

11.4 Synthetic Cricket Wicket- Cahill Park Mudgee

REPORT BY THE SPORT AND RECREATION LIAISON OFFICER
TO 20 JULY 2022 ORDINARY MEETING
GOV400098, PAR300627

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **receive the report by the Sport and Recreation Liaison Officer on the Synthetic Cricket Wicket- Cahill Park Mudgee;**
2. **accept \$10,000 in grant funding from Cricket Australia's Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund (Round 2);**
3. **amend the 2022/23 budget to include \$30,000 for construction of synthetic cricket wicket at Cahill Park Mudgee, \$10,000 from grant funding and \$20,000 funded from the Asset Replacement Reserve; and**
4. **authorise the General Manager to finalise and sign the funding agreement with the NSW Cricket Association.**

Executive summary

In April 2022, Council applied for \$10,000 in grant funding from Round 2 of Cricket Australia's Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund to construct a synthetic cricket wicket at Cahill Park Mudgee. The purpose of this report is to accept the grant funding, authorise the General Manager to sign the funding agreement, and amend the 2022-23 budget to include a project budget of \$30,000 with grant funding of \$10,000 and Council contribution of \$20,000.

Disclosure of Interest

Nil

Detailed report

Council provide an extensive range of public sporting and recreational facilities across the Mid-Western Region including both synthetic and turf cricket pitches. The Mudgee & District Junior Cricket Association has expressed a need for Council to provide a synthetic cricket wicket at Cahill Park Mudgee to meet their playing needs and support junior cricket development in the wider region.

The Cahill Park site currently offers one turf cricket wicket. Whilst turf wicket offers an authentic experience to local cricket players, a synthetic cricket wicket provides a stable, safe surface for junior players, requires minimal maintenance and is less susceptible to closure following an inclement weather event. Converting the existing turf wicket to a synthetic wicket would complement the additional synthetic and turf wickets recently constructed at the Glen Willow Regional Sporting Complex. For this reason, the Mudgee Junior Cricket Association intend to continue to utilise Cahill Park as part of their field allocations.

Council applied for \$10,000 in grant funding through Round 2 of Cricket Australia's Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund to construct a synthetic cricket wicket at Cahill Park Mudgee to help improve the

quantity of cricket infrastructure in the region, support the development of community cricket facilities in the region, and create an inclusive and accessible environment for cricket participants and the broader community.

Cricket Australia’s Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund (ACIF) provides funding for community cricket facility projects, with a focus on growing participation and promoting accessibility and inclusivity. Funding is allocated to projects that meet the program assessment criteria, objectives and can provide facilities for community cricket. The following project was identified as relevant and meeting the criteria of the grant fund:

- Installation of synthetic cricket pitch at Cahill Park Mudgee

It is recommended that Council accept the grant funding, authorise the General Manager to sign the funding agreement, and amend the 2022-23 budget to include \$30,000 for construction of synthetic cricket wicket at Cahill Park Mudgee, with grant funding of \$10,000 and Council contribution of \$20,000.

Community Plan implications

Theme	Looking After Our Community
Goal	A safe and healthy community
Strategy	Support networks, program and facilities which promote health and wellbeing and encourage healthy lifestyles

Strategic implications

Council Strategies

Recreation Strategy

Council Policies

Not applicable

Legislation

Not applicable

Financial implications

There is currently no budget allocated for the upgrade of existing cricket infrastructure at Cahill Park Mudgee. It is recommended that Council endorse \$30,000 for a synthetic wicket to allow cricket to continue to utilise the facility, with grant funding of \$10,000 and Council contribution of \$20,000.

Budget Year	Operating Performance Ratio	Own Source Revenue	Building & Infrastructure Renewal
2022/23	-	-	✓
Future Years	-	-	-

Associated Risks

Local Cricket Clubs will not be able to meet playing needs and support Junior Cricket development in the wider region in the event a synthetic cricket wicket at Cahill Park was not supported.

ALAYNA GLEESON
SPORT AND RECREATION LIAISON OFFICER

SIMON JONES
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY

9 June 2022

Attachments: Nil

APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION:

BRAD CAM
GENERAL MANAGER