

APPENDIX 5.8: ROLES FOR COUNCIL

In providing community facilities Councils may adopt one or several different roles for each facility project. Consideration of these roles becomes important when determining the type and the level of support of facility developments Council may choose to offer.

Statutory body. The Council operates under the opportunities, obligations and restrictions provided by a range of statutes, including the Local Government Act, the Resource Management Act and the Reserves Act. Under these, and many other Acts, Council is bound to operate in certain ways, such as controlling the leasing and licensing of private or club use of reserves under the Reserves Act and planning for District growth and change through the District Plan prepared under the Resource Management Act.

Planner: Before the Council can serve the interests of the community it must identify what those interests are. In some instances Council might play a key role in carrying out planning that facilitates the efficient development and use of substantial community resources and ensures mechanisms are in place to meet future need.

Provider and Asset Manager: This role involves a highest level of support, with Council owning and operating a facility. Funding of the facility would operate in accordance with Council's funding policy (private/public split). Levels of provision might vary from 'land only' developments to full capital contribution towards the cost of the facility development, and/or full cost of operations and maintenance costs.

Supporter: Usually directed to agencies, clubs and groups providing recreation and sport opportunities. The Council might do this by providing land and/or leases to a wide range of groups for recreation and sport activities and facilities or assisting clubs find alternative funding. Some facilities might also provide free of charge or at a nominal rental for groups to use.

Some groups providing their own land and facilities receive rates rebates. One-off grants for facility development might be made through the Council's Long Term Council Community Plan process and Council might consider acting as a guarantor for community clubs and organisations raising bank loans.

Co-ordinator of opportunities: The Council may be able to bring together individual groups to plan the joint development of facilities. Networking opportunities can be provided and joint promotions carried out.

Catalyst: Where Council might work with community groups to encourage the development of new or improved recreation and sport facilities where gaps in provision are identified or rationalisation is needed.

Advocate: Where Council may assist stakeholder organisations attract resources by supporting groups and/or lobbying on their behalf. Submissions might be made to regional or national organisations as necessary, in an attempt to ensure regional or national policy takes into account needs and circumstances of Clutha District.