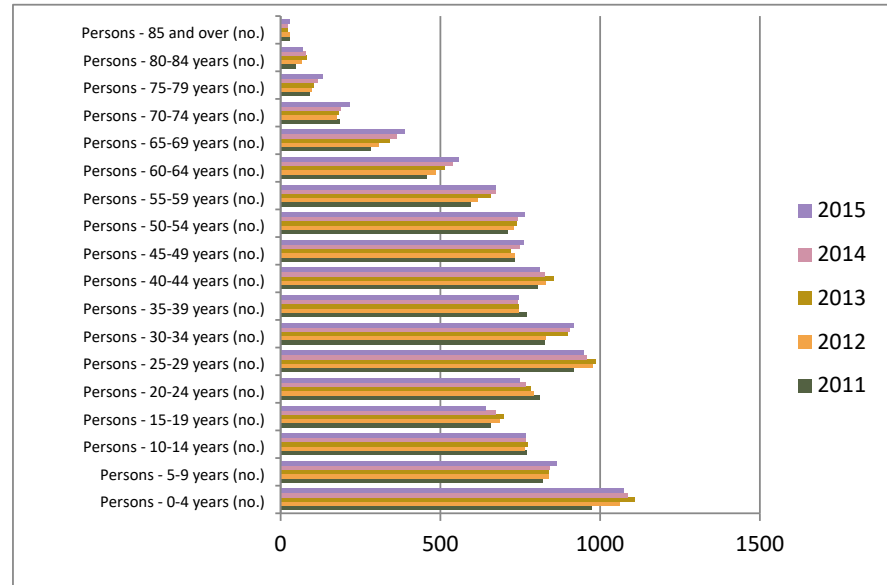
User Groups for the Sports Ground include local sporting clubs, school and community groups from the Katherine and across Greater Victoria Daly Regional Council and from the Roper Gulf Regional Council areas. Participants use these facilities for structured fixtures, unstructured and general recreation activities.

The grounds and its range of facilities are flexible enough to allow for a wide range of activities by User Groups throughout the day and into the evening. The Sports Ground Ovals One and Two have high back to back usage during the dry season and the court areas have multiple users utilising the facilities side by side during the wet season. The booking schedule indicates that other ovals are utilised for overflow activities including training and general strengthen exercises.

### 8.2 Overview

The Sports Ground is located on Lot 3217, Town of Katherine and comprises 29 hectares 7700 square meters of land within the parcel. The parcel is owned freehold by the Katherine Town Council.

The zoning is Public Space (PS) and Organised Recreation (OR) and all uses comply with that zoning. The land is located on the Stuart Highway adjacent the Central Business District and Katherine East. The Sports Ground is the sporting and active recreational heart of the Katherine community. The grounds are within a short walking distance of the Central Business District, and a majority of Katherine East. The Sport Ground is linked to Katherine’s Central Business District, Katherine North and Katherine East through a series of cycle/walking paths.



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The boundary fronts on to Stuart Highway and the side boundary to the Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Cultural Centre and the site is fully fenced. Not all the land is utilised and land on the northern boundary with Chambers Drive is still open savannah bushland. This land is ideal for the development of future facilities.

There are no easements on the site. The site’s development is constrained due to the Sports Ground’s location within the Katherine Flood Plain. All infrastructure development needs to be designed to address the flood constraints. A number of buildings are elevated on mounds above the flood level. Facility design will need to remain flexible to enable opportunities for informal/non-organised activities not just organised sport programs or fixtures.

**8.3 Management**

The Council manages the maintenance and other works including landscaping, general repairs, irrigation and the booking of the site for fixtures and events. The Advisory Committee meets six times per year to advise Council on the operation of the Sports Ground, on current upgrades and the ground’s future development. Within the Sports Ground some User Groups undertake to maintain and manage their allocated areas ie BMX. The Henry Scott Building was built by the Northern Territory Government on Council land and is managed by the YMCA. The YMCA also manages the Aquatic Centre under arrangements with the Council.

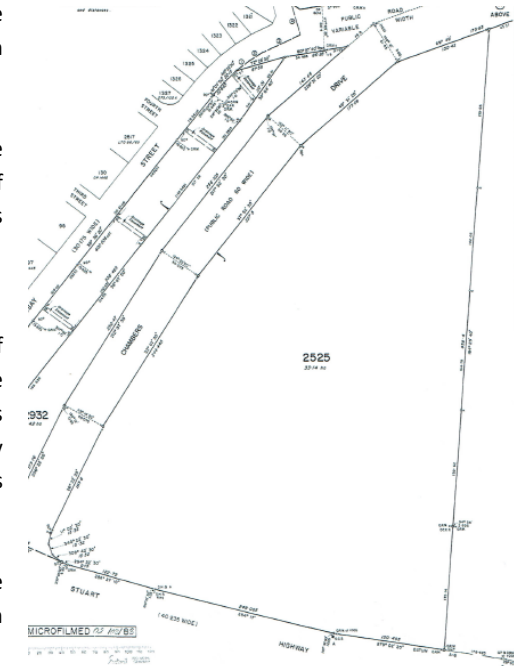
Generally those areas which are utilised by multiple User Groups contact the Council direct for day to day maintenance issues which ensures a quick response to any issues which poses a risk to the public and User Groups. Longer term maintenance is planned on a regular basis to address infrastructure issues.

**8.4 Access**

There are two access roads to the Sports Ground, being one off of the Stuart Highway entrance and the second entrance off of Chambers Drive. These access roads create a ring route around the facility along with several minor internal access roads to the basketball and baseball areas. There are a series of cycle tracks which provide access through pedestrian gates on the northern and southern sides of the grounds. The road infrastructure, though good, will need to be addressed as part of this Plan. Directional signage and general road signage is poor. This results in a large number of near misses occurring particularly at the Aquatic Centre and main access road intersection. Parking is unstructured in a number of locations and leads to additional confusion.

**8.5 Climatic Impact**

The climate in Katherine though ideal for sport during the dry season with warm sunny days, is a challenge for sport and recreation activities during the build-up and wet season. The Council over the past two years has removed a number of large mahogany trees due to the risk they presented to both the players and supporters. To enable year rounds sports and to reduce the heat stress the following strategies have been included within the capital works program.



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- **Strategy One** - review the tree planting program around the various ovals, parking and high activity areas and determine a number of safe species that can be planted in these areas and implement a tree planting and replacement program
- **Strategy Two** - provide additional shaded tiered stands to the basketball courts, and areas around Ovals One and Two
- **Strategy Three** – to provide all weather shade to the tennis and basketball/netball courts to enable year round fixtures and training.

Given the booking profile there are a number of the sports including tennis, basketball and netball that have the demand and ability to have fixtures throughout the year. Suitable weather proof shade covers will enable play to start earlier in the day. Currently the day time temperatures are too high to enable extended day time play.

## 9 Status of Current Infrastructure

There is a wide range of infrastructure on the site including 36 buildings which vary in size, condition and age. The largest building is the Henry Scott (YMCA) building, followed by the Don Dale Pavilion, the Aquatic Centre, the Tennis Club building plus ablution blocks, sheds, shelters and shade structures. In addition there are four ovals/playing fields, six tennis courts, four netball/basket ball courts, cricket nets, the BMX facility, the children's covered adventure play ground, the skate park, the swimming pool and various water features.

The current infrastructure varies in age greatly with some infrastructure being in place for over forty years and some infrastructure recently installed. Many of the buildings have substantial residual life left and replacement of minor structures is ongoing. There are several buildings such as old change rooms which will need to be replaced in the next five to seven years. This does not preclude the need to do ongoing upgrades to a number of the older buildings until their replacement time. The replacement value of the buildings and infrastructure on the site is valued at \$2,693,000 for the Aquatic Centre and at \$6,391,000 for other buildings, excluding the Henry Scott Centre.

### 9.1 Power

Main power access is off of the Stuart Highway to the main switchboard. Power is distributed to a number of switchboards, distribution boards and light poles. As new infrastructure is installed the total requirements of the site will need to be reassessed, particularly where air-conditioning facilities added.

During the life of this plan a majority of the light tower lights, street lights, security lighting and internal lighting will be replaced with LED lighting this will reduce the overall power requirements hence there should be no urgent need for major upgrading of the site's power capacity.

### 9.2 Water

The site is well service through both town reticulated water and two bores. The upgrade of the irrigation systems should occur in the life of this plan. This will reduce the total amount of water utilised on the site. This is particularly important given the use of bore water and the impact on the Tindal Aquifer. The current system should be replaced with a moister sensitive system which will irrigate automatically at night, reducing the evaporation rates, improving the coverage and reducing any pooling effect and potential waste

of water. PFAS contamination of the board water used will need to be monitored on an on-going basis. There is discussion around the installation of two large water supply tanks for the swimming pool. The sighting of these tanks will need careful consideration so that they do not take up valuable building space. Utilisation of the space between the Henry Scott building and the aquatics centre/marathon club shed is probably the most appropriate location. This will enable the catchment of water off of a number of rooves.

**9.3 Sewerage Supply**

There is a sewerage pump station located adjacent the Stuart Highway entry area. This facility provides for the entire site. This includes the existing ablution blocks, the Henry Scott Building, the Don Dale Pavilion, the Aquatics facility and the Tennis Club house.

**9.4 Fire Services**

There is a system of hydrants and fire hose reels to the site. When a new oval is developed the hydrant lines and fire hoses systems will have to be extended. Normal fire requirements are covered in all areas.

**9.5 Site drainage**

Drainage on the site is generally good with the sheet water flow moving towards the open town drainage system. There are several locations that will need to be addressed during the life of this Master Plan including the water pooling near the Don Dale Pavilion at the southern end. With the formalisation of car parks, consideration will need to be given to ensure that the hardening-up of car parking area does not cause drainage problems for the various playing surfaces.

**9.6 Facilities Use Status**

There are a range of facilities which are available for sporting and recreational groups or individuals including:

**Table One: Building Utilisation on the Sports Ground**

Space/building name	Utilisation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Henry Scott Building</li> </ul>	Owned by the NTG, managed by the YMCA, wide usage range of programs, user groups and individuals including the police and defence force personnel, for keep fit programs and youth diversion programs. There is a small on-site crèche which provides supervision of children whilst parents are participating in recreational activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aquatic Centre</li> </ul>	Managed by the YMCA, they have five different schools utilising programs, learn to swim programs, competitions Visitors and the general public who exercise on a daily basis
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don Dale Pavilion</li> </ul>	Meeting rooms used by the Lodge of Fidelity, Sporting groups for AGM, training sessions and other meetings, toilets used by the public – various clubs utilise the change rooms, ablution areas, storage and meeting space including Katherine Athletics, Katherine Crocs, Rugby League, Katherine Football, Katherine Football and Katherine High School.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oval One Rugby Oval</li> </ul>	High back to back usage up to three user groups per day during the dry season and two user groups per day in the wet season

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	Wet Season users include BarBars for training and matches, Brahams for training, Katherine Rugby Union Competition on Fridays, Katherine Crocs Saturday and Sunday, Katherine Athletics, Scool Sports, Katherine Junior and Senior Rugby League and Soccer occasionally. Dry Season users include Katherine Junior and Senior Rugby League, Katherine Athletics, Scool Sports, Katherine Touch, NRL NT training, Katherine Football, Katherine High School, School Sports NT, Kintore Street Schools, St Joseph’s Athletics, CPCS and School of the Air.
• Oval Two	High back to back usage up to two user groups some days. Wet Season users include Katherine Junior Rugby League, Katherine Rugby League competitions, Katherine Athletics, Katherine Touch, Katherine Football and Scool Sports. Dry Season users include Katherine Football, Katherine Junior Rugby League, Scool Sports, St Josephs Athletics, School Sports NT and Relay for Life and casual users at off peak time for social sport
• Oval Three/Baseball soft ball Diamond	Dry Season users include Scool Sports and softball every day except Sunday from May to October Several clubs utilise this field for training due to the other fields being at capacity
• Oval Four Cricket Oval and nets	Utilised during the cricket season on training nights and for single and double day fixtures Several clubs utilise this field for junior training, running and exercise sessions due to the other fields being at capacity
• Skateboard	During school time by preschool children, after school, during the school holidays and on weekends by the youth of the town Structure activities by the YMCA during school holiday programs and youth diversion programs
• BMX track / club house	Used on weekends and two nights after school
• Tennis Courts and building	Most afternoons and nights of the week during the dry and on weekends plus Thursday morning Social tennis by members when there is no formal fixtures
• Basketball/Netball Courts	High back to back usage during the wet and dry season, courts used virtually every day through dry season Wet Season Katherine Basketball, YMCA, Scool Sports, Katherine Netball, NT Schools Sports Katherine Net ball, Katherine South Sports, Katherine Basketball, Katherine Net ball Development Katherine South Sports, plus casual users at off peak times
• Ablution Blocks in various locations	All Clubs depending on location and the general public during fixtures, training and whilst participating in general recreation
• Adventure Playground	Every day during the week and on the weekend – high usage by young families, very popular for children’s birthday parties
• Adventure Park area	The space is used by marathon/running group for general exercise activities
• Marathon Sports Shed	Two nights during the week and some weekends for meetings

Source: Katherine Town Council Booking schedules

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## 9.7 Current User Groups Data

The User Groups listed below use the Sports Ground consistently. Some organisations on a daily basis, some several times a week including training, some monthly, some occasionally and several on a yearly basis for major events. Those not recorded include users of the Don Dale Pavilion, casual users such as schools and other community groups, School Sports, those using the Skateboard and play ground area. Figures for the Henry Scott facility only take into consideration those people who are involved in structured programs or who are registered gym users. The Aquatics Centre figures are people through the gate who pay, school groups, and structure exercise classes. Best estimates indicate that in 2016 there were in excess of 233,822 visitors/spectators/users for the Sports Ground and that in 2017 there could be in excess of 282,332 visitors/spectators/users of the grounds. Growth has been centred around a number of the ball sports including Rugby Union and Rugby League plus increase visitation to the YMCA programs. These figures do not take into consideration the casual users of the skateboard, adventure playground or use of the Adventure Park,

**Table 2 Visitor, spectator and user numbers during 2016 and 2017**

Sporting /Users Groups	2016		2017 estimate	
	Registered Participants	Spectator attendance	Registered Participants	Spectator attendance
Katherine Athletics Club	6400	2750	5000	2750
Katherine Junior Rugby League	18850	25000	15548	26572
Katherine Rugby Union	11500	10000	18200	16640
Katherine Krocs Rugby Union	3500	4500	41600	5200
Katherine Touch Association	8000	2000	9750	3000
Katherine Football Club (Soccer)	11500	5000	10500	5500
Katherine Netball Association	17520	8000	13360	8400
Katherine Basketball Association	8400	3000	4830	3300
Katherine Softball Club	780	1000	900	1240
Katherine & Dist Crick Club	2640	480	1680	600
Katherine Tennis Club	9300	600	4500	900
Big Rivers BMX	750	220	1500	1200
Aquatic Centre	54,350	150	60770	320
YMCA Programs	17632	0	18572	0
<b>Total users over a year</b>	<b>171122</b>	<b>62700</b>	<b>206710</b>	<b>75622</b>

Source: Katherine Town Council records, YMCA records plus discussions with user groups

**9.8 Active Recreation Pursuits**

In addition to these formal groups there are many residents and family groups who use the Sports Ground for active recreation pursuits including unstructured activities such as:

- Walking and running
- Unstructured football and other sports
- Skateboarding
- Family picnics and birthday parties
- Walking their pets
- Cycling
- Children’s Parties and get togethers

**10 Improvements and Future Infrastructure requirements**

**10.1 Overview**

The consultation phase with the various User Groups and with public users indicated a wide array of infrastructure requirements for the short, medium and long term. Infrastructure which services multiple User Groups and the public is fundamental to the growing of sport and to maximise the use of the grounds. Improvements have been prioritised in a manner which allows for staged development and to give flow on benefits to the community.

**10.2 Infrastructure Costs**

The estimated infrastructure costs are based on the following figures. The figures are reflective of 2017 costs and escalations should be built into figures this period. The services of a Quantity Surveyor or a construction organisation should be gained before projects are committed.

**Table Three: Cost estimates as at January 2018**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Cost Base</b>
Road Infrastructure	Estimated with the assistance of a local contractor who has worked in the Katherine region for many years. Secondary Road based on \$140,000 per kilometre
Car parks	Based on \$12000 per 100m2 or per 4 parks including road infrastructure and swale drainage
Oval and other infrastructure	Discussed with specialist design architects and engineers
Building costs	Based on estimates by a Quantity Surveyor based on high level briefings
Specialist items	Discussions with suppliers and estimates sourced
Shelter and Shed costs	Based on cost estimates from two shed and steel fabrication companies in Katherine

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### 10.3 Funding the Master Plan Projects

Katherine Town Council and the various sporting groups will need to access capital and improvement works funding from a range of sources both within and external to the community. These sources could include:

- Northern Territory Government Community and Sports Grants
- Federal Government Community Development and Sports Grants
- Katherine Town Council maintenance and capital works funding
- Sponsorship from businesses and licensed clubs
- Sporting Club members volunteer time and fund raising efforts
- Equipment and time given by business and volunteers for construction of Club venues
- Road Safety grants
- Private Developer partnerships.

The following plans are based on a yearly spend and priorities can be moved according to funding arrangements. Some projects have extended timelines due to the finance and grants required, planning implications, contract arrangements and funding pull downs as construction progresses. Clubs should be encouraged to work with the Council to ensure all planning and compliance requirements are gained.

## 11 Proposed Improvement and Capital Works Program

### 11.1 Year One Priorities

The following priorities are seen as base level priorities which will have benefits for multiple organisations.

Capital Works and improvements	Estimated Cost
Road Signage and line marking consultancy and application to Road Safety for funding, a number of new signs, new line marking	\$ 12,000
Safety review of the skate park and BMX ground to ensure compliance	\$ 25,000
Demolishing of the old building and construction of storage space for rugby league, rugby union , soccer, and touch foot ball for Soft ball end of Oval One	\$ 35,800
Initial upgrade works to Don Dale Pavilion including improvements to toilets, painting, tap ware, additional water fountains	\$ 23,000
Installation of roller doors to soccer storage area at the Don Dale Pavilion, the purchase of equipment hangers and trolleys to move equipment	\$ 3,800
Additional shaded tiered seating with shade two new units – basketball/netball area	\$ 13,500



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Improvements to Athletics through the provision of covers, hanging racks and a permanent discus and hammer cage for the throw zones and storage area	\$ 5,200
Upgrade basket ball courts with multipurpose line marking, scorers benches and junior goals and supply outdoor power outlets	\$ 14,500
Protection fencing to the Skate Park area	\$ 11,500
New directional signage to the toilets near the adventure park	\$ 300
Aquatic Centre – Immediate repairs to the play and spray area pipe work and planning of general upgrade and improvement works to existing buildings and pool area	\$ 28,500
Additional seating under shade (trees) for the Adventure park area – 2 units sealed and painted	\$ 1,200
Lighting to the soft ball precinct	\$ 110,300
Initial planning for a new oval for Rugby Union and Rugby League with associated access and facilities	\$ 120,000

### 11.2 Year Two Capital Works

The following works ideally should take place in the second year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. It is envisaged that a number of User Groups will source some funding through their fund raising and grants to assist with the Capital Works Program.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Extension of the Don Dale Pavilion to create a community meeting space	\$ 220,000
Develop a tree replacement program, cost and start implementation as soon as possible	\$ 12,000
Covered shade extension area to the Don Dale Pavilion	\$ 64,000
Improved shaded tiered seating to athletics 100 meter track area and additional unit for Field 2	\$ 13,000
Sealed pathway from storage shed to the basket ball/netball courts	\$ 3,500
Additional directional signage around the Sports Ground	\$ 5,000
Aquatic centre works - Rails to the steps on the earth mound, replacement of the roller door to main building and replacement of damage shade cloth and replacement of tiles to pool edges	\$ 24,800
Aquatic centre – planning for expansion of aquatic area to include more water activities and shaded areas	\$ 15,000

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Replacement of the remaining car park and street lighting in the Sports Ground with LED lights and improve lighting to basketball netball parking area	\$ 60,000
Consultancy to assess irrigation and highlight the areas where upgrades to the system are required	\$ 25,000
Replace cover with roof to Adventure Playground	\$ 60,000
Lighting to Oval No. 1	\$ 230,000
Initial construction works on new rugby league/union oval and associated infrastructure	\$ 1,850,000

### 11.3 Year Three Capital Works

The following works ideally should take place in the third year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Planning for extended covered court area and associated infrastructure to be undertaken in stages, extra courts then shade then amenities block plus construction of two additional courts and initial works	\$ 430,000
LED Lighting to the Cricket Oval - quoted	\$ 215,407
Two additional shaded tiered stand areas one for soccer area and one for the other oval	\$ 13,000
Fencing to Oval 2 to restrict access for user changes	\$ 8,000
Exercise equipment for adults in the adventure playground area	\$15,000
Additional soft fall rubber finish to adventure park equipment	\$ 10,000
Aquatics Centre – first stage of works to Centre expansion	\$ 80,000
Construction of new rugby union and league oval and associated infrastructure, road, fencing and car park	\$ 2,400,000

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### 11.4 Year Four

The following works ideally should take place in the fourth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government. Construction works for the oval would flow over the dry from one year to the next financial year.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Formalisation and sealing of the car park opposite the Aquatics Centre	\$ 85,000
Sealing of the Tennis/Cricket car park	\$ 35,000
Completion of covered court areas and associated infrastructure	\$ 2,180,000
Seeking of funding for new cover court and associated facilities	\$ 10,000
New practice net area for cricket	\$ 38,000
Extensions to the Aquatics area to include shade, upgrade of offices, new water spray features and other activities	\$ 350,000
Stage one of the irrigation upgrade	\$ 350,000

### 11.5 Year Five

The following works ideally should take place in the fifth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government. Construction works for the oval would flow over the dry from one year to the next financial year.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Stage two of the irrigation upgrade	\$ 350,000

### 11.6 Year Six

The following works ideally should take place in the sixth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government. At this stage a review of the Master Plan should be undertaken to determine if priorities have changed or if new sports and recreational activity have emerged in the community.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Formalisation of car park to softball/baseball area	\$ 155,000

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### 11.7 Year Seven

The following works ideally should take place in the seventh year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Planning for indoor sports centre and amenities adjacent the court area	\$ 120,000
Upgrade Ablution Block at the play park and soft ball area	\$ 120,000

### 11.8 Year Eight

The following works ideally should take place in the eighth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Stage three of the irrigation upgrade	\$ 350,000

### 11.9 Year Nine

The following works ideally should take place in the ninth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Stage 2 expansion of aquatic area	\$ 400,000
Construction commencement of new indoor sports centre and the first stage	\$ 750,000

### 11.10 Year Ten

The following works ideally should take place in the tenth year of the Master Plan depending of funding gained. Again it is envisaged that a number of these will be joint funded by User Groups, Council and Government.

<b>Capital Works and improvements</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Construction commencement of new indoor sports centre and the first stage	\$ 6,800,000

## 12 Sports Ground and Group Priorities

### 12.1 General Sports Ground Improvements

There were a number of overarching areas where improvements were required. This list of suggested improvements was developed through observations, Club survey comments and through interview comments.

#### 12.1.1 Road signage

The quality of the road signage and markings vary throughout the Sports Ground. Observations indicate that the intersection adjacent the Aquatic Centre and main thoroughfare is poorly marked and near misses are common due to traffic levels and not understanding how the intersection works. An overall signage plan should be developed and implemented to direct spectators to the various playing fields and facilities and drop off areas. Line marking to road edges could assist with safety at night to ensure road users are aware of the edges in the wet season and in dark areas.

#### 12.1.2 Road Infrastructure

The road infrastructure will need to be expanded in the life of this plan to cater for new sporting facilities. Some of the road infrastructure may have to be moved to create space for new pavilion or sporting facilities. The area on the south side of the Don Dale Pavilion needs to be addressed to make it accessible year round with good drainage.

#### 12.1.3 Car Parking Areas

Car parking infrastructure varies greatly from paved marked areas to grass and gravel areas. Many of the areas are unstructured and during peak times results in poor parking habits by the public.

- The parking area associated with the Henry Scott building needs resurfacing and line marking renewed
- The parking area opposite the Henry Scott and Aquatics area needs to be formalised, have barriers and be sealed
- The gravelled areas generally are in good condition, with the exception of the car park adjacent the Tennis/Cricket which needs the bitumen extended
- Formalisation of some of the gravel car parking areas with signage could assist with formalising the car parking arrangements in the future.

### 12.2 Lighting to playing fields, ovals and court areas

As funding becomes available the lighting to all spaces should be replaced with LED lighting similar to Oval 2 and for other areas similar to the new “street and car park” lighting. There is no particular priority in this listing. Lighting around the various amenities areas is required. A night time audit needs to occur so lighting can be installed in locations which are used by the public.

- Cricket Oval
- Tennis Courts – undertaken with shaded court area
- Basket Ball and net ball courts – undertaken with shaded court area
- Baseball/Softball Oval

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- Oval No. One
- Aquatic Centre
- Car park lights to the Henry Scott building
- Skate Park
- General access lights.

**12.3 Landscaping and creation of shade**

As a result of the removal of a number of African Mahogany trees, much of the natural shade has been removed from a number of areas. There is a need for spectators and players to have additional shade as a result of this tree removal safety program. New species of trees need to be identified, planted and irrigated to ensure that there is additional shade available in the future. A full inspection of the trees including species identification should be undertaken and gaps in the shade canopy identified and suitable trees planted.

**12.4 Irrigation Upgrade**

The clubs who utilise the ovals and playing fields highlight the need to improve the irrigation to the major playing surfaces. Aerial shots of the oval show inconsistencies in the playing surface irrigation and this results in the players running from soft to hard surfaces and interrupts the flow of the game and puts the players at risk. A full assessment of the irrigation system to all ovals and fields should be undertaken and staged plan for upgrading the irrigation developed for over a five to six year time period.

**13 Specific Area works**

**13.1 Katherine Aquatic Centre**

**13.1.1 Overview**

The Aquatic Centre is a high use area with the public coming early in the morning, schools groups coming through the day and the public swimming in the afternoon and early evening. In discussions with the staff at the pool and observations indicate that there are a range of improvements that have been made over the past years and now as with any aging infrastructure there are a range of maintenance issues and replacements.



**13.1.2 General refurbishment**

The following works are a general refurbishing will be required within the next two years and planning put in place to expand the general wet area play space for older children.

Initial improvement works include:

- Rails to the steps on the earth mound

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- Replacement of the roller doors to the main building
- Extension of the shade to the kiosk area
- Repairs to the pipe work at the spray /splash out play area
- Replacement of edge pool tiles around the main pool
- Removal of urinals and replacement with new systems
- Replacement of the shade cloth to the Stuart Highway end of the main pool.

### **13.1.3 Extension works**

Those interviewed expressed the need to expand the Aquatic area. This was highlighted in a number of face to face interviews with mothers, members of the community and several other groups who utilised the Centre. These users indicated that, due to the climate and inability to utilise the water ways all year round, additional shaded space was needed for water activities for children and teenagers. There is space which can be utilised within the Aquatic area for additional water play areas and an exercise pool to meet health and aqua aerobics requirements. A development plan for the pool area should be documented in the future to maximise the space around the Aquatics ground and to take into consideration the community needs.

### **13.2 Henry Scott Building**

Responsibility for the Henry Scott building does not sit with Council, though during the consultation process the facility was viewed and key staff members interviewed to determine trends and general infrastructure requirements for the Sports Ground. The car park area, better utilisation of internal spaces and storage space were raised as areas infrastructure improvements for their building.

### **13.3 Don Dale Pavilion**

The following works benefit all clubs and groups that use the Don Dale Pavilion.

- Additional toilet block on one end of the building including a disabled toilet
- More community space for holding meetings and training sessions
- Several additional large storage rooms
- Upgrade of existing external toilet block
- Extension works to the canteen storage area
- Drainage work to car park area on southern end of the building
- General building upgrade, painting, new external doors and eaves
- Soccer Storage area roller door to improve ease of access and reduce WH&S risks.

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### 13.4 Katherine Rugby League Club Inc

The Association has 320 registered juniors and senior players each week for the dry season. Growth has been experienced each year and they have over 50 new members during the past two years. The Club utilises Katherine Sports Fields One and Two and the soft ball field for training. They use the Don Dale Pavilion change rooms, toilets and kiosk areas. The Club has sessions on every night except Friday. There are fixtures Saturday and Sunday.

The following infrastructure is seen as a priority:

- A large storage shed for equipment
- Additional shaded tiered shaded seating
- Water fountains
- Midterm a dedicated Rugby Union/Rugby league ground and amenities.



### 13.5 Katherine Rugby Union Inc

The Association has 350 registered plays with more juniors registering every game. Growth has been experienced since the introduction of Junior competition over the past two years. The Club utilises Field One and will be looking to utilise Field Two this coming season, they use the toilets, change rooms, canteen in the Don Dale Pavilion and have an office there also. They use an old shed change rooms at the end of Field One which is at the end of its usable life.

The following infrastructure is seen as a priority:

- Covered area adjacent Don Dale Pavilion for public and bbq space
- Additional tiered shaded seating
- Field Two fully fenced to restrict public access for user changes
- Long term a dedicated Rugby Union/Rugby League ground for back to back seasons.

### 13.6 Katherine Athletics Club

The Association has 256 registered players across the junior and senior players. Growth over the last two years has been substantial with over a 100 members joining the Association. The Club meets for training sessions on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings and has fixtures on Friday night evenings. On training nights up to 30 members attend each night. Only five lanes are usable throughout the year. Drainage is needed to improve the other lanes.

The following infrastructure and improvements are seen as priority:

- Permanent covers to sand pit areas
- Additional shaded grandstand seating areas on the 100 meter straight
- Safety throw cages for the discus and hammer areas
- Hanging rack for the storage shed
- Larger storage shed.



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### 13.7 Katherine Cricket Club

The Association has 110 registered members across the juniors and senior players. Growth has been minimal over the past two years. Fixtures are played on Saturday and Sunday with training several nights a week during the season. The following infrastructure and improvements are seen as priority.

- Lights to the cricket field
- New practice net area.

### 13.8 Katherine Soccer Club

The Association has 650 registered plays across the junior and senior players. Soccer is moving to year round training and fixtures as part of their Youth Diversionary targets. They train four nights per week and have fixtures on Saturday mornings. There is a need to set up the goal posts at each training and fixture event. The following improvements are seen as a priority. The following infrastructure and improvements are seen as a priority:

- Roller door to the storage room at Don Dale Pavilion to make the setting up and packing away of goal posts easy
- Suitable trolleys for equipment to be moved
- Tiered shaded seating – at least two units
- Covered public area adjacent Don Dale to provide shade for officials and the public
- Moving of goal posts to create a national standard competition length.

### 13.9 Katherine BMX

BMX is currently in growth with a mixture of juniors and seniors. Thirty percent of the members are female. The Club members have spent time over the last two years upgrading the space. Currently there are 56 members and due to the ability to have fixtures next year, the junior membership in particular will grow. There is training every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon with practice on Saturdays. The major impediment for growth is the lack of formal racing on the weekends. The track has to be brought up to BMX NT standards prior to racing fixtures being allowed. To achieve that standard the following work is required:

- Safety fencing between the track and spectators
- Starting lights and gate system with the associated hard stand areas of compressor and equipment
- Track lights
- Track and spectator ground irrigation to reduce the dust
- A new demountable club house with a first aid facility, office and canteen
- Development of a Pump track.
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### 13.10 Skate Park Area

The skate park is used by the public during all periods of the day, from young families who are teaching their children how to ride scooters to the youth of the town using the venue after school and on weekend to adults keeping fit and enjoying themselves. There were a range of face to face interviews with users of this space during the week mornings and on a Saturday. Several responses indicated that a smaller skate park for children on scooters in the area of the Adventure play ground would enable the younger children to skate/scooter with security. When the teenagers come the young children have to vacate the area. During the on-site inspections on several occasion the line between the skate park, the access road and general foot paths were blurred by users. For safety reasons the following improvements are recommended:



- Professional review of the safety of the skate park to ensure the area meets Australian Standards
- A fence between the access road and the skate park and the skate park and the main footpath and the skate park for the main areas of activity
- Erection of safety signs for a shared vehicle/pedestrian/ skateboard user area at the entry area and at the aquatic centre to remind people to slow down.

### 13.11 Children's Adventure Playground

This is a very popular area for parents of young children and is utilised throughout the week and on weekends. Information was gathered through 11 face to face interviews and mothers taking surveys and emailing them to friends who also responded with comments. Seventeen individual inputs were received. Generally the Playground area is seen as one of the most important facilities in Katherine for these parents and the place to go to have a social outing, meeting other families, having birthday parties and is considered very safe and user friendly. The following suggestions were received.

- Additional small skate park for young children on scooters
- Improved signage to direct people to the toilets
- Additional seating as the number of shaded seats is inadequate and preferred to have a different style to make it easier for the children
- Soft fall areas under some of the equipment
- Exercise equipment for adults which is child friendly and will enable adults to exercise whilst their children play on equipment.

### 13.12 Katherine Basketball Association

The Association has 280 registered junior and senior playing each week during the dry season. With growth expected to come from the increased junior competition this year. The Club has fixtures two nights per week. They have a wide range of volunteers who contribute during the season. The Club is generally growing by 20 to 30 players a year. The covered area with additional courts is seen as a high priority to be able to play year round, to expand the sport and to reduce the risk of heat stress. The following infrastructure is seen as short term and long term priorities:

- General upgrade of court area including line marking, scorers benches, Under 10 fixed goal and installation of outdoor power points to court area for score board
- Tiered shaded seating for players and spectators
- Sealed pathway to storage area from courts

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- Improved lighting around the ablution block and car parking area for night time events
- Midterm relocation of the courts to a new area where the sport can expand and the development of six courts with a covered water proof shade membrane court space to allow all year round basket ball competitions during the day
- Long term an indoor stadium with at least two courts in the long term adjacent the new courts.

### **13.13 Katherine Net Ball Association**

The Association has 390 registered junior and senior players who participate in weekly events and training. The courts are used for Monday to Thursday and Sunday afternoons and for major competitions and development clinics on three weekends a year. The Association shares the courts with the Basketball Club. There are a range of short and long term priorities. The following improvements are seen as short term priorities:

- Additional court space and court markings
- Tiered shaded seating for spectators
- Upgrade to the toilet blocks
- Barrier fencing to control the cars and keep them off of the lawns
- The mid-term relocation of the courts to a new location with a minimum of six shared courts with a waterproof membrane.
- An indoor stadium with at least two courts in the long term adjacent court area.

### **13.14 Katherine Tennis Club**

The Association has 150 register players, numbers can vary greatly throughout the year with more players registering as the season commences. In 2016 the Club had 310 players. The following infrastructure is seen as a midterm priority due the risk of heat stress when playing during the day and the inability to play tennis year round due to the weather.

- Four courts with water proof shade membrane to allow year round fixtures

### **13.15 Construction of a multipurpose facility**

There are a number of sports which are unable to play year round and have potential problems around heat stress during playing times and wet season rains. Though the sport can be moved to a night time slot this is not always appropriate and would still not alleviate the wet season rains.

Through surveys, interviews and discussion the need for appropriate infrastructure became apparent. There is a need for a multipurpose facility which has court space, which is covered, court space which is uncovered but adjacent to the covered area, inside space for other sports which are not currently at the site, which could include a shared table tennis, martial arts, exercise space with several offices, change rooms and toilets and public toilets.

The concept of air conditioned court space was explored; the operational and power costs of such a space could be beyond the financial capabilities of the various associations and the Council.

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The space adjacent the Henry Scott building is seen as a potential area. Realignment of the road may have to occur to create more space for the courts and facilities. The height requirements for covered court area for basket ball is 8.3 metres clear height over the court. Sports such as badminton require 9 metres clear height to comply with Australian Match Standards. Any facility would have to allow ample height for each of the sports. The shade membrane could be supported off of the core building.

Further discussions need to occur with basketball, netball, tennis and other sports both at a local and peak body level to determine what a centre would look like and what is included within the building envelope and what spaces are covered and uncovered. This is a long term project and the development of shade over the tennis court areas should be considered as part of the overall project. This project will need a separate feasibility and full investigation into what should be included in such a multipurpose space.

## 14 Project Management

Project Management of larger projects will be undertaken by the Katherine Town Council. Where the projects are smaller, the Katherine Town Council's permission to improve infrastructure or install seating, shade or infrastructure must be gained. All fixed infrastructure becomes the property of the Katherine Town Council with the exception of alterations to the Henry Scott Building and its car park. Once developed generally the asset becomes a Katherine Town Council asset and is include on their register and within their maintenance programs.



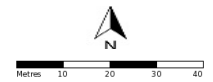


# NR MAPS

Katherine Sports Precinct - Dec 2022



Legend



[nrmaps.nt.gov.au](http://nrmaps.nt.gov.au)  
Geospatial Services Branch



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Parks and Water Security  
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## **8 COMMITTEE MEMBER BUSINESS**

### **8.1 CHAIRS ITEMS**

Committee Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn

Member:

Attachments: Nil

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1. Fencing of the facility and internal fences
2. Security
3. Watering
4. Internal roads
5. Lighting
6. Buidling use

## 8.2 ALLEN STORY ITEMS

Committee Allen Story

Member:

Attachments: Nil

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1. Update on progress and timeliness of the Aquatic Centre upgrade and potential extra items the Club are interested in.

## **9 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

The next Sportsground Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on a future date to be confirmed.