

APPENDIX 5.1: GREATER BALCLUTHA AREA (includes Stirling and Kaitangata)

Consultation Highlights

SOHS has surveyed over a 5 year period the participation of students in sport and show a steady increase in participation. Many teachers are commuting from out of the area and this means they are less available for coaching after school hours.

There was strong and repeated feedback that a “one site” solution to future development of indoor facilities in Balclutha is needed.

Consistent feedback that social component, irrespective of age, is very important in any activity option. Older adults would use an indoor facility if it was warm in winter. Low impact activities such as Tai Chi and yoga are attractive options. Social time before and/or after activity are essential. Low cost transport is also a very important factor, especially for non-drivers.

School age students consulted were consistent in their requests to have more options beyond competitive sport to counter boredom factor. They want a supervised indoor facility but with some of the time available for informal sessions where they could choose their activity rather than booked up with sport leagues, especially on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Social sport is a good option.

Several local actions were identified during the consultation process and these are listed below. These actions will only progress with significant local leadership and community support.

Issue	Consultation summary	Recommended action	Commence	Contributing Stakeholders
Physical activity programmes	An informal crèche was wanted by care-givers with young children to ease access to programmes. Tumble Tots is a popular programme and could be replicated through outreach system. Could integrate with active Movement programme of Sport Otago.	Sport Otago/ Clutha investigate extending Tumble Tots or similar programme thorough outreach service to other communities in district. This would require a van and trailer to transport instructor and gear to venues.	Short - medium term	Sport Otago/Clutha (lead)
Adventure playground by Balclutha Bridge needs more range in challenge for users	The adventure playground is highly valued. Several suggestions of similar nature to add to the playground to extend the age range catered for. Suggestions that new apparatus and features for older children and young	Local group take lead and initiate a review of the adventure playground by the bridge to extend the age range catered for through addition	Medium term	Local group (lead), early childhood centres, playground designer, funders, Council,

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	teens should be added.	of new apparatus and features.		
Walkway network development	Poor signage was a concern as visitors and some locals do not know where to access the walkways that do exist. More prominent directional signs with distance and time information are needed.	Council/District Development Board investigate provision of improved signs that are prominent and consistent with DoC signage to be introduced.	Short-medium term	Council/District Development Board (lead), ORC, walking and mountain bike groups
	The Blair-Athol Walkway is the highly valued as an off road track with views of the Clutha River and closeness to the urban centre seen as key attributes. The need for an urgent upgrade of the Blair-Athol Walkway because of poor condition was a recurring theme.	Relevant local group take lead to investigate upgrade of the Blair-Athol Walkway and connection to Rosebank for walkers and enable shared use of flat parts by mountain bikers and separate routes up to Rosebank.	Medium term	Relevant local group (lead), walking groups, ORC, land owners, Council, Sport Clutha
	Increasing the opportunities for walking beside the Clutha River was sought after and should be the core of any walking network in the greater Balclutha area. The flood banks were repeatedly identified as the best option for walking routes. Walks to view points were also highly sought after such as from the Blair-Athol Walkway to the top of Rosebank	Relevant local group take lead to negotiate access and develop a network of walking routes alongside the Clutha River using flood banks to gain river outlooks and of varying quality from paved to gravel tracks to poled routes.	Medium term	Relevant local group (lead), walking groups, ORC, land owners, Council
	Development of a walking track around Lake Tuakitoto was also seen as attractive.	Relevant local lead group investigate development of a walking track around Lake Tuakitoto	Long term	Local lead group e.g. Kaitangata & Districts Promotions, Council (advocate), ORC, funders
	Pet dogs were identified as a major motivation for many people to get out walking. Dog exercise areas or sections of walking routes with fencing to enable dogs to be “off lead” are needed.	Develop dog exercise areas that link with the walking network around Balclutha	Medium term	Council (lead), ORC, DoC
	Development of the main street of Balclutha to include more walker and cyclist friendly environment was seen	Development planning for the main street of Balclutha involve walking	Medium term	Council (lead), Balclutha Traffic Management Study

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	as a priority. The need for pleasant sheltered seating was also suggested.	and cycling advocates		Working Party, Living Streets Aotearoa, local walking and cyclist groups
	A cycle and walking track between Balclutha and Stirling was suggested to improve safety for commuter and recreational users.	Develop a safer cycle and walking route between Balclutha and Stirling	Long term	Council (lead)
Mountain bike and motocross track network	There is a strong motocross club using land on Riverside Reserve for a circuit on a former BMX track. There has also been a history of significant unauthorised use of Solid Energy and Kaitangata Forest land by motor bike riders. Planning for development for separate track networks for motor bikes and mountain bike in a "Recreation Park" on Solid Energy land formerly mined has been proposed. The MTB park is now progressing through development planning but will be some time before it can be developed	Formalise access to Solid Energy land for a dedicated MTB park in the Kaitangata Hills and clarify responsibilities and funding between parties. Develop the MTB park	Medium term Long term	Kaitangata Promotions (lead) MTB group, Solid Energy, Council (support, advocate) Kaitangata Promotions (lead) MTB group, Solid Energy, Council (support, advocate)
Horse riding facility consolidation in Balclutha	Suggestion was made to consolidate horse riding activity on one major site with an all weather covered arena. RDA has developed a covered arena on their own land at Johnson Road but is struggling to fund its activity and upkeep. Pony clubs are located at Riverside Reserve and reserve land adjacent to Centennial Pool. The RDA activity occurs during the day during school terms only whereas pony club activity happens outside school hours. This provides an opportunity to share use of a facility. There is no facility in the district able to host regional competitions and a combined facility could host these events. Telford Institute may be interested in a joint venture to enhance equestrian facilities on campus.	If pony clubs and RDA (and possibly Telford institute) are willing to consider a joint facility then proceed with a development plan for horse activity in the greater Balclutha area and then if concept is supported complete a facility feasibility study	Medium term	Legacy Group (catalyst). Pony Clubs, RDA, Telford Institute
Fitness gyms	The Muscle and Fitness Club operate a basic service gym in the club meeting room at the Centennial Swimming Pool. Opening hours relate to when the pool	An interim solution to the space problem at the Centennial Pool gym needs to be addressed by the Club	Short term	Muscle & Fitness Club (lead), Council

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	<p>is open and feedback is that early morning opening is good but the 7.00pm closing hour is unsatisfactory. Space crowded with equipment. A major positive is co-location of gym with swimming pool for cross training. The Swimming Club is frustrated that the meeting room is dominated by the fitness gym use.</p> <p>Studio Fit opened recently and provides a premium service with 24/7 key card access. Positive feedback about the two price and service levels so more choice for users.</p> <p>The Milton Recreation Centre – Tokomariro High School concept could be considered in Balclutha as a long term solution. This would need support from Council, the Club, SOHS and the Recreation Centre Steering Committee to proceed.</p>	<p>and Council.</p> <p>A long term solution should be to provide a dedicated fitness gym space as part of any recreation centre development in Balclutha</p>	<p>Medium to long term</p>	<p>Recreation Centre Steering Committee (lead), Muscle & Fitness Club, SOHS, Council</p>