

Far North Spaces & Places (Facilities) Plan 2021-2030



Mihi

E mihi ana ki ngā mate kua wheturangitia haere hoki atu ki Hawaiki nui, Hawaiki roa, Hawaiki pamamao.

Huri noa ki a tātou te kanohi ora, e mihi ana.

Rārangi Take | Table of Contents

1.	Tuhinga whakarāpopoto Executive Summary.....	4
2.	He timatanga kōrero Introduction.....	6
3.	Ngā taupori o te rohe o Far North Far North District Demographics.....	8
4.	Ngā wero o te rohe District Challenges and Trends.....	13
5.	Mahere whakamua Future Planning – Facility Hierarchy and Principles.....	17
6.	Ngā take wāhi mō te Far North Gap & Oversupply Analysis – Far North District.....	22
7.	Tīaroaro ki te Rautaki a Rohe Alignment with the Regional Strategy.....	24
8.	Tūtohitanga a Rohe Key District Wide Recommendations.....	25
9.	Wāhi taunakitanga Key Facility Specific Recommendations.....	29
10.	Appendix 1 – Site & Facility Inventory.....	41
11.	Document Info & Acknowledgements.....	55

1. Tuhinga whakarāpopoto | Executive Summary

The Far North Spaces & Places Plan is a facility-focussed plan that helps support the regional strategy for play, active recreation and sport – Kōkiri ai te waka hourua. The regional strategy provides the high-level strategic framework to guide future decision making, with the district level plan providing more detailed guidance for the Far North part of the region. Both documents will help inform Far North District Council's (FNDC) Long Term Plans (LTPs) and work programmes across the full range of sector organisations in the Far North District.

The Far North, like the rest of the Te Tai Tokerau region has experienced strong growth in recent years, with a 16.8% increase in population from 55,845 in 2006 to 65,250 in 2018. All of this growth occurred between 2013-2018 with the mid-north areas including Kerikeri and surrounds showing some of the strongest growth.

The 2013 high series population projections¹ for the Far North District indicate that the total population is expected to continue to grow, reaching a total population of 73,700 by 2043, a projected increase of 21.6% between 2013 and 2043. Projections also show that rapid ageing of the Far North District population is expected with those aged 65 years and over becoming the largest segment of the population by 2033². When planning spaces and places for play, active recreation and sport in the Far North District it is important to do so in the context of expected rapid aging of the population, alongside ongoing district and regional population growth.

The Far North District, experiences high levels of deprivation. With many people experiencing deprivation, the costs of participation in play, active recreation and sport can be a significant barrier to participation. This includes costs associated with travel requirements.

The Far North District has a much lower population density than the New Zealand average. The population is unevenly distributed with many small settlements and a large rural area. Relatively long travel times are required to access sport and recreation facilities both within the Far North District and in the wider Te Tai Tokerau region. Many Far North residents regularly travel long distances for active recreation and sport opportunities, including some travelling to Whangarei for both competitions and training. However, for many Far North residents the requirement to travel to Whangarei for some activities is a barrier, restricting participation choices.

The regional strategy - Kōkiri ai te waka hourua identifies a number of challenges influencing play, active recreation and sport. These are relevant to the Far North District and have helped inform the direction of this plan. The Far North District also has some specific challenges and opportunities. For example, inconsistencies with facility access across the district, particularly for small communities and to courts and aquatic facilities. Inconsistent quality of facilities with different approaches to asset management and operations for different facilities and communities. Opportunities to increase partnership approaches between sports and with other community organisations, including schools³ need to be identified.

Data on the participation rates for the Far North population shows that most participation is through active recreation rather than traditional team sports. This, along with demographic trends, indicate that provision of a variety of safe walking, jogging/running and bike/cycle routes is an important way to support people in the Far North being active.

¹ StatsNZ 2013 high series subnational population projections sourced from <http://nzdotstat.stats.govt.nz/wbos/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=TABLECODE7566#>

² Ibid

³ Use of the term 'Schools' refers to all state schools and state integrated schools.

Access to both natural and built swimming facilities and demand for gym/work out options, along with group exercise classes will continue to be important in the district.

The facility inventory of the district identifies 145+ play, active recreation and sport sites across the district, providing a wide range of facilities including multi-use sport and recreation sites, playgrounds, sports fields, pools, a variety of courts, community halls, gym/fitness centres, tracks, trails, skateparks, and club room buildings. It is positive that the district already has a number of multi-use sport and recreation facilities, with 10 of the main sites providing for three or more sport and recreation facilities and activities at one site.

Providing facilities to cater to a rapid population growth and an aging population is a challenge for the district. Another key challenge is maintaining play, active recreation and sport facilities at appropriate standards as they age. There are opportunities to maximise use of existing facilities through provision of features such as lighting (e.g. outdoor courts and sports fields). To help improve access to local facilities there is a need to increase partnerships between play, active recreation, sport and community groups, including with schools, marae and iwi both for multiuse facilities and also to increase activation through locally led programming.

Section eight outlines key district-wide recommendations, while section nine outlines specific recommendations by facility type and where relevant by sports code and activity type.

In order to support the regional strategy - Kōkiri ai te waka hourua, it is important that the Far North Spaces & Places Plan aligns with the overarching intent of the regional strategy. To achieve the vision and address the priorities of the regional strategy along with the recommendations of this plan, a new way of working will be required. A greater focus on partnerships, collaboration and working with the community on locally led initiatives is important going forward.

2. He timatanga kōrero | Introduction

This plan has been developed alongside work on the regional strategy for play, active recreation and sport – Kōkiri ai te waka hourua. It is important that this plan is read in conjunction with the regional strategy, which provides high-level, overarching regional direction for future planning for play, active recreation and sport across Te Tai Tokerau.

Te Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tirene me Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
We acknowledge the mana of the articles of He Whakaputanga and Te Tiriti o Waitangi and in doing so acknowledge Māori as mana whenua.

The purpose of the Far North Spaces & Places Plan 2021-2030 is to support the regional strategy by providing more specific, district level guidance for spaces and places (facilities) planning. It is largely focussed on built (rather than natural) sport, active recreation and play facilities in the Far North District. Planning for play, active recreation and sport facilities is important as the network of facilities provided in a district (and region) should be fit-for-purpose and sustainable. This plan, along with the regional strategy, provides a pathway to achieving a well-planned facilities network through:

- Reflecting on and considering the Far North District's unique attributes, challenges and advantages.
- Identifying principles and criteria for assessing future spaces and places (facility) development priorities.
- Providing a picture of current and projected future facility demand and supply.
- Aligning with the regional strategy - Kōkiri ai te waka hourua.
- Providing clear recommendations to influence and guide future spaces and places planning, funding and development decisions.

This plan is intended to help inform the FNDC's Long Term Plan (LTP) process and work programmes across the full range of sector organisations in the Far North District. This plan provides high-level direction that will need to be supported by more detailed, community and project specific planning. It is intended that the plan provides guidance not only to new facility developments and upgrades, but crucially it also provides direction on opportunities to maximise existing facilities, reduce duplication, and help provide improved return on investment into play, active recreation and sport spaces and places (facilities) in the Far North District.

Definitions

For the purpose of the regional strategy and this plan the following definitions are used:

Active Recreation and Sport is considered to be activities that are done for fun, challenge and fitness that involve movement and getting the heart rate up. Active Recreation and Sport includes a wide range activities such as walking, fishing, stand-up paddle boarding and a huge range of individual and team sports. Participation can occur in a range of settings from informal to organised competitions and individual to group/club environments. Typically Active Recreation is non-competitive physical activity undertaken for wellbeing and enjoyment. Whereas Sport is typically more formally organised and often competitive.

Play is considered to be fun, accessible, challenging, social and repeatable activity that is spontaneous and can happen anywhere. Play has no pre-determined outcome and has limited or no adult involvement. It is intrinsically motivated, personally directed and freely chosen.

Māori physical activity – a high portion of Māori participation is in ways that are not always recognised as traditional sport and recreation. It is instead a lifestyle and way of living that is purposeful, that benefits the whole whānau (whānau centric). An example of this is

providing for whānau and/or hui through diving/hunting/māra kai, rongoa Māori is seen as a purposeful activity.

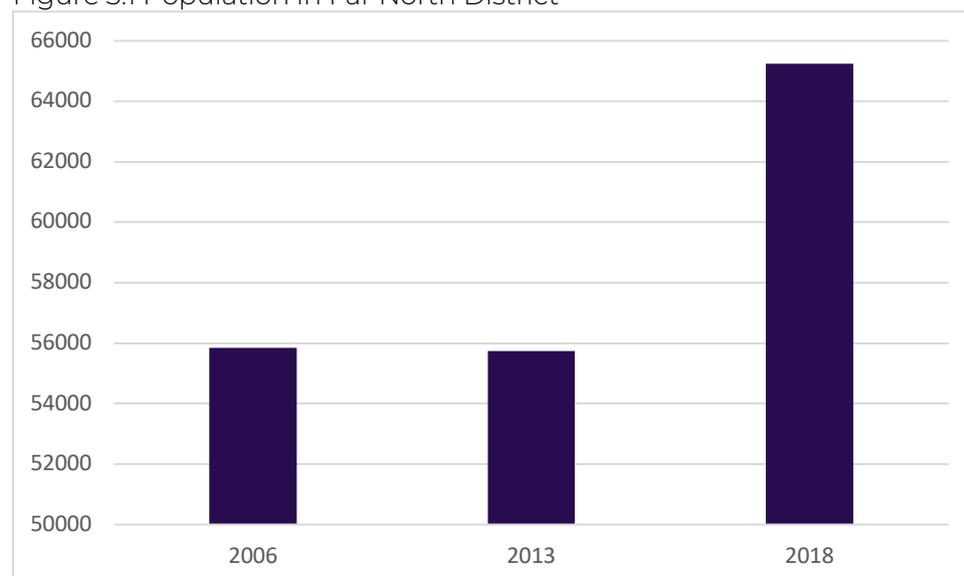
Schools is used as a simple way of referring to all state schools and state-integrated schools in the district. It is intended that use of the term schools captures all the state schools and state-integrated schools in the area.

3. Ngā taupori o te rohe o Far North | Far North District Demographics

3.1 Demographic Considerations for Far North District

The Far North, like the rest of Te Tai Tokerau has experienced strong growth in recent years, with a 16.8% increase in population from 55,845 in 2006 to 65,250 in 2018. All of this growth occurred between 2013-2018 as there had been a slight dip in the district population between 2006-2013.

Figure 3.1 Population in Far North District



Source: 2006-2018 Censuses⁴

Kerikeri⁵ has grown approximately 33% between 2006 and 2018 Censuses. Kaitaia⁶ has grown approximately 12.8% and nearby Ahipara also growing at over 12% over the same period. Other towns have also shown strong growth including Kaikohe (9.7%), Kaeo (10.5%), Kawakawa (10.4%)⁷.

At the 2018 Census the highest proportion(43.2%) of the Far North District population was in the 30-64 age category with another 19.3% of the population aged over 65 years. There is also a notable portion of the population (21.6%) aged under 15 years, with the remaining 15.9% in the 5-19 year category of the population.⁸

⁴ Graph sourced from <https://www.stats.govt.nz/tools/2018-census-place-summaries/far-north-district>

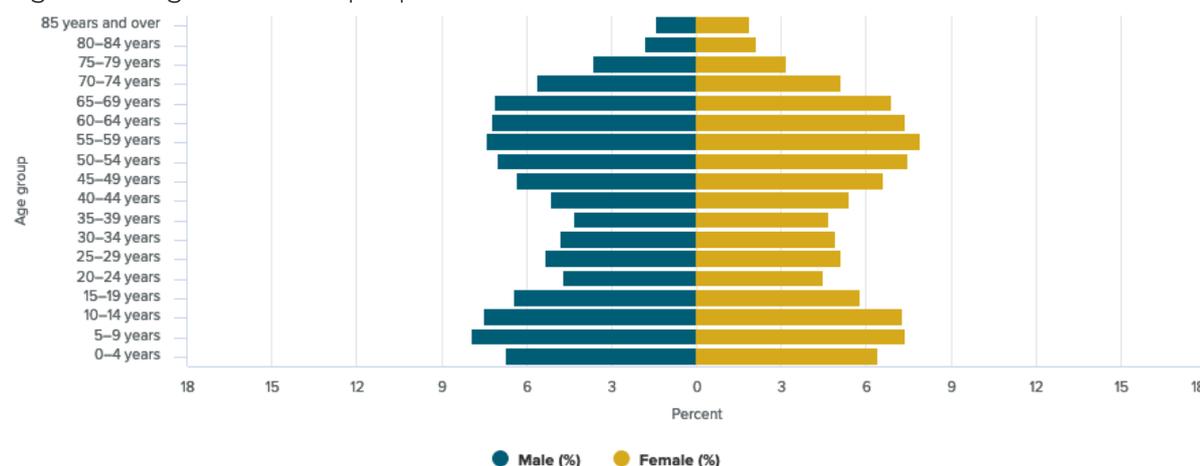
⁵ Based on the combined population of Kerikeri South, Kerikeri Central, Waipapa and Riverview areas. Sourced from StatsNZ Dataset: Age and sex by ethnic group (grouped total responses), for census usually resident population counts 2006, 2013 and 2018 censuses (RC, TA, SA2, DHB). <http://nzdotstat.stats.govt.nz/wbos/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=TABLECODE8277#>

⁶ Based on the combined population of Kaitaia East and West sourced from <http://nzdotstat.stats.govt.nz/wbos/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=TABLECODE8277#>

⁷ Sourced from <http://nzdotstat.stats.govt.nz/wbos/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=TABLECODE8277#>

⁸ The projected future impacts of this are shown in the growth projections section.

Figure 3.2: Age and sex of people in Far North District.



Source: 2018 Census⁹

Ethnic Profile of the Far North District

2018 Census data¹⁰ shows the following regarding the ethnicity of the Far North population:

- 64.2% European ethnic group.
- 48.3% Māori ethnic group¹¹.
- Between 2006 and 2018 people reporting as European ethnic group increased 4.7% from 59.5%.
- Between 2006 and 2018 people reporting as Māori ethnic group increased 4.4% from 43.9%.
- Those reporting as Pacific peoples increased from 3.1% in 2006 to 4.8% in 2018.
- Those reporting as Asian almost doubled from 1.6% in 2006 to 3% in 2018.

Based on regional and national trends it is expected that the Far North population will continue to become more diverse, with increasing proportions of Māori, Asian and Pacific peoples over time.

⁹ Graph sourced from <https://www.stats.govt.nz/tools/2018-census-place-summaries/far-north-district>

¹⁰ Sourced from <https://www.stats.govt.nz/tools/2018-census-place-summaries/far-north-district#ethnicity-culture-and-identity>

¹¹ Note: percentages do not total to 100% as some people report belonging to more than one ethnic group.

Growth Projections

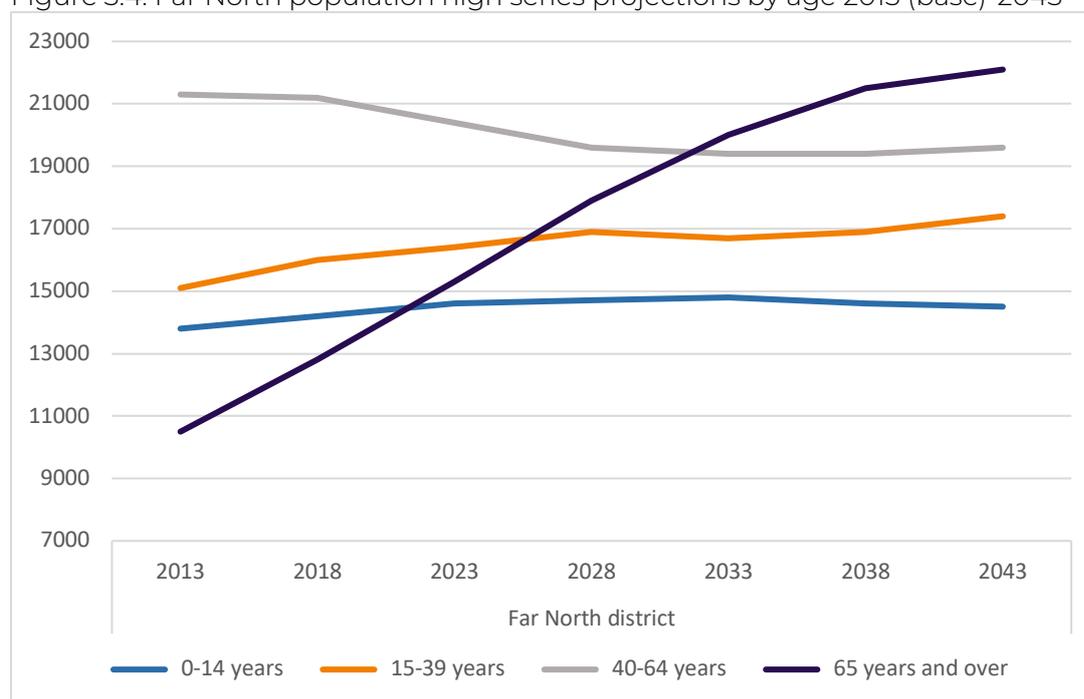
Growth projections based on the 2018 Census are not available, therefore the Stats NZ 2013 medium and high series projections have been provided here. Due to the age of the 2013 projection information it can provide an indication of expected future trends but should be used with caution.

Figure 3.3: 2013 High Series Growth Projections – Far North District

Year	Projected population	
	2013 medium series	2013 high series
2013	60,600	60,600
2018	62,900	64,100
2023	64,100	66,700
2028	64,900	69,100
2033	65,200	71,000
2038	64,900	72,500
2043	64,200	73,700

It is important to note that the 2018 Census usually resident population count of 65,250 was higher than the 2013 high series growth projections (64,100). It is also noted that the 2013 medium series projections show an expectation of the Far North population starting to decline from 2033 onwards to only be 64,200 in 2043. The 2013 high series projections indicate that the total population of the Far North District is expected to continue to grow, reaching a total population of 73,700 by 2043, a projected increase of 21.6% between 2013-2043.

Figure 3.4: Far North population high series projections by age 2013 (base)-2043¹²



Projections show that rapid ageing of the Far North District population is expected with those aged 65 years and over becoming the largest segment of the population by 2033. However, despite older adults being the largest segment of the population those aged 15-39 years and 40-64 years will remain significant portions of the population in 2043.

¹² statsNZ 2013 high series subnational population projections sourced from <http://nzdotstat.stats.govt.nz/wbos/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=TABLECODE7566#>

Projections indicate that planning for a reducing proportion of young people aged 0-14 will be important from 2033 onwards.

Based on recent growth trends the 2013 high series projections are considered most realistic for future planning purposes at this stage. Therefore, the Far North District should plan for increased demand on play, active recreation and sport facilities and services due to population growth. This is particularly relevant in the mid-north which has shown a trend of strong recent population growth. There may be easing of the population in some parts of the district, particularly rural communities.

Growth projections should be reviewed and refined once population projections based on the 2018 Census become available.

Other Demographic Indicators for the Far North District

When the Far North District is compared to New Zealand averages over time it has some notable demographic trends including:

- 21% of Far North residents are regular smokers compared to 13.2% for NZ as a whole. It is noted that the Far North has seen a positive decline in number of regular smokers between the 2006 and 2018 census, along with a positive increase in the number of people who have never smoked.
- 9.3% of Far North residents have one or more activity limitations (such as difficulty hearing, seeing, walking or other disability). Each age category shows a higher percentage of activity limitations than New Zealand as a whole, with Māori also having a greater prevalence of activity limitations.
- At the 2018 census 39.4% of Far North residents were employed full-time compared to 50.1% for all NZ. 6.6% of Far North residents were unemployed compared to 4% for all NZ.
- On average people in the Far North District are likely to earn less than the NZ average. 29.7% of people in the Far North earn \$15,000pa or less, compared to 24.5% for all New Zealand. Those earning over \$100,000pa was 3.2% in the Far North, compared to 7.6% for all NZ.
- On average, people in the Far North have lower qualification levels than the NZ average. 23.7% of Northlanders have no qualifications compared to 18.2% for all NZ. 8.8% of Far North residents have a Bachelor's degree/level 7 qualification compared to 14.6% for NZ as a whole.
- 77.2% of Far North residents have access to the internet compared to 86.1% for all NZ.

Northland, in particular the Far North District, experiences high levels of deprivation. With many people experiencing deprivation, the costs of participation in play, active recreation and sport can be a significant barrier to participation. This includes costs associated with travel requirements.

It is also important to note that Whangarei, the largest urban area in the Te Tai Tokerau region is also experiencing rapid growth. Approximate travel times from some Far North communities to Whangarei include:

- Kaitaia 2 hours 30+ mins
- Kerikeri 1 hour 10 mins
- Kaikohe 1 hour 10 mins – 1 hour 15 + mins
- Rawene 1 hour 40 mins
- Paihia 1 hour+

As Whangarei is the largest urban area in Te Tai Tokerau it provides many sport and recreation facilities that are used by residents from outside of the Whangarei District area. Some parts of the Far North are relatively close to Whangarei and its facilities also provide some benefit to Far North residents. However, for many Far North residents the

requirement to travel to Whangarei for some activities is a barrier, restricting participation choices.

Demographic Conclusion

When planning spaces and places for play, active recreation and sport in the Far North District it is important to do so in the context of expected, ongoing district and regional population growth overall. Specific attention needs to be given to planning for rapid population growth in some parts of the district (particularly Kerikeri and surrounds) but also to the potential for some easing in population in parts of the district.

3.2 Geographic Considerations for Far North District

The Far North District is the most northerly district in New Zealand. The southern boundary of the district is shared with the Far North District from Waipoua River on the West Coast to part way along the Mangakahia River. From there it shares its southern boundary with Whangarei District, across past Hukerenui, to above Whangaruru on the East Coast.

Figure 3.5: Population Density 2018

Area	Population	Land Area (km ²)	Population Density (people / km ²)
Far North	65,250	6,683	9.76
Te Tai Tokerau	179,079	12,502	14.32
Aotearoa	4.7m	268,021	17.54

The Far North District has a much lower population density than the New Zealand average. The district population is unevenly distributed with many small settlements and a large rural area. Relatively long travel times are required to access sport and recreation facilities both within the district and in the wider Te Tai Tokerau region. Many Far North residents regularly travel long distances for active recreation and sport opportunities, including some travelling to Whangarei for both competitions and training.

The dispersed nature of the population makes it difficult to provide a consistent level of service and access to opportunities across the district's communities. Providing a local level of service, to cater to training needs in particular, is important to help reduce the negative impacts of travel and encourage more participation. However, this is also balanced with an acceptance that people will need to continue to travel to access higher level competition and more specialised spaces and places.

The district also has a significant area of coastline, many harbours and rivers. These natural features provide many opportunities for water-based active recreation and sport, including hunting and fishing. However, there are also risks associated with water as access to learn to swim programmes (all ages) is one of the challenges in the district.

4. Ngā wero o te rohe | District Challenges and Trends

4.1 Summary of Regional Key Challenges

The regional strategy - Kōkiri ai te waka hourua identifies a number of challenges influencing play, active recreation and sport. These are entirely relevant to the Far North District and are summarised below:

Key strategic challenges in Te Tai Tokerau:

Population Distribution	“It can be hard to find enough teams, or (players for), full 15 or 13 a-side teams. Regular small sided, (7 or 9 a-side), competition would be more realistic” - survey respondent
Equity Issues	There are social and economic barriers that limit opportunities for some people to participate and thrive in play, active recreation and sport.
Transport Challenges	The need to travel and the distances involved can put people off participating.
Small Ratepayer Base and Limited Council Funds	Councils must carefully balance delivery of all core services including support for play, recreation and sport.

Key sector challenges:

- Declining volunteerism - the availability of volunteers including referees, coaches, administrators.
- Membership retention - including youth drop-off and youth leaving the region.
- Funding and operational sustainability - ability to fund maintenance of facilities and operations, including programmes. Resources required for compliance.
- Affordability - Regional Sport Organisation (RSO) & National Sport Organisation (NSO) affiliation fees affect affordability.
- Accessibility for all.
- Facility distribution and quality throughout the region.
- Centralisation of competitions and facilities can challenge the ability to deliver to local communities.
- Improving awareness of existing opportunities.
- Active recreation and play are not ‘organised’ and do not have a voice.
- Skill gaps within the sector in volunteer and paid roles.
- Changing expectations and demands for enhanced services including paid staff.

Key challenges for Māori:

- Accessibility to facilities / spaces.
- A sense of disconnect is felt in spaces and places around the rohe (area) by Māori.
- Access to information.
- Cost of travel and participation in play, active recreation and sport.
- The level of service in smaller communities tends to drop off making it more difficult to access opportunities.
- Lack of time to volunteer and coach – many other responsibilities and commitments to our own people first.
- Some are disconnected to whānau, hapū, iwi and therefore lack understanding and connection with whakapapa, mātauranga, taiao and a whānau centric approach or way of living.

4.2 The Far North's Key Challenges and Opportunities

Community engagement¹³ in the Far North District identified some key themes regarding challenges, opportunities. These included:

- Resourcing challenges faced by the Far North District Council in supporting this sector.
- Balancing the desire of small communities for facility access with the costs of provision and use levels required to make facilities sustainable.
- Planning for and catering to rapid population growth in some parts of the district (particularly Kerikeri and surrounds).
- Inconsistent quality and maintenance of facilities, particularly aging facilities. Concern regarding the condition of playing surfaces and lighting (e.g. courts, playing fields, halls) was a common theme.
- Access to aquatic facilities and programmes, particularly for learn to swim (all ages) and for smaller communities.
- Access to court space, both indoor and outdoor courts.
- Opportunities for increased partnerships between, across sporting codes and with other community organisations such as schools, marae, churches.
- Opportunities for modified delivery to cater to small communities e.g. small sided or mixed gender teams.

There is a mixture of ownership and management models for the key sport and recreation assets in the Far North District. The range of different approaches can lead to inconsistencies with asset management and operations between different facilities and communities. With single club facilities in particular, there is a risk of facility decline, if maintenance is not prioritised, or even facilities being lost from the district network if a club does not remain viable for any reason.

It is positive that the district already has a number of multi-use sport and recreation facilities. However, there is an opportunity for more sharing between codes and enhanced multi-use facilities, particularly in locations where each individual club at a site has a separate clubrooms facility.

4.3 Summary of National and Regional Trends

The regional strategy - Kōkiri ai te waka hourua identifies a range of national trends that are impacting on participation in play, active recreation and sport in Te Tai Tokerau.

- **Decreasing physical activity** - The 'electronic revolution' has transformed movement patterns. People sleep less, sit more, walk less, drive more, and generally do less physical activity than they used to.
- **Decline in traditional sport participation** - Changing lifestyles and the often highly competitive nature of some traditional team sports is seeing declining levels of participation in these activities, for both young people and adults.
- **Individual versus team and recreation versus sport** - a paradigm shift in participation from the overwhelming popularity of traditional team-based sports to more non-traditional, often individual, sport and recreation activities.
- **Embracing the impact of technology** – e-bikes, smart watches, MapMyRun, virtual clubs and a range of new technologies can benefit and encourage participation.
- **Pay to play** – many sport and recreation activities are being offered in a more casual, pay to play format rather than through traditional club membership.
- **Increased expectations** - participants in sport and recreation are now 'customers' expecting a higher level of service both in terms of the facility standards, flexibility and ease of use.

¹³ Through input to online surveys and workshops held in Kaitaia, Kerikeri and Kaikohe.

- **Communities of interest** - whether they be ethnic or gender communities, people often like to be active within their own communities.
- **Equipment costs** - the cost of equipment and uniforms can be prohibitive to many particularly in low socio-economic communities. Sports equipment recycling is common in a number of communities throughout New Zealand.
- **Cultural activities** – kapa haka, mau rākau, ki o rahi and waka ama are becoming increasingly popular not only for māori. Dance and martial arts are also popular across a wide range of participants.
- **Role models** - continue to be strong influencers not just of product purchase but also participation. The use of role models/leaders within communities can contribute to the success of participation focussed programmes.
- **Increasing recognition of the importance of play** - There is a renewed recognition of everyday play opportunities being an important part of the development of young people. Gymnastics provides a number of play-based programmes supporting this.

These trends are also relevant to the Far North District. For full details see the full regional strategy Kōkiri ai te waka hourua at <https://www.sportnorthland.co.nz/Regional-Strategy>.

Key Regional Participation Trends

Northlanders, on average are less active than the New Zealand average.

- Only 67% of Northland adults are active (72% nationally).
- Less Northlanders are physically active for 5 hours or more per week (38.9% compared to 43.8% nationally).
- Less Northlanders achieve at least 2.5 hours of activity per week (43.3% compared to 49.5% nationally).
- Northlanders are more likely to participate in little or no physical activity (16.6% compared to 14.3% nationally).

Participation data for the region and participation data by age group at a national level indicates there is strong current and projected future demand for:

- Walking/jogging and cycling trails and facilities that support those activities (i.e. car parking, toilets).
- Gym facilities (providing equipment-based exercise as well as activity space suitable for group classes including dance, pilates/yoga).
- Swimming facilities.
- Fishing facilities such as boat ramps, piers and jetties.

4.4 Participation Considerations for the Far North District

The Sport NZ Insights Tool provides data on the participation rates expected for the Far North population for various sport and recreation activities. This is modelled off participation data in the Active NZ survey 2018¹⁴. Key points of note from the top ranked activities include:

- Walking is the top participation activity (49.9%).
- Inactivity is high, at 31%.
- Jogging/running and gardening are the 3rd and 4th most common activities (26.6% and 22.8%).
- Participation in individual recreation and sport activities is much more common than participation in team sports.
- Individual workout, swimming, dancing and group exercise classes are the most common facility-based activities.
- Cycling/biking is the 11th most popular activity (8.6%).
- Golf is the highest ranked sport (4.2%).

¹⁴ Sourced November 2020 from <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/insights-tool/> Note: low response numbers may reduce the validity of this data.

- Netball (outdoor) is the highest ranked team sport (at 4.6%), with football (soccer outdoor) at 4%.

For people in the Far North District the top sport and recreation activities participated in during the last 12 months¹⁵ include:

- Walking/power walking (30%).
- Swimming/diving (17%).
- Fishing (16%).
- Going to the gym/working out (12%).
- Cycling/bike riding (10%).
- Run/jogging (9%).

This indicates that provision of a variety of safe walking, bike/cycle and jogging/running routes is an important way to support people in the Far North being active. It also shows that access to both natural and built swimming facilities is important. It is expected that demand for gym/work out options, along with group exercise classes will continue to be important in the district.

Other considerations:

Travel - It is apparent that generally people in the Far North District are generally accepting of the need to travel to access facilities, particularly those for competition purposes. However, travel is certainly a challenge that discourages participation for some in the Far North, or limits the choices people have when considering a sport or recreation activity.

Small communities - The smaller communities in the district do not have the population and demand levels to justify significant investment in facilities of a Sub-Regional/District standard. However, investment in maintaining and developing multi-use local level facilities will help support local participation opportunities.

Locally suitable programmes - For smaller communities it can be hard to secure enough players to maintain a full team for regular competitions. To encourage more participation in team sports it is apparent that small-sided games and mixed gender options might help address some of these challenges, particularly for junior level play.

Recreation options – It is more common for people to participate in recreation activities rather than traditional team sport. Maintenance of existing recreation facilities and consideration of investment in new facilities to support recreation and play is important to support this preference.

Aging population - With an aging population it is important to continue to provide opportunities and facilities that are suitable and attractive to older adults. For example, the demand for group exercise options, off-road walking and cycle trails, easy access, warm water swimming facilities and potentially hydrotherapy may increase as the population continues to age.

¹⁵ Sourced from Sport NZ Insights Tool – <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/insights-tool/> based on 2011-2019 data from the Nielsen Consumer & Media Insights report

5. Mahere whakamua | Future Planning – Facility Hierarchy and Principles

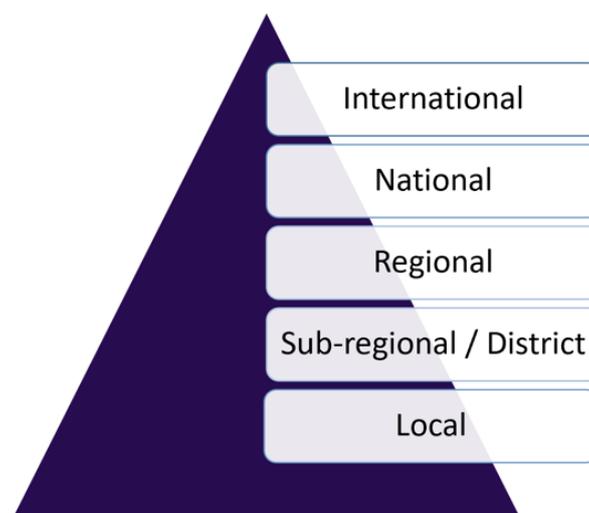
5.1 Facility Hierarchy

A facility hierarchy is developed to help understand what level of provision facilities are planned for, and capable of meeting, based on the core needs of user groups at different levels. These hierarchy definitions are taken from the Sport NZ Data Dictionary. Having a consistent hierarchy with other areas of New Zealand allows direction comparisons to be made, and helps regional and cross-boundary prioritisation, where required.

When using the facility hierarchy a facility should be categorised at the level it is primarily/regularly used for. While some facilities may meet some international standards e.g. a basketball court meeting FIBA requirements, if the majority of use is for local to regional level it should be categorised at regional level.

It is also important to understand that a facility at a higher hierarchy level may meet the needs right through to a local level.

Figure 5.1: Facility Hierarchy Diagram



International: A facility with the ability to host international competitions / events (between nations). For example: Semenoff Stadium, ITM Hockey Centre (Whangarei).

National: A facility with the ability to host regional representative competitions (including professional and semi-professional franchise competitions involving teams from outside New Zealand) and / or to serve as a national high-performance training hub for one or more sports codes. For example: Kauri Cliffs Golf Club, Cobham Oval (Whangarei).

Regional: A facility with the ability to host inter-regional and internal regional competitions and /or serves as a regional high-performance training hub for one or more sports codes. For example: McKay Stadium (Whangarei), Kerikeri Cruising Club.

Sub Regional/District: A facility with the ability to draw significant numbers of participants/teams/competitors from a whole district or across adjacent territorial authority boundaries for either competition or training purposes. For example: Lindvart Park, Mangonui Netball Centre, Waitangi Mountain Bike Park.

Local: A facility which often facilitates people’s introduction to sports and recreation and primarily serves a town or suburb (or potentially two suburbs) only. For example: Houhora Bowling Club, Awanui Sports Complex, Simpson Park.

5.2 Facility Planning Principles

A set of key principles have been developed to guide future decision making. These principles will need to be considered alongside agreed criteria. This will allow asset owners, user groups and decision makers to understand why and how spaces and places and programmes and services are planned for and prioritised.

Planning Principle	Description
Sustainability	Well used facilities able to meet their operational costs and with strong governance and management.
Partnerships and collaboration	Working together to achieve maximum return on investment.
Meeting an identified need	Clear demand is demonstrated within the community.
Multi-use (co-locating and hubbing)	Facilities should be designed to enable integrated uses such as hub facilities, multi-use facilities or co-located facilities, catering to sport and recreation and other complimentary community uses.
Future-proofed	Ability to adapt facilities to changing needs and trends. Designing or re-designing facilities and spaces in ways that enable them to be adapted, developed and extended in response to future demands.
Inclusive, accessible and affordable	Facilities, programmes and services that are accessible for all to get to, participate in, move within (physically accessible), and use (priced appropriately).
Spaces and places that deliver wider benefits to our communities	Multi-use facilities that serve the broadest range of community needs possible, providing advantages for the whole community beyond providing for just play, recreation and sport.
Reflect the unique needs of Te Tai Tokerau	Respond to the unique geography and population and the social and cultural needs of Northland communities.
Spaces and places are optimised through partnerships and activation	Before a new development is considered it is expected that existing facilities would be considered and maximised through partnerships and collaboration before new facility investment progresses. This helps give effect to the other key principles of identified need, partnering and collaboration, sustainability, multi-use and wider benefits.
We value the importance of play	There is a renewed recognition of everyday play opportunities being an important part of the development of young people. Including recognition of the right of young people to have varied, self-directed, playful experiences.

5.3 Proposed Facility Project Evaluation / Decision-Making Criteria

The following criteria have been developed to reflect the key principles and can be used to assess both current and future planned spaces and places investments.

The criteria included in bold italics are considered to be Level one - Gateway Criteria. These criteria need to be considered first and met with a high degree of certainty before a more detailed assessment of any proposal is undertaken using the remaining (level two criteria).

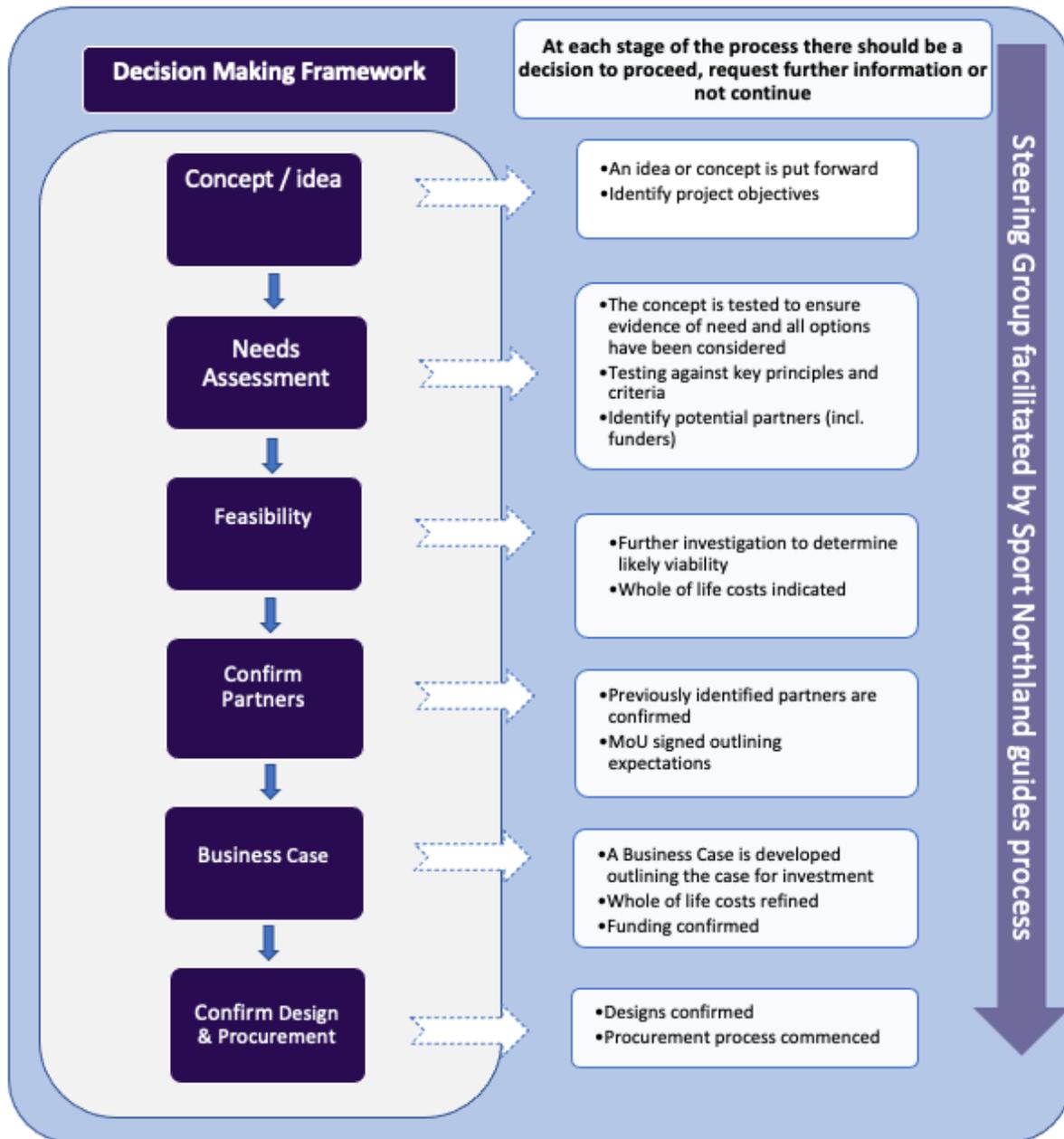
The principles and criteria will be applied to each concept put forward for consideration using the Decision Making Framework provided in Figure 5.2 below.

Table 5-1 Project Evaluation / Decision-making Criteria

Principle	Criteria
1. Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The capability of potential facility developers to develop and operate facilities.</i> • The degree to which the existing or proposed facility is operationally sustainable (taking a whole of lifecycle approach which looks at operational and maintenance costs throughout a facility's life).
2. Partnering and Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The potential for operational and/or capital partnerships between multiple stakeholders.
3. Meeting an Identified Need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The degree to which any existing or proposed facility matches the projected needs of the community within its core catchment area. In the case of facilities with wide utilisation (such as aquatics facilities) this involves consideration of all potential users from general recreational users through to organised sports codes.</i> • <i>The degree to which demand exceeds supply (once all existing facilities are being run at an optimal operational level) and the facility or proposed facility can meet the identified gap.</i> • <i>The degree of alignment a facility or proposed facility has with national and regional facility strategies.</i> • The ability of the facility or proposed facility to progress the play, active recreation and sport objectives of Te Tai Tokerau, the Far North District and wider New Zealand society. • The needs identified can only be met through additional provision. • The degree to which the duplication of facilities (from an international to a local level) is avoided.
4. Multiuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The degree to which the proposed project will enable integrated uses such as hub facilities, multi-use facilities or co-located facilities. • The degree to which the facility will cater to play, active recreation and sport and other complimentary community uses.
5. Future-proofing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability of the facility or proposed facility to reflect international and national best practice in its location, design and subsequent operation.

Principle	Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The degree to which the facility or proposed facility will be designed or redesigned to enable it to be adapted, developed and extended in response to changing future demands.
6. Inclusive, accessible and affordable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The degree to which the facility or proposed facility caters to all sectors of the community, including the level of physical accessibility for those the disabilities. The level of affordability of use or participation in the facility or programme/services. Alignment with wider strategic documents and plans such as those concerned with urban planning, infrastructure development, events strategies and transport networks.
7. Facilities that deliver wider community benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The return on investment (capital and operational) that the facility or proposed facility can generate (measured in terms of community benefit). The degree to which the facility or proposed facility will serve the broadest range of community needs possible, providing advantages for the whole community.
8. Reflect the uniqueness of Te Tai Tokerau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The degree to which the proposed facility responds to the unique geography and population and the social and cultural needs of Northland communities.
9. Optimise existing facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The degree to which the proposal optimises an existing facility e.g. through partnerships to increase use, enhancements to make a facility more fit-for-purpose. The degree to which a facility or proposed facility compliments / optimises the existing or proposed facility network and builds on district and regional strengths.
10. Importance of play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The degree to which the facility or proposed facility supports everyday play opportunities for young people within local communities.

Figure 5.2: Decision Making Framework



6. Ngā take wāhi mō te Far North | Gap & Oversupply Analysis – Far North District

6.1 Inventory Overview

The facility inventory data used for this report has been extracted, and summarised from the Sport NZ Inventory Tool. The detailed inventory, by facility type, is provided in Appendix 1¹⁶. It is noted that there will be other play, active recreation and sports facilities across the district that have not been captured in the current data. Further work needs to be done to improve the data capture and accuracy of existing facilities in the district, particularly facilities that are provided by schools and marae.

In summary, there are approximately 145+ play, active recreation and sport sites across the district, providing a wide range of facilities including multi-use sport and recreation sites, playgrounds, sports fields, pools, a variety of courts, community halls, gym/fitness centres, tracks, trails, skate parks, and club room buildings.

A number of aquatic facilities (pools) are shared between schools and the community. In addition to these shared facilities there are a wide range of other school provide facilities across the district, although many do not have access arrangements in place for the wider community. Opportunities to partner more effectively with schools for community access to facilities such as playing fields, playgrounds, courts and gymnasiums are important for improving local access to facilities in some communities.

6.2 Gap & Oversupply Summary Comments

It is positive that the district already has a number of multi-use sport and recreation facilities. 10 hub sites provide for three or more sport, play and recreation facilities and activities at one site. However, there is an opportunity for more sharing between codes and enhanced multi-use facilities. Particularly in locations where each individual club at a site has a separate clubrooms facility.

Currently, according to the data provided, bowling, netball, golf and tennis tend towards single use club facilities, although some are shared. There is only one 9 hole golf course provided in the district. All other courses are 18 hole, including some high cost, international standard courses. There are also a number of single use sports fields, particularly for rugby, while there are limited rugby league fields available. Overall, there is adequate sport field supply in most parts of the District, it is important to maximise use of these existing assets. There are a large number of club room buildings (the majority are single use), many of which require maintenance to bring them up to date with the current expectations of participants and spectators. Opportunities to increase sharing of sports fields and clubrooms should be pursued, over single use facilities.

The inventory indicates there are a number of facilities providing for water sports spread across the district. Many locations that are used for water sports may not have been captured in the inventory. It is important for future planning, that more detail on water sports facilities is gathered before the first review of this

¹⁶ The time and effort of Far North District Council and Sport Northland staff who entered data is acknowledged.

plan is undertaken. Of those currently captured, many are focussed on a single activity type such as sailing. There is an opportunity to increase sharing of these facilities to support other water based sports that currently do not have many amenity facilities (toilets, changing rooms, storage, vessel wash down) available to them, such as canoe, kayak and waka ama.

The inventory indicates the majority of courts provided in the district are outdoor, many of which are single use. There is an opportunity to increase provision for basketball on existing outdoor courts through sharing arrangements with existing tennis and netball courts. Most indoor court provision in the district is single or two court facilities, some of which have undersized courts or restricted run-off. Schools provide most indoor court facilities in the district. Ensuring future indoor courts comply with spatial requirements of the main indoor sports codes is important going forward.

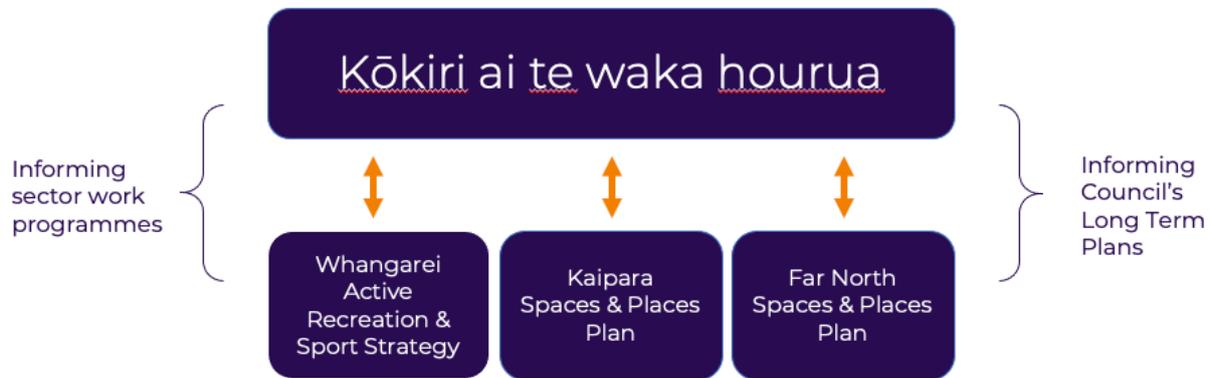
There are 20 playgrounds either owned or operated by the Far North District Council (FNDC) across the district. There are many play facilities owned by schools across the district. It is now recognised that built playground infrastructure is only one way of providing play experiences for young people. Increasingly play spaces, including natural spaces, are being recognised for their play value. The Far North District has a variety of open spaces and natural spaces, including bush and beach areas, encouraging use of these areas for creative play opportunities for children would be beneficial.

There is a comprehensive network of community hall facilities across the district. Many of these are aging, future maintenance and upgrades may provide an opportunity to improve the functionality of these for a wider range of uses.

There is a mixture of ownership and management models for the key sport and recreation assets in the Far North District. The range of different approaches can lead to inconsistencies with asset management and operations between different facilities and communities. With single club facilities in particular, there is a risk of facility decline, if maintenance is not prioritised, or even facilities being lost from the district network if a club does not remain viable for any reason.

7. Tiaroaro ki te Rautaki a Rohe | Alignment with the Regional Strategy

The Far North Spaces & Places Plan is a facility-focussed plan that helps support the regional strategy for play, active recreation and sport – Kōkiri ai te waka hourua. The regional strategy provides the high-level strategic framework to guide future decision making, with the district level plan providing more detailed guidance for the Far North area. Both the regional strategy and the Far North Spaces & Places Plan will help inform Council long term plans (LTPs) and work programmes across the full range of sector organisations in the Far North District.



In order to support the regional Kōkiri ai te waka hourua strategy it is important that the Far North Spaces & Places Plan aligns with the overarching intent of the regional strategy. To achieve the vision and address the priorities of the regional strategy, a new way of working will be required. A greater focus on partnerships, collaboration and working with the community on locally led initiatives is important going forward.

This section identifies some ways that Far North District Council can work to align with the pillars and objectives of the regional strategy.

Partnerships

- Support the implementation of the regional strategy.
- Proactively seek partnerships with other organisations to support local access to play, active recreation and sport facilities and programmes.

People

- Work directly with local communities, including mana whenua, to support and develop local capability and increase locally led initiatives.

Programmes & Participation

- Support culturally appropriate programmes.
- Focus on programmes that deliver quality opportunities for all sectors of the community.

Planning and Policy

- Where required, consider changing FNDC policies, to better support and align with the regional strategy and the recommendations of this plan.
- Review ways of working to reduce process and compliance barriers that sports groups and locally led initiatives (including events) may currently face.

Spaces and Places

- Maximise use of existing facilities in the first instance, before building new.
- Support multi-use facilities and hub sites (over single use facilities).
- Support and contribute to the next level of detailed, regional planning as required.

8. Tūtohitanga a Rohe | Key District Wide Recommendations

A range of general actions are required, to help the district progress towards achieving the future priorities identified in the regional Kōkiri ai te waka hourua strategy. These recommendations align with the pillars, objectives and priorities of the regional Kōkiri ai te waka hourua strategy.

Overarching Recommendations:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
1. Adopt the Far North Spaces & Places Plan and use it to guide planning for facility provision on a district-wide and local basis.	FNDC, Sport Northland	Regional Sports Organisations (RSOs), Northland Sports Coalition (NSC)	Immediate
2. Assign accountability and responsibility for sport, active recreation and play within the Far North District Council and resource appropriately. These resources should have a focus on planning for the provision of recreation assets and relationship management. This would assist sporting organisations and the local community to work more effectively with FNDC to provide appropriate facilities.	FNDC	Sport Northland	Immediate

The overarching recommendations are the immediate priorities for the District. It is important to note that many of the general and facility specific recommendations contained in this plan are highly dependent on the allocation of resource and accountability for play, active recreation and sport within the Far North District Council as detailed in recommendation 2 above.

General Recommendations:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
3. Establish a Far North Play, Active Recreation and Sport Forum (FNPARSF) to drive the implementation, monitoring and review of the Far North Spaces & Places Plan.	Sport Northland, FNDC	RSOs, active recreation groups	Short

General Recommendations:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
4. Undertake annual reviews of progress on the plan recommendations and a full review of the strategy every three years (with timing synchronised to allow the strategy to inform the FNDC Long Term Plan process).	FNPARSF, Sport Northland, FNDC	Sport Northland	Ongoing
5. Undertake regular reviews of the Sport NZ Inventory Tool data for the district to ensure the database is up to date and becomes a useful resource for future planning.	FNDC, FNPARSF	Sport Northland	Ongoing
6. Develop an integrated approach to play, with cross-council initiatives as part of a place making approach, to create well-functioning public places and improve access and use of these for play, including mahinga kai.	FNDC, Sport Northland, Sport NZ	Iwi/hapū	Short
7. Identify a local play advocate within FNDC to advocate for play and child-friendly design within both Council and community led projects. This advocate could also represent FNDC on the Te Tai Tokerau Play Coalition proposed through the regional Kōkiri ai te waka hourua strategy.	FNDC	Sport Northland	Immediate
8. Develop policy that encourages investment into multi-use sport and active recreation hub sites (over single use facilities where practical). In particular, support multi-use hubs that have governance and administration that is based on best practice.	FNDC, funders	Sport Northland, Asset owners	Short
9. Investigate developing local levels of service for multi-use, introductory level play, active recreation and sport facilities to ensure appropriate provision. These should give consideration to different community needs within the Far North District.	FNDC, Sport Northland	Community, whānau	Medium
10. Investigate the possibility of a contestable 'match' fund for community groups to obtain up to 50% contribution to a maximum project value for prioritised amenity facility enhancement projects (upgrades to toilets, storage, change rooms, shade and shelters). Seek partnerships with community funders and commercial entities to support this match fund concept.	FNDC, Sport Northland, funders	Clubs, community groups	Short

General Recommendations:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
11. Ensure that regional and district sport and active recreation facility hubs are supported with appropriate facilities at district or local level (a hub and spoke approach). For example, support regional competition facilities such as the Kensington Hockey Stadium with appropriate district or local turf provision for training and junior playing needs.	Sport Northland	FNDC, schools, RSOs, clubs	Ongoing
12. Encourage all asset owners to have Asset Management Plans in place and undertake ongoing, regular maintenance to ensure the district network of facilities remains in an appropriate condition to support participation. This is of particular importance due to the high proportion of non-Council owned sport and active recreation assets in the district.	Sport Northland, asset owners, RSOs,	FNDC, schools	Ongoing
13. Where possible, prior to renewing sports club's leases, Council should review lease conditions to facilitate increased sharing/sub-tenancy arrangements and consider implementing shorter lease terms so areas can be adapted to alternative future uses if demand declines. This may require specific changes to Council policy.	FNDC	RSOs, Clubs	Ongoing
14. When planning new or upgraded sport and active recreation facilities ensure that consideration is given to how opportunities for spontaneous play can be catered to within these sites and facilities.	Asset Owners	Sport Northland, FNDC, RSOs, Clubs	Ongoing
15. Work to support local Far North based community organisations and volunteers to activate play spaces, increasing the time, place and permission for play to occur, including mahinga kai.	Sport Northland	Community organisations	Ongoing
16. Review Council policies and procedures to consider ways Council can best support locally led initiatives, including events (where they are on Council land). This may include providing support to assist groups with planning, delivery and compliance barriers (such as health and safety paperwork, traffic management).	FNDC	Sport Northland	Short

General Recommendations:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
17. Where Marae are considered the hub of the community, engage with, and investigate ways in which funding and support can be provided to develop the spaces in order to provide participation opportunities within play, active recreation and sport.	Marae, Sport Northland	FNDC, funders	Ongoing

9. Wāhi taunakitanga | Key Facility Specific Recommendations

This section highlights recommendations that relate to specific play, active recreation and sport facilities and activities within the Far North District. These recommendations align with the pillars, objectives and priorities of the regional strategy - Kōkiri ai te waka hourua.

Overall, there are sufficient facilities to meet most identified needs in the district. The key challenge is maintaining play, active recreation and sport facilities at appropriate standards as they age. There are many opportunities to increase partnerships between sport, recreation and community groups both for multiuse facilities and programmes. There are also simple ways to maximise use of facilities through provision of features such as lighting (e.g. outdoor courts and sports fields). The following series of tables outlines specific recommendations by facility type and where relevant, by sports code or activity type.

9.1 Sport and Active Recreation Hubs

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
General	18. Continue to support existing multi-use sport and active recreation hub sites across the district as important community sport and active recreation assets. Work with all existing sport and active recreation hub sites to ensure they have asset management plans in place and are maintaining facilities in line with those plans. It is important to ensure that long term maintenance and replacement is planned for.	Sport Northland, Asset owners	FNDC, sport and active recreation hubs	Ongoing
Te Hiku	19. Support the completion of this major multi-sport hub project that is due to commence construction. This will provide a key sub-regional/district asset. Through the final detailed design and development phase, or future project stages, ensure that all ages and abilities (including youth) are provided for in the aquatic area through the provision of hydrotherapy space, learn to swim and general water space (including play features). This may require future-proofing considerations in the design phase to allow for future expansion or change if required.	Te Hiku Sports Inc.	Sport Northland, FNDC, Northland Regional Council (NRC), funders	Short

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
Bay of Islands Sports Hub (Waipapa)	20. Support the staged development of this new, multi-sport hub site which will become an important sub-regional sport, active recreation and play asset. Completion of stage one is the initial priority and will result in the development of playing fields (with lighting), car parking and an amenity block to support football and cricket. It is important to ensure that casual and informal play opportunities are also considered at all stages of site planning.	FNDC, sporting codes	Sport Northland, funders	Short
	21. In planning and prioritising future stages of development it is important that needs and feasibility assessments are undertaken regarding a potential sub-regional gymnastics' facility (2 nd priority) and a multi-use turf suitable for a wide range of codes, including hockey (3 rd priority). See sport specific comments for gymnastics and hockey for further details. Later stages of the hub development should also be informed by the regional courts plan and other relevant regional planning work.	FNDC, sporting codes	Sport Northland, funders	Medium
Sportsville Kaikohe	22. Support the completion of this important sub-regional level facility for the mid-North area. There is a strong need for provision of additional court space in the region. The indoor court component of this site development is an initial high priority and should be planned to cater for local and sub-regional needs in the first instance. Catering for wider regional needs should be informed by the outcomes of the regional courts plan.	Sportsville Kaikohe, FNDC, Sport Northland	Funders	Short
	23. Alongside traditional indoor codes, consider opportunities to provide indoor capacity within this venue for futsal (training and games) and cricket training (if sufficient demand exists). This will help address facility access shortfalls for these codes and also maximise use of the indoor court space.	Sportsville Kaikohe, FNDC, Sport Northland	RSOs	Short
	24. It is also important, at a later stage to progress further site development in line with the masterplan for the reserve area such as addressing safe access considerations and provision of a pump track and features suitable for casual and informal play.	Sportsville Kaikohe, FNDC, Sport Northland	Funders	Medium

9.2 Sports Fields

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
General	25. Undertake a sports field supply and demand study to assess current capacity, demand hours and the potential need to facilitate partnerships to increase allocation/access by some field-based codes where there is an imbalance in provision. This will inform development of a detailed implementation plan for sports field improvements (lighting, drainage, irrigation).	Sport Northland, FNDC, Asset owners	RSOs, clubs	Medium
	26. Continue to maintain existing sports fields to ensure a quality playing experience is provided. This may require field quality improvements such as irrigation and drainage at some sites (in line with the outcomes of the study above).	FNDC, Asset owners, schools	Sport Northland	Ongoing
	27. Work with clubs and active recreation groups to create a prioritised programme of amenity facility enhancements at key play, active recreation and sport sites across the district. Many facilities have had maintenance deferred meaning toilets, change rooms and storage facilities are in poor condition. When planning such upgrades ensure consideration is given to appropriate unisex changing facilities to support increases in female participation.	Asset owners, Sport Northland	FNDC, RSOs, clubs	Short
Taonga tākarō (traditional Māori sports)	28. Support the provision of appropriate space and time for taonga tākarō (traditional Māori sports) such as ki-o-rahi and mahi a te rehia on parks and reserves. This should include marked ki-o-rahi fields in multiple locations across the District. Existing sports fields could be used, or potential partnerships with non-Council owned sports fields.	FNDC, Asset owners, Marae, schools	Sport Northland, hapū, whānau	Short
Football	29. Complete the Bay of Islands Sports Hub (Waipapa) new fields project as a high priority, including the provision of quality, competition standard lighting to maximise field use for training and night games.	FNDC, Northern Football	Sport Northland, funders	Short

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
	30. Most Far North football training and competition occurs on school land (e.g. Kaeo, Taipa, Kaitaia). Investigate formalising partnerships with schools in the Far North to obtain long term certainty of field access for football. Community support may be required for maintenance or upgrades to school fields, including lighting.	Northern Football, Sport Northland	Clubs, funders	Medium
	31. The lease of Bledisloe Domain is due to come to an end in 2026. Find an alternative future location for the Paihia Football Club (and other Domain users) prior to the end of the lease.	Northern Football, Paihia FC, FNDC	Sport Northland, schools	Short
Rugby league	32. Work to secure access to additional lit playing fields for training purposes. This will require more sharing of rugby fields with league. Note: this is in addition to the Simpson Park Rugby and League field lighting upgrade that is due to occur in 2021.	Rugby League Northland, FNDC	Clubs, Northland Rugby, Marae	Short
Rugby Union	33. Seek to maximise the use and sustainability of current clubroom facilities through potential partnerships with other codes, activities and community groups.	Northland Rugby	Clubs, Sport Northland, RSOs	Ongoing
	34. Investigate playing field, grandstand and club room renovations to improve the quality of the player and spectator experience at Kaitaia City Rugby Club (Arnold Rae Park - sports fields and Bedgood Park - clubrooms).	Northland Rugby, Kaitaia City Rugby Club	Sport Northland, FNDC	Short
	35. Seek other sport, active recreation and community users for the Taiamai Ohaeawai Rugby Football and Sports Club to maximise the community benefit from the planned clubroom renovations.	Taiamai Ohaeawai Rugby Football and Sports Club	Sport Northland	Short
Athletics	36. Continue to ensure the community has access to quality grass athletics tracks for local level participation and training. This may require turf quality enhancements and partnerships with schools.	Athletics Northland, FNDC, Asset owners	Sport Northland	Ongoing
Cricket	37. Support the provision of cricket fields at the new Bay of Islands Sports Hub (Waipapa) area to help address the undersupply of cricket facilities in Kerikeri/Bay of Islands part of the district.	FNDC, Northland Cricket	Clubs, Sport Northland	Short

9.3 Aquatic Facilities (Pools) and Water Based Sport and Active Recreation

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s)	Supporters	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
General	38. Investigate formal partnerships with schools, where required, to increase community access to school provided pools.	Sport Northland, MoE	FNDC, schools	Medium
	39. Ensure there is a well-planned programme of ongoing facility maintenance and upgrades to ensure existing facilities continue to meet the needs of the community.	Asset owners, Sport Northland	FNDC, funders	Ongoing
Water Based Sport and Active Recreation				
Support facilities	40. Work with water based sport and active recreation groups to ensure appropriate natural water access, boat storage and amenity facilities (toilets, change, drinking and wash down water) in key locations throughout the District for waka ama, canoe/kayak, surfing, rowing and recreational water users. This may include facilitating partnerships with existing water-based sports groups e.g. sailing clubs. This approach will provide additional facility users, and support the ongoing viability of existing water based club facilities.	Sport Northland, water based RSOs	NSC, FNDC, clubs	Short
	41. Investigate the feasibility of developing a facility at Lake Ngatu that can be used by waka ama, stand up paddle boarding and other users.	Aquatic user groups	Sport Northland, FNDC	Short
Waka ama	42. Work with Omatai Waka Ama Club and Taipa Sailing Club regarding land access requirements to support the clubs ability to develop a secure boat storage area for waka adjacent to the existing sailing club.	FNDC, Omatai Waka Ama Club	Taipa Sailing Club, Sport Northland	Short
Programmes	43. Support the local implementation of the proposed regional partnership programme for water safety and basic water skills education.	Sport Northland, NSC	Water based sport and active recreation groups	Short

9.4 Court Based (Indoor and Outdoor)

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
General	44. Investigate maintenance and quality enhancements to existing indoor and outdoor courts to improve playing surface suitability. Where possible any playing surface upgrades should consider provision of additional line markings to cater to multiple uses, specifically basketball, futsal and also informal games where that is not already provided. Priority sites identified for court surface upgrades include the Northland College and existing Baysport facilities.	Asset Owners, RSOs, FNDC	Funders, Sport Northland, clubs	Ongoing
	45. Investigate formal partnerships with schools to increase community access to school provided courts (particularly for access to indoor courts along with outdoor courts).	Sport Northland, MoE	Schools, FNDC, RSOs	Short
	46. As part of the regional courts plan consider the need (demand) for more indoor court space provision in the Far North District, including the cost implications and use levels required for sustainability compared to other options such as school partnerships and/or covering outdoor courts.	Kōkiri Strategy Working Group (KSWG)	Sport Northland, Councils, NSC, RSOs, iwi, MoE	Short
	47. Subject to the outcomes of the regional courts plan, investigate installation of improved lighting and covers over some existing outdoor courts in the district to increase usability in all weather (rain and heat protection).	Netball Centres, Tennis clubs	Sport Northland, FNDC, RSOs, funders	Medium
Basketball	48. Subject to the outcomes of the regional courts plan, investigate the provision of additional multiuse outdoor courts (minimum of full ½ court basketball size) across the district to improve local access. Key opportunities are provision of additional line markings on existing courts, locating new courts at existing sport and active recreation hub sites or partnerships with schools.	Northland Basketball, Sport Northland	FNDC, asset owners, schools	Short

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
Netball	49. Work with Centres and Council to develop a long-term facility maintenance plan to ensure ongoing maintenance and regular surface renewals of outdoor courts are planned well in advance.	Netball Northern	Netball Centres, FNDC	Medium
Tennis	50. Some existing single use tennis sites are underutilised. Investigate options to increase sharing with other codes to maximise use of these assets. This may include provision of court markings and equipment (such as hoops and goals) to encourage casual utilisation, for example; basketball, futsal, play. This should be considered in conjunction with the Regional Courts Plan.	Tennis Northland, Tennis Clubs	Asset owners, NSC, FNDC	Short
Futsal	51. Futsal is currently constrained by a lack of access to suitable facilities. Ensure that future plans for additional court provision and enhancement consider the needs of futsal.	Sport Northland, Asset Owners	Northern Football	Ongoing

9.5 Community Halls

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
General	52. Work with Community Groups to support and maintain an appropriate network of multi-use community halls catering to a wide range of uses, including indoor sports and active recreation, where sufficient demand and use exist. This should include ongoing maintenance and minor facility upgrades (e.g. floor surface, climate control/heating) to enhance suitability for users.	FNDC, Asset Owners, Community groups	Sport Northland, user groups	Ongoing
	53. Where adjacent land is provided, and demand exists, consider opportunities to provide other play, active recreation and sport facilities adjacent to community halls to maximise the value of these sites as community hubs.	FNDC, Asset Owners, Community groups	Sport Northland, RSOs	Ongoing

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
Indoor Bowls	54. Continue to use the Dalmatian Society Hall and other existing multi-use facilities such as community halls. Where necessary installation of climate control to improve the suitability of these venues should be considered.	Indoor Bowls clubs, Asset Owners, Community groups	FNDC	Ongoing
Dance	55. Continue to use existing multi-use facilities such as community halls. Where possible future upgrades to community hall style facilities should consider the needs of dance groups (e.g. floor type, mirrors, climate control/heating).	Dance groups, Asset Owners, Community groups	FNDC	Ongoing
Yoga/pilates	56. Continue to use existing multi-use facilities such as community halls, community centres and gym/fitness facilities.	Yoga, pilates providers	Asset owners, Community groups, FNDC	Ongoing

9.6 Specialised Sport Facilities

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
Bowls (Outdoor)	57. Subject to the regional bowls facility plan, retain the existing network of single community bowling clubs where demand continues to exist. Seek partnerships with other sports, active recreation or community groups for clubroom use to increase sustainability of existing bowling clubs. Consider the balance of artificial and natural green provision noting that artificial greens provide some advantages where water resources are limited.	Bowls Northland, Bowling Clubs	Sport Northland	Ongoing
Croquet	58. Support the retention of the three croquet club facilities in the district where demand continues to exist. Prior to investment in significant upgrades or development of any new croquet facilities undertake needs and feasibility assessments.	Sport Northland, Northland Croquet Association	Clubs, FNDC	Ongoing
Golf	59. To enhance sustainability of the district golf clubs, investigate opportunities to increase clubroom sharing with other sports, active recreation and community groups. Also investigate	Golf Northland, Golf Clubs	Sport Northland	Short

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
	alternative programme delivery and promotions to increase activity on existing courses and meet a wider potential player demographic.			
	60. Prior to investing in major renewals or upgrades to existing golf courses and facilities, undertake a needs and options analysis to determine the cost benefit of alternative delivery approaches such as Sportville partnerships and developing differentiated service offerings e.g. conversion from 18 to 9-hole courses and partnering with other codes or commercial providers for use of the remaining land.	Golf Northland, Golf Clubs	Sport Northland	Medium
Equestrian	61. Continue to provide a network of equestrian facilities providing accessible participation opportunities. Encourage multi-use partnerships, firstly with different equestrian groups and disciplines and secondly with other community active recreation groups and activities to increase the community use and value of equestrian sites wherever possible. There may be opportunities to partner with the Kaitaia A & P Showgrounds for field access for football and/or rugby league to improve field supply issues these codes face.	Asset Owners, Equestrian organisations	Sport Northland, RSOs	Ongoing
Gymsports	62. Continue local provision of introductory gymsports opportunities where demand exists. In most communities it is appropriate to provide this through shared facilities such as community halls where pack-in and pack out of equipment is required.	Sport Northland, Asset owners, FNDC	RSO, private providers, gymnastics clubs	Ongoing
	63. There is community demand for a of a fit-for-purpose gymnastics facility to replace the current Kerikeri Gymnastics facility. Undertake work to revalidate the 2016 feasibility study for this facility to reconfirm the projected costs, potential funding arrangements and current utilisation data. Note: Gymnastics NZ 2017 Gymsports National Facilities Strategy identifies that Northland requires a sub-regional hub gymsports facility in Kerikeri.	Kerikeri Gymnastics Club, funders	Sport Northland, FNDC	Short

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
	64. Continue to provide and maintain the existing purpose-built gymnastics facilities as long as demand continues to exist. This will require regular monitoring of demand for community facility access for gymnsports across the district.	Asset owners, Sport Northland	Gymnastics clubs, private providers	Ongoing
Hockey	65. Investigate partnership options with schools to increase local access to hockey turf facilities to support the regional approach of hub and spoke provision. District and local turfs should be multi-use where possible and focussed on training and introductory level hockey needs, with the main competition facilities continuing to be based in Kaikohe and Whangarei.	Sport Northland, Northland Hockey	Schools, FNDC	Ongoing
	66. Continue to support the Top Energy Hockey Turf as a key sub-regional/district level hockey facility.	Sport Northland, Northland Hockey	FNDC, hockey clubs	Ongoing
	67. Undertake a needs and feasibility assessment for possible provision of a multi-use turf suitable for a wide range of codes, including hockey to be based at Bay of Islands Sports Hub (Waipapa).	FNDC, RSOs	Sport Northland, funders	Medium
Squash	68. Many squash facilities in the district are aging. Clubs should prioritise general maintenance and minor upgrades to raise existing facility standards and/or keep facilities fit-for-purpose. When undertaking maintenance and minor upgrades clubs should consider enhancing aspects such as court surfaces and walls, lighting (consider LED), heating/ventilation and improving the general amenity of the club including enhancing toilet and change room areas.	Squash Northland, All Squash Clubs	Funders	Ongoing
	69. To retain existing and attract new members, ensure quality programmes are being offered. Consider options and systems to make access for casual players easier to maximise the potential from growth in this player type.	Squash Northland	All Squash Clubs	Ongoing
	70. Progress the project to relocate and rebuild the Kerikeri Squash Club. The lack of squash facilities in Kerikeri is impacting on facility access for squash across the wider region (not just Kerikeri based players). This should be a regional level facility. It is important to	Kerikeri Squash Club, Squash Northland	Sport Northland, funders, FNDC	Short

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
	ensure the facility is future proofed to allow for ongoing population growth in the area.			
Softball	71. Continue to provide for softball on multiuse grass sites. Do not invest in single-use facilities (dirt diamonds) unless participation in softball significantly increases.	FNDC, schools	Northland Softball Association, Sport Northland	Ongoing
Kaikohe Speedway	72. Continue to maintain as an important district asset for motorsport. Consider opportunities to increase use of the site for other active recreation activities where it is practical and safe to do so.	Kaikohe Speedway, Kaikohe Burnouts	Active recreation and community groups	Ongoing
Kaikohe Clay Target Club	73. Consider opportunities to maximise the use of this site, it may have potential to support some wider regional shooting sport needs.	Kaikohe Clay Target Club	Shooting sports	Long

9.7 Play and Active Recreation Facilities

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
Walking & Cycling	74. Continue to implement key Far North based projects linked to the identified objectives and priorities in the Northland Walking and Cycling Strategy.	Sport Northland, FNDC, Walking & Cycling Strategy Group	Walking & cycling groups, funders	Ongoing
Cycling	75. Investigate additional pump track provision to support children's bike activity across the wider district where communities show a strong interest and desire to support implementation and future maintenance of these facilities. These tracks can support the pathway to BMX and mountain bike participation.	FNDC, Asset owners, Sport Northland	Walking & cycling groups, funders	Short
Waitangi Mountain Bike Park	76. Support the ongoing development of the site as a key regional resource for mountain biking. There is a clear plan for 30km of future trail development to be implemented in stages.	Asset owners, funders	Bike Northland, cycling groups	Ongoing

Facility/Activity Type:	Recommendation:	Facilitator(s):	Supporters:	Timeframe: Short 1-3 years, Medium 4-6, Long 7 plus
Skate	77. Continue to maintain existing skate-park facilities across the district. Where possible, maximise these sites with other play or active recreation events or facilities (e.g. pump tracks and play spaces) to increase overall utilisation of these areas.	FNDC, Asset owners	Local communities, whānau, funders	Ongoing
Playgrounds	78. Continue to maintain existing playground facilities across the district. When specific items of play equipment are nearing the end of their useful life, consider the changing needs of the community and potential for alternative provision such as play spaces and natural play options before replacing with new equipment of the same type.	FNDC, Asset owners, Marae, schools	Local communities, whānau	Ongoing
	79. Work with hapū, and iwi to identify opportunities for distinct Māori play opportunities that create pathways to celebrate and learn cultural identity. This could include consideration of creating Mara Hupara (traditional playground) space within the Far North District.	Marae, hapū, iwi, Sport Northland	FNDC, whānau	Short
Parks and Public Space	80. Neighbourhood parks and schools provide key sites for local communities. Work with local communities to develop and activate these places in a way that suits local community needs, with a focus on providing opportunities for tamariki and rangatahi for spontaneous, informal and casual play and active recreation.	Sport Northland, FNDC, schools	Local communities, whānau	Ongoing

10. Appendix 1 – Site & Facility Inventory

10.1 Inventory by Facility Type

The data presented below has been extracted, and summarised from the Sport NZ Inventory Tool. Thanks to the Far North District Council and Sport Northland staff who entered data into the Sport NZ Inventory Tool. It is noted that there will be other play, active recreation and sports facilities across the district that have not been captured in the current data. Further work needs to be done to improve the data capture of existing facilities in the district, particularly facilities that are provided by schools and marae.

Current Sport & Active Recreation Hub Sites

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Ahipara (Rarawa) Domain	Club	Te Rarawa Rugby Football Club	2 rugby fields; 2 touch rugby fields; 2 football/soccer (junior); 2 shared basketball, tennis, netball courts; large clubroom facility [includes an old relocated hall]; 4 changing rooms 1 shower/referee room; 2 bay storage garage. Also located on the Ahipara Domain is the Rarawa Football (Soccer) Club which has 2 containers on site for storage and 1 non-compliant soccer field that is too small. No permanent goal posts.
Araiawa Domain	Council	Council, Houhora Bowling Club	1 natural green with 8 rinks full size; 3 tennis courts; club building/changing room; 1 sports field - touch rugby. Araiawai or Raio Community Hall (15m X 13M) with covered carport and verandah Toilets - 2 women's and 1 men's and disabled toilet outside Kitchen Small stage area with under stage storage Mini library (Sat morning only). New football field.
Awanui Sports Complex	Council	Awanui Sports Complex	2 squash courts; 2 shared netball tennis courts; 2 rugby fields; clubrooms (upstairs) with bar, kitchen, toilets, balcony. Changing rooms: Rugby - 4, Squash - 1 women's & 1 men's 2 showers in each. Community Hall that doubles as an indoor court (2 courts) - portable goals, table tennis and area for gym users.
Kerikeri Domain	Council	Far North District Council	Multiuse site with 1 rugby league field, outdoor skate park, basketball court, 4 cricket wickets, playground, perimeter pathway and public toilets. Kerikeri Bowling Club holds a lease for an area providing 2 artificial bowling greens and a clubroom building. The bowling car park has limited reserved spaces for club days. Car park available for shoppers at all other times. There were previously 2 squash courts in the Kerikeri Domain building which was damaged by fire in 2016 and demolished in 2019. Kerikeri High School is located to the east of the site and a library is also adjacent to the park. The site provides for recreation and sports use. This facility is currently being redeveloped as part of a Provincial Growth Fund project.
Kerikeri Sports Complex	Council	Kerikeri Sports Trust	9 netball courts; 3 cricket fields; 3 rugby fields; club building/changing rooms.
Lindvart Park (including Robinson Park)	Council	Kaikohe and Districts Sportsville	3 football/soccer fields; 3 rugby / touch rugby fields; 1 softball field; 1 artificial hockey turf; 8 shared netball/tennis courts; 3/4 size rugby league field, playground. Buildings: Lindvart

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
			Park Pavilion (not fit for purpose) and Rugby Grandstand (500 seats); Rugby Clubrooms with changing rooms owned by Kaikohe Rugby Football and Sports Club includes a commercial kitchen and bar. Parking located in three separate areas.
Okaihau Domain	Council	Far North District Council	Multi-use domain providing grass athletics track; 2 tennis courts with basketball hoop/backboard in tennis court area. Clubrooms: small clubroom facility with kitchen, bar, outside deck, toilet facilities - male and female; site also includes Houhora Bowling club with 2 bowling greens and club building.
Simpson Park	Council	Moerewa Sports Clubs	Simpson Park is home to 3 clubs - Moerewa Netball, Moerewa Rugby Football Sports Club and Moerewa Tigers Rugby League Club. The site provides 4 netball courts; 3 sports fields (2 rugby / 1 rugby league) - each club has their own clubroom with social area, kitchen toilets and bar and two changing rooms and onsite parking.
Taipa Sports Ground	Club	Eastern United Rugby Football Club. Doubtless Bay Squash Club	Multi-use site providing for 2 football/soccer fields; 2 rugby fields; 1 artificial cricket wicket with field; Stand-alone squash building/clubroom with 2 X squash courts - one with glass back, 2 toilets/changing room, kitchenette/bar and small clubroom space. Eastern Rugby Club clubrooms (433m2) includes kitchen, toilets, decking (125m2) and bar. 4 changing rooms shared showers room - wet room refs changing room - with shower & toilet;
Te Ahu Kaitaia	Te Ahu Charitable Trust	Te Ahu Charitable Trust	A multi-functional community facility housing a library, museum, i-SITE visitor information centre, Council customer service centre, café, theatre, art space. The facility also features a main hall, banquet room and different meeting rooms that are available for hire and support a range of community uses, including some recreation outcomes.
Waipapa Sports ground, BaySport	Land: Council Buildings: BaySport Inc.	BaySport Inc.	Multi-purpose sport and recreation complex with indoor and outdoor facilities. Indoor stadium provides courts marked for basketball (2) and badminton (4) an inline skating rink, a judo dojo; toilets and changing rooms. Outdoor sports complex provides 2 full size football (soccer) fields + 1 junior field, football pavilion building includes a lounge area, kitchen, changing rooms, showers and basic outdoor tiered seating area; 10 astrograss tennis courts with clubroom building with kitchen, toilets, showers.
Waipapakauri Domain	Council	Waipapakauri Domain Committee	Multiuse site with 1 bowling green (4 rinks); 4 netball courts; 2 rugby fields, lights to 1 field + pony club field Also has an outdoor stage located overlooking the rugby fields. Clubroom: includes, kitchen, bar and chiller facility, men's and women's toilets and for people with disability, flat entry access. Also has pool tables and dart boards for competition. Changing: 5 shower areas.

Sports Fields

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Field Type	Description
Bledisloe Domain	Waitangi Trust Board	Far North District Council	football/soccer	3 football/soccer fields; clubrooms: social area and small kitchen/bar / changing: home and away changing room with showers and toilets
Centre Park aka Moeroa Park	Council	Council and Club	multiuse	2 sports fields; club building/changing rooms. Site shared with Mangonui Netball Club who have a separate lease with FNDC.
Kaeo Rugby Club, Waikoura Domain	Council	Kaeo Rugby Club	rugby	2 rugby fields; 2 netball courts; clubrooms/changing.
Kaitaia City Rugby Club, Arnold Rae Park (sports fields) and Bedgood Park (clubrooms)	Council	Kaitaia Rugby Club	rugby	1 rugby field; clubroom with connected kitchen facility that can be used as a canteen.
Ohaeawai Sports Ground, Taiamai Sports Ground	Council	Ohaeawai Rugby Football Club	rugby	1 rugby field; clubrooms: 2 sets of clubrooms with 2 kitchens used by JMB and Seniors. No JMB at the moment / changing: 2 changing sheds, referees room and 2 sets of showers
Russell Sports Ground	Council	Russell Sports Trust	football/soccer	1 Football/Soccer field – outdoor (Junior); Fitness Centre - Weights, various weight equipment, rowing machine, treadmill, exercycle, step machine. Clubrooms: social area and kitchen / changing: male and female changing rooms.
Taheke Community Centre	Council	Far North District Council	rugby league	1 rugby league field
Okaihau Rugby Football Club	Council	Far North District Council	rugby	1 rugby field; 2 tennis courts.
Mangonui Rugby Football Union Inc, Arnold Rae Park	Private	Mangonui Rugby Football Union Inc	rugby	1 rugby field. Changing: 4 changing rooms under the grandstand with shared shower and separate small changing room for the referee. This relates to Sun Rae Park only - grandstand on site along with a sports field immediately in front of the grandstand. This site contains various titles, users, place names and owners. There is also Arnold Rae Park and Bedgood Park as part of this total site. Between Sun Rae Park and the road are sports fields used by the community but owned by the Ministry of Education.
United Kawakawa Rugby Football Club	Club	United Kawakawa Rugby Football Club	rugby	2 rugby fields with club / changing room building
Otiria Rugby & Sports Club Inc	Inc. Society	Otiria Rugby & Sports Club	rugby	2 rugby fields with club building / changing rooms.
Rawene Domain (Rawene Rugby Football Club)	Council	Rawene Rugby Football Club	rugby	

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Field Type	Description
Kaitaia Pirates Sports Club, Bedgood park	Council	Kaitaia Pirates Sports Club	rugby	Old club building located nearest to the Kaitaia Gymnastics building. Club uses 1 rugby field north of their clubrooms.

Aquatic Facilities & Water Based

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type	Description
Te Puna Wai (Pool)	Council	Te Rangi Aniwaniwa School	Swimming pool (indoor)	25m 5 lane indoor pool, small toddlers pool 2 X changing rooms 1 X office
Te Rangi Aniwaniwa Kura kaupapa	Council	Te Rangi Aniwaniwa Kura kaupapa	Swimming pool (indoor)	2 lane indoor swimming pool; Site also has 1 multiuse sports field
Little Dippers Swim School	Private	Little Dippers Swim School	Swimming pool (indoor)	Private indoor swim teaching pool.
Kaitaia Memorial Swimming Pool	Council	Hapori Aquatics Ltd	Swimming pool (outdoor)	33.3m outdoor pool with six lanes, separate diving pool and a small toddler pool. Seasonal pool - open Oct / Nov through to April each year. May 2020 - swimming pool contract in place. Hapori Aquatics Ltd now manage this pool. Changing Rooms: men's changing rooms 2 toilets 2 showers, women's changing rooms 2 Toilets 2 showers, Disabled Toilet 1 Toilet 1 shower; Operations staff office; Separate Swimming Club rooms onsite with kitchenette and storage;
Kawakawa Swimming Pool (part of BOI Recreation Centre)	Sports trust	Hapori Aquatics Ltd	Swimming pool (indoor)	25m indoor heated swimming pool with changing/toilets - 6 showers & 1 toilet each Men's/Women's - 3 showers & 1 toilet each (5m x 5m approx.) Pool operation part of the BOI Recreation Facility (see Court Based section for details). May 2020 operation was officially contracted to Hapori Aquatics Ltd to manage on a daily basis. Facility continues to be developed and upgraded.
Kerikeri Swimming pool, Kerikeri Community Swimming pool	Ministry of Education	Hapori Aquatics Ltd	Swimming pool (outdoor)	25m 6 lane outdoor pool, separate dive pool and small toddler pool. Seasonal pool open October until March - open daily during school holiday periods and available for use to the public during school hours as long as school has access / use. Access to the schools changing and toilet facilities.

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type	Description
Whangaroa Community Pool	Ministry of Education	Whangaroa Recreation Centre & Community Trust	Swimming pool (outdoor)	Seasonal pool operated by the Whangaroa group with funding provided by Far North District Council. Whangaroa College use during normal school days and times. Community access after school and weekends.
Kororareka Canoe Club	Council	Far North District Council	Water sports venue	
Omatai Waka Ama Club	Council	Omatai Waka Ama Club	Water sports venue	River used by waka ama.
Lake Manuwai	Other - list	Various water based sporting clubs	Water sports venue	Lake used by various water based sporting clubs including sailing, waka ama.
Lake Ngatu	Other central government agency		Waka Ama	Lake used by waka ama
Houhora Big Game and Sports Fishing Club	Council	Houhora Big Game and Sports Fishing Trust	Water sports venue	
Rawene Domain, Hokianga Sailing and Community Gym Club	Council	Hokianga Sailing Club	Water sports venue	
Taipa Sailing Club	Council	Taipa Sailing Club	Water sports venue	
Kerikeri Cruising Club Inc	Private	Kerikeri Cruising Club	Water sports venue	Water sports / sailing venue club building / changing rooms.
Opua cruising Club	Private	Opua cruising Club	Water sports venue	Water sports venue clubrooms.

Court Based Facilities

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type	Description
Bay of Islands Netball Centre	Council	Bay of Islands Netball Centre	Outdoor court – single-code	8 sealed courts with some lighting for training purposes on 4 courts. Clubrooms: Kitchen, storage areas, meeting room, area for netball administration and general social space. / Changing: Communal toilet shower area - men's and women's and 4 small team rooms.
Bay of Islands Recreation Centre	Other - list	Bay of Islands College	Indoor sport and recreation space	Multi-use court Basketball court - with limited area around court; 1 squash court; Clubrooms / Changing: 4 sets of changing rooms - 2 sets are dedicated to school use and 2 for community use; Facility includes Kawakawa Community Pool (see Aquatic section for more detail)

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type	Description
Kerikeri Netball Centre	Council	Kerikeri Netball Centre	Outdoor court – single-code	9 courts and game/training lights for 4 courts. Use 6 changing rooms in the rugby changing rooms building.
Mangonui Netball Centre, Centre or Moeroa Park	Council	Mangonui Netball Centre	Outdoor court – single-code	8 netball courts, fencing and 4 lights. Clubrooms: Pavilion that includes a clubroom/shared space, canteen area, netball control room, official's kitchen area and storage with a covered deck. Separate equipment storage shed / Changing: one changing room inside pavilion that includes 2 toilets and 3 showers Separate 2 toilets for umpires inside pavilion 1 toilet with outside access.
Te Puna Ora (Recreation / Gymnasium)	Council	Te Rangi Aniwaniwa School	Indoor sport and recreation space	Indoor court facility providing 2x basketball sized courts also marked for netball and used for indoor football/soccer; 2 X changing rooms, 2 X separate toilets for male and female and 1 X disability toilet; 1 X mezzanine floor houses a weight gym ; 1 X office; 1 X canteen/kitchen; 1 X storage room.
Russell Tennis Courts	Other central government agency	Russell Tennis Club	Tennis	2 tennis courts. Tiger turf surface installed in 2019.
Kawakawa Tennis courts	Private	Kawakawa Lawn Tennis Club	Outdoor court – single-code	2 tennis courts with modest shelter building.
Parkdale Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Outdoor court – single-code	Outdoor basketball court, playground. Access off Allen Bell Drive, Kaitaia.
Paihia Tennis Club	Private	Paihia Tennis Club	Outdoor court – single-code	Single tennis court facility.
Kaitaia Tennis and Squash Racket Club	Club	Kaitaia Tennis & Squash Club	Outdoor court – single-code	4 tennis courts; 3 squash courts with upstairs clubrooms with covered deck looking out of tennis courts, kitchen and bar area. Has secure entry procedures. Changing: men's and women's changing rooms including showers located on bottom floor.
Doubtless Bay Squash Rackets and Tennis Club, Lake Crescent Recreation Reserve	Council	Doubtless Bay Squash Rackets and Tennis Club	Outdoor court – single-code	3 tennis courts; 2 squash courts. Clubrooms/Changing Rooms: small building that is adequate for needs - too small for social functions. See Taipa Sports ground p47 for information on other facilities at this site).

Community Halls

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Kaikohe Memorial Hall	Council	Far North District Council	Community hall building providing an undersized basketball court, badminton and martial arts. Also has a raised stage, with curtains, in the main space. A kitchen area with servery, separate meeting space. Table and chairs available.

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Kaikohe Senior Citizen hall	Council	Kaikohe Senior Hall Committee	Undersized basketball court. Used for pilates and yoga. Situated with the senior citizen units
Pakaraka Community Hall	Private	Pakaraka Memorial Hall Trust	Community hall used by indoor bowls.
Broadwood A&P Hall	Private	Broadwood Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall - range of users including pilates/yoga, martial arts.
Herekino Community Hall	Council	S & T Adams	Multiuse community hall.
Whangaroa (Kaeo) Memorial Hall	Council	Whangaroa Memorial Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall - range of users including badminton and community recreation.
Mangonui War Memorial Hall	Council	Mangonui Hall Committee	multiuse community hall with range of users including indoor bowls, community recreation. Public toilets located below the hall. Hall also location for a community run library service.
Horeke Hall	Council	Horeke Hall Committee	Horeke Hall has a public toilet facility and 2 netball courts beside it.
Kingston House	Other trust	Kingston House	Multipurpose community facility providing a large hall, side hall/meeting room. Catering kitchen with servery. The hall is used for dance, indoor bowls, community group meetings, performances and a range of private hire including weddings, conferences. Kerikeri Striders multisport clubrooms are attached to the main facility.
Totara North Hall	Council	Totara North Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Karikari Community Hall	Other - list	Karikari Community Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Kaingaroa Hall	Council	Kaingaroa Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Lake Ohia Hall	Council	Lake Ohia Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Maromaku Hall	Council	Maromaku Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Paihia War Memorial Hall	Council	Paihia Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Kohukohu Community Hall	Council	Kohukohu Community Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Rawene Community Hall	Council	Rawene Community Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Waipapa Community Hall	Council	Waipapa Community Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Okaihau Community Hall	Council	Okaihau Community Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Dalmatian Hall	Private	Dalmatian Society	Indoor Bowls Hall - also used for passive community recreation.
Opononi Hall	Council	Opononi Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.
Mangonui Hall	Council	Mangonui Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall.

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Oruru Hall	Council	Oruru Hall Committee	Multiuse community hall currently closed
Russell Hall	Council		Multiuse community hall

Specialised Facilities

Outdoor Bowls

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Russell Bowling Club	Council	Russell Bowling Club	1 green; club building/changing rooms.
Far North RSA Bowling Club	Private	Far North RSA	1 artificial bowling green. Linked to the Far North RSA building.
Houhora Bowling Club at Araiawa Domain	Council	Council, Houhora Bowling Club	1 natural green. See Araiawa Domain entry p46 for more detail on other facilities at this wider site.
Kaitaia Church Road Bowling Club	Council	Kaitaia Church Road Bowling Club	1 artificial green with clubroom building.
Kaeo Bowling Club	Club	Kaeo Bowling Club	1 natural green with clubroom building.
Kaikohe Bowling Club	Club	Kaikohe Bowling Club	2 natural bowling greens; clubroom building.
Kawakawa Bowling Club	Private	Kawakawa Bowling Club	1 bowling green with clubroom building.
Kerikeri Bowling Club, at Kerikeri Domain.	Council	Kerikeri Bowling Club	2 artificial greens and a clubroom building. See Kerikeri Domain (p47) for details of the other sport and recreation facilities at the wider site.
Kohukohu Bowling Club	Council	Kohukohu Bowling Club	1 natural green with clubroom building.
Waitangi Bowling Club	Other trust	Waitangi National Trust Board	1 bowling green with clubroom building.
Okaihau Bowling Club	Council	Okaihau Bowling Club	1 bowling green with clubroom building. Located adjacent to Okaihau Rugby Football Club.
Opononi Bowling Club	Council	Opononi Bowling Club	1 bowling green with clubrooms building.
Oruru Bowling Club	Club	Oruru Bowling Club	1 natural green

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Coopers Beach Combined Bowling Club	Club	Coopers Beach Bowling And Social Club	Two all-weather bowling greens, 3 top quality 8 Ball pool tables, dart boards, housie and a petanque court. Freedom camping available in rear car park.
Hokianga (Rawene) Bowling Club	Council	Hokianga (Rawene) Bowling Club	

Croquet

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Cherry Park Reserve	Council	Kerikeri Croquet Club	2 lawns
Kaitaia Croquet Club	Private	Kaitaia Croquet Club	3 croquet lawns with club building / changing rooms. Part of the croquet club grounds are located on Council land known as Nau Mai Park, Kaitaia. Off street parking only
Doubtless Bay Croquet Club	Council	Doubtless Bay Croquet Club	2 croquet lawns

Equestrian

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Kaitaia A & P Showgrounds	Private	Kaitaia and Districts Agricultural and Pastoral Association	Limited access to the site as privately owned. Currently set up for equestrian activities however the 'oval' has previously been used for Soccer, Rugby League, Rugby and community events. Site is also used for the annual Rodeo show.
Kaitaia Riding for the Disabled Facility	Private	Kaitaia RDA	40x20m covered equestrian arena with area for caregivers/children and a storage area at one end. There is a tack room and 7 stalls for preparing horses with a small yard beside it. These buildings have lighting and there is external security lights also. Two containers are used for storing hay and machinery. There are two very large concrete tanks and one small black tank to collect roof water for internal use and troughs in the paddocks. Clubrooms: We have a small Clubroom with a wheelchair access toilet, a kitchen bench & sink with water coming from a tank outside. Power points and lighting. Table and chairs. A small fridge and microwave oven. A veranda over the front of the building and outside seating which is enclosed by a wooden fence and gate.

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Paihia Pony Club	Club	Paihia Pony Club	Paddock with coral and cross country jumps on Haruru Falls Road.

Golf

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Waitangi Golf Course	Other trust	Waitangi Golf Club	18 hole golf course with clubhouse facility and pro shop.
Okaihau Golf Club	Club	Okaihau Golf Club	9 hole golf course.
Bay of Islands Golf Club	Private	Kerikeri Golf Club	18 hole golf course with clubhouse building including café and golf shop.
Whangaroa Golf Club	Incorporated Society – single code		18 hole golf course with clubhouse building.
The Lodge at Kauri Cliffs, Kauri Cliffs Golf Club	Private	Kauri Cliffs Golf Club	18 hole, international standard golf course with applicable standard clubhouse, pro shop, practice range and putting and chipping greens. (\$475 for a round of golf)
Houhora Golf Club	Private	Houhora Golf Club	
Kaitaia Golf Club	Club	Private	
Carrington Golf Club	Private	Private	18 hole golf club - high quality club with clubhouse and lounge complex. Adjacent to winery.
Kaikohe Golf and Squash Club*	Club	Kaikohe Golf and Squash Club	2 squash courts; 18 hole golf course; CLUBROOMS: large social area and bar/chiller and kitchen / CHANGING ROOMS :large men's and women's with showers.

* There are no stand-alone squash facilities captured in the district inventory. For squash facilities see the Court Based Facilities Section and the Current Sport and Recreation Hub sites section (where a squash facility is listed is dependent on the nature of the facility partnership).

Gymnastics / Gymsports

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Description
Kaitaia Gymnastics Club	Council	Kaitaia Gymnastic Club	Purpose built gymnastic gymnasium (approx. 35X20m) includes an office, foyer, mezzanine kitchen. 6 toilets plus 2 changing rooms.
Kerikeri Gymnastics Club	Private	Kerikeri Gymnastics Club	Gymnastics hall
All N Rhythm	Private	Leona Burrell	Gymsports centre
Bay of Islands Gymnastics Club	Private	Bay of Islands Gymnastics Club	Gymsports hall catering to pre-school to competition level children's gymnastics. Provides 9 classes per week in Opua. The club also runs a satellite class in Kaikohe.

Gym/Fitness

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type
The Pa	Other trust	The Pa	Comment
The Mill Boxing Gym	Private	The Mill Gym	Fitness Centre & Bowling Gym.
CrossFit Kaikohe	Private		CrossFit Gym
Influence Kaikohe	Private	Influence Kaikohe	Gym / fitness training facility.
PATU Kaikohe	Private	PATU Kaikohe	Gym / fitness training facility.
Fight Fitness Moerewa	Private	Fight Fitness Moerewa	Fitness Centre
Community Fitness	Don't Know		Fitness Centre
Aligned Movement	Council	Aligned Movement	Gym / fitness training facility with pilates and yoga.
Toa Ngatihine Muay Thai Fitness Studio	Private	Toa Ngatihine Muay Thai Fitness Studio	Muay Thai focussed fitness centre.
Strength Works 24 Hour Fitness Centre	Private	Strength Works 24 Hour Fitness Centre	Fitness Centre
Fundamental Force Enterprises Ltd	Private	Fundamental Force	Fitness Centre
Northern Region Corrections Facility	Other central government agency	Northern Region Corrections	Gym/fitness training and indoor court multicode.
Sam's Place (Fitness Centre)	Private		Fitness Centre
Northland Boxing Gym	Private	Northland Boxing Gym	Boxing gym and fitness training.

Hockey

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type	Description
Top Energy Hockey Turf	Council	Far North District Council	Turf	Hockey astro turf with lights up to playing standard [yet to be activated] and a dug out with storage. 8 light poles.

Other Specialised

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type	Comment
Kaeo Clay Target Club	Inc. Society	Kaeo Clay Target Club	Shooting range	Clay target shooting range with club building / changing rooms.
Kaikohe Speedway	Other - list	Kaikohe Speedway	Motor sports venue	1 dirt speedway track; 1 asphalt burn out area. Home to Kaikohe Car club including Kaikohe Speedway and Kaikohe Burnouts.
Kaikohe Clay Target Club	Private	Kaikohe Clay Target Club	Shooting range	Outdoor shooting range for clay target shooting.

Play and Recreation Facilities

Playgrounds

The playgrounds identified here are either owned or operated by the Far North District Council. Schools and other providers such as playcentres and kindergartens also provide playground facilities across the district.

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type
Te Ti Bay	Other - list	Focus Paihia / Far North District Council	Playground
Korora Park	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Awanui Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Cable Bay Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Coopers Beach	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Marchant Road Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Waiotaraire Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Taupo Bay Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Tauranga Bay Beach Foreshore Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Falls View Road Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Rangitane Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Skudders Beach Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Church Street Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Johnson Park	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Nisbet Park	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Taumatamakuku Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Marino Court Library Square	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Horeke Roadside Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Pukenui Road Reserve	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Freese Park	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Matthews Park	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Parkdale Crescent	Council	Far North District Council	Playground
Centennial Playground, Kaeo	Council	Far North District Council	Playground

Recreation Facilities

Facility/site name	Owner	Operator	Facility Type	Description
Kaikohe Memorial Park	Council	Far North District Council	Skate park	Outdoor skate park, 1 basketball court, playground.
Centennial Park including Jaycee Park (playground site)	Council	Far North District Council	Skate park	Outdoor skatepark and playground. Jaycee Park is the name of the playground site only however it is located within Centennial Park, Kaitaia. Centennial Park hosts a public toilet, Pioneer House (a facility that is leased out to a number of community groups) and various other play facilities including flying fox, ½ basketball court, drinking fountains.
Mathews Ave Park	Council	Far North District Council	Disc golf	Provides 6 hole disc golf course and playground.
Waitangi Mountain Bike Park	Other – trust	Focus Paihia Community Charitable Trust	Bike Park	40km of trails (30 trails) including beginner, cross country, jump trails and introductory downhill. Pump track and Grade 2, 3, 4, 5 and uphill trails. Provides a range of services - bike rental, bike shop, shuttle services, café and skills coaching.
Cycleway	Other - trust	Cycleway Trust	Cycleway	No other details provided.
Wairoa Stream Walking Track	Council	Far North District Council	Walking Track	No other details provided.
Te Araroa Trail	Other - trust	Various		The Trail crosses land across the district under various forms of ownership and operation including DoC land and private land.

11. Document Info & Acknowledgements

Document version: Final – Far North Spaces & Places Plan 2021-2030

Authors: Kiri Pope, Richard Lindsay

Whakamihi | Acknowledgements

RSL would like to thank for following people and organisations for their input into developing this plan:

Project Team

Brent Eastwood, Stu Middleton – Sport Northland
Phil Marsh, Josh Port - Northland Sports Coalition
Walter Wells – Te Kahu o Taonui
Deborah Harding – Māori advisory
Roger Ackers – Far North District Council
Darlene Lang – Kaipara District Council
Sue Hodge – Whangarei District Council
Phil Heatley – Northland Regional Council
Jamie Delich – Sport New Zealand
Joey Yovich – Sport Northland (PSG Administrator)

With Thanks To

- Far North District Council staff - Ana Mules, Nina Gobie, Emily Robinson, Robert Willoughby, Nicola Lawty, Jeanette England, Ross Baker, Jane Wright, Greg Wilson, Kirsty Farrell
- Cheryl Smith, Lesley Wallace, Sport Northland
- All individuals, rangatahi, whānau, clubs, community groups, schools and regional sports organisations that gave up their valuable time to complete surveys and attend workshops, hui and answer our questions.

Disclaimer

Information, data and general assumptions used in the compilation of this report have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. RSL Consultancy has used this information in good faith and makes no warranties or representations, express or implied, concerning the accuracy or completeness of this information. RSL Consultancy is acting as an independent consultant. In doing so, the recommendations provided do not necessarily reflect the intentions of the client. Interested parties should perform their own investigations, analysis and projections on all issues prior to acting in any way in regard to this project.