

***EA Networks Centre & Surrounding
Land 30 Year Masterplan -
Summary of feedback***

To support hearings and deliberations 6 June 2024

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1.1 Summary of feedback received

Public consultation on the Draft EA Networks Centre & Surrounding Land 30 Year Masterplan was undertaken from 27 March to 28 April 2024.

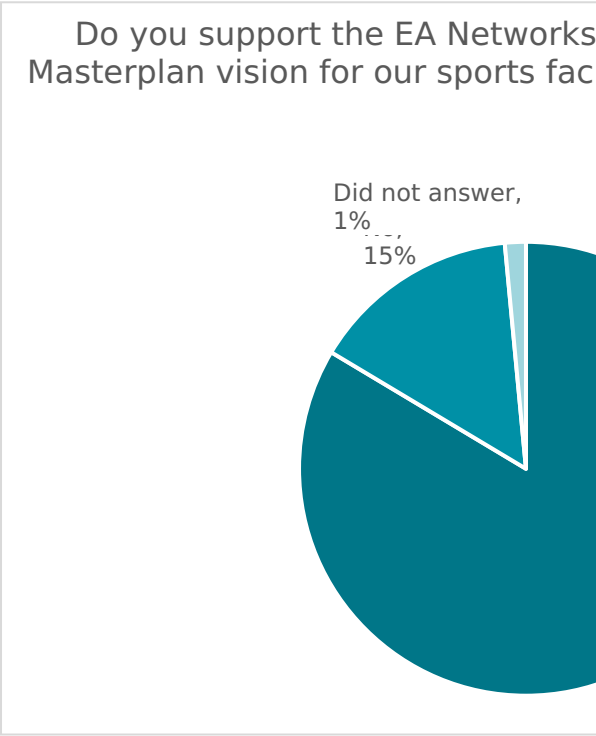
- 67 submissions received on time.

- There were 0 late submissions received as at 6 May 2024.
- 7 submitters indicated they wanted to be heard on their submission form (5 attending).
- The following 5 organisations submitted:
 - Ashburton Range Users Association (P.S. Oldham)
 - Hampstead Rugby Club (Paul Churchill)
 - Methven Netball Club (Shirley Clemens)
 - Mid Canterbury Cricket (Mark Medicott)
 - Mid Canterbury Rugby Union (2 submissions made – one by Rachael Redmond and one by Tanya Dearn)

1.2 Support for the Masterplan vision

Based on the question “Do you support the EA Networks Centre & Surrounding Land Masterplan vision for our sports facility and adjacent council land?”

	Number of people
Yes	56
No	10
N/A	1
Total	67



1.2.1 Comments in support

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Harriet	I believe it will offer a lot more to future generations	
Sean H	Think it should be a 50 M pool And 4 courts need as need as soon as possible	<p>Note: Council has since resolved to extend by 3 courts in Years 7-9 of the LTP</p> <p>Note: Council has resolved not to invest in any water based leisure in this LTP.</p>
Tracey Henderson	Great vision for a multi sports centre to service many in one venue	
Audrey Leath	We have a great facility, it is well used by young and old, however needs to be expanded, include other sports, to have a central hub	
Methven Netball Club (Shirley Clemens)	I support parts of the extensions as being more urgent than others	
Sheree Mackenzie	EA is a fantastic asset to our community and should be expanded! There is so much potential there, very excited to see some future developments here!	
Carol Gunn	Any development for keeping us all fit and healthy has to be good	
Michelle Knight	I have grown up in Ashburton when we didn't have the amazing pool and indoor stadium. Now that I have young kids the current facilities are great but just think a hub with all the facilities brings everything together more with a young family I fully support as plan to be in the community for a long time and think they will get great use for all ages. As a working professional then mother I have got great use out of the current ones	
Peter Murray	The vision is good because it adds value to the existing facilities and creates a sports and recreation hub for the district	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Ed Eason	I support the concept of extending the stadium, by two courts in the near future as this will be driven by demand, as well as locking in our ability as a community to host large or national events, which will have a natural benefit for the district and enhance our reputation nation wide	Note: Council has since resolved to extend by 3 courts in Years 7-9 of the LTP
Mindy Morrison	Ashburton population is growing and a larger facility using land not currently being used is important for the future. The ability to hold large events will bring many people and \$\$ to Ashburton	
John Thompson	<p>There is a definite need for more indoor courts to allow more room for either sports to grow or to have multiple users at busy times.</p> <p>With any increase in patronage the car parking needs to be increased and the additional entry/exit point will be welcomed.</p> <p>Having the concept to have the additional turfs available for hockey (or other sports) is needed for ongoing growth or renewal of facilities.</p>	Officers continue to look at alternative ways to manage carparking and access challenges - note Year 1 of LTP has the road widening project
Sue Newman	We need to plan for growth - build it and the people will come. look at the huge success the new civic centre and library has been - busy every hour it's open. And it makes sense to centralise facilities	
Anne & Colin Fleming	Yes with reservations about some 'visions'	
Peter Kilgour	The vision is a good idea but needs to be done gradually , especially the expensive stadium extension .	
Rachael Redmond (Mid Canterbury Rugby Union)	We need a sports hub for ALL sports here.	Ashburton Domain and Argyle Park are other 'home' locations where outdoor sports are played. The Sports hub concept at EANC will not be limited by the land to include some but not all sports.

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Perry Hunt	Places for sport and recreation are essential for our town and having them all in one place makes sense. I have no issue with a portion of general rates being spent on running and enhancing EANC, it is a piece of the infrastructure our district needs to have.	
Brendon Quinn	Its a good positive development for the district. Would like to see the Balmoral hall site sold and funds put into the EA Networks Centre development if the development would replace some or preferably all of the Balmoral Hall function e.g. a dance studio	
Gerard Rushton	Because we need a sports complex in ashburton that is fit for purpose for the region and its future. Ashburton is being left behind with sports facilities when you look at Selwyn,timaru and oamaru. ADC needs to move forward with plans and rationalise other out dated sports facilities in town. Most clubs are struggling and have aging infrastructure .	
Harrison	It needs to be done, will bring in much more profit to the town holding national events	
Heath Lyttle	Having a sports hub in one place best utilises the area and costs of 1 set of buildings.	
Tegan	Fantastic idea to create a central hub which includes more sport. Good idea to move the hockey turf since it is overdue for resurfacing.	
Wayne	It is great to see that a very long term vision is being communicated to the community.	
Maria Marco	Because is a great space for the whole family	
Sue Heney	Yes but with reservations on the aquatic extension. Strongly feel that this should be an outdoor pool.	
Mark Medlicott (Mid Canterbury Cricket Association INC)	A centralised sporting hub has worked well in other regions and provides an opportunity for the community to engage together even though they might be involved in a variety of different activities eg parents can have a swim while children play hockey. However with my cricket hat on I can see there is currently no longer any provision for any form of cricket on the proposed new grounds.	Cricket grounds could be considered if Council deemed the appropriate approach. Officers note that the current cricket nets are in the domain so preference was to remain cricket in situ.

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Richard Hansen	I like the over all ideas but would like to see more or larger changing and toilets areas. possibly more seating to sports ground area that could have changing under.	Noted - grandstand seating is between 500-1000 and embankment seating appears sufficient for community need.
Lisa Hannon	It is moving our town forward and helps engage kids in sports	
Contributor 1169	Need to be made bigger to cater for more people	
David Folley	Create a centralised Sports hub	
Tanya Dearn (Mid Canterbury Rugby Union)	<p>The initial concept of establishing this area as a central sporting hub for the district holds greater importance now more than ever before.</p> <p>In 2021, we conveyed to the Council our strong desire for the continual advancement of this sporting hub and for it to remain in the Long-Term Plan (LTP) as a primary focus for facility development in the upcoming years.</p> <p>Our stance remains unchanged. And again in 2022, as part of our submission to the draft Play, Active Recreation and Sports Strategy (PARS), we outlined facility development as a key strategic area of focus.</p> <p>The Union recognises there is a crucial need to develop a suitable facility to accommodate the ongoing expansion of sport in the district.</p> <p>Rugby attracts a significant portion of the District's community each Saturday throughout the winter season, comprising at least 25% of the population. Notably, female participation in our sport surged by 83% in 2023, while our teenage boys' involvement also experienced substantial growth, increasing by 73%. As a result, our overall participation rates have soared by 26% in the past 12 months. Our 2024 1st quarter results indicate further 11% growth which augers well.</p>	<p>Note: Council has since resolved to extend by 3 courts in Years 7-9 of the LTP.</p> <p>Officers note the desire to locate at EANC. The fields are noted as multipurpose and are not currently funded in the LTP. Council direction would be required as to whether the preference is multipurpose or specifically one code.</p> <p>Currently no office provision is given in the Masterplan, Council would need to consider if/what was required and where.</p>

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>In the existing Long-Term Plan (LTP), we note provisions for indoor sports like Netball and Basketball, which will be accommodated in the planned extension of the current stadium, without any financial burden or commitment from them.</p> <p>Additionally, Cricket and Football needs are met by utilising the green space at the Ashburton domain. However, our current setup at the Ashburton Showgrounds no longer serves its purpose adequately, and significant investment would be required to make it viable.</p> <p>Given the precarious financial situation of the A & P Association, continuing as a tenant under these conditions is not feasible. It's careless to invest in infrastructure without a foreseeable return.</p> <p>Mid Canterbury Rugby is currently the sole Heartland Union lacking a Council-supported facility. With substantial developments nearing completion in Timaru and across the Selwyn district, particularly in upgrading green space facilities, there is a real concern that we'll fall behind. Without these essential facilities, our ability to attract national events/tournaments or offer the ability to host rugby games is at risk.</p> <p>MCRU are prepared to relocate and are willing to partner with the Council to establish new facilities, incorporating features such as a multi-sport, all-weather artificial turf, gender-neutral changing facilities, and supplementary buildings that will provide long term sustainable facilities.</p> <p>While our nine member Clubs operate their own venues, we believe that investing in a central community sports facility development is not only an investment in physical infrastructure of the district but by offering modern sports facilities that are easily accessible, we can enable our community members to embrace active lifestyles, cultivate a strong sense of belonging, and encourage positive interactions within our community.</p>	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>Additionally, such amenities would contribute to the economic growth of our area by attracting larger events and games.</p> <p>The EA Networks Centre Master Plan offers the opportunity to do this - to build a multi-generational, gender neutral facility for outdoor sports and complete the vision for a community sports hub to be based on the land that Council has acquired for the purpose.</p> <p>This masterplan was developed in consultation with user groups and, along with the current facility, underpins Councils own statement - that the "EA Networks Centre, 100% owned and operated by Council, is the district's sporting hub for local residents". The Council must continue to progress the project and we urge the council to consider this proposal favourably and allocate the necessary resources to make it a reality sooner than later.</p> <p>We see the project offering a solution to the rationalisation of sports facilities in Ashburton township. Developing the land adjacent to the EA Networks Centre is essential for realising our strategic priorities and we firmly advocate for its re-integration into the current Long-Term Plan (LTP) rather than the 30-year masterplan.</p> <p>Together, we can create a vibrant and thriving community where sports play a central role in enriching lives and strengthening bonds.</p>	
Kate White	<p>It looks fantastic - with a wide range of activities, sports and people in mind. My only query is why include 2 hockey turfs - is the current hockey turf by the hospital not up to scratch / not coping with demand? What will happen to it if this vision is made reality?</p>	<p>Note: Conversation with Hockey is that demand outstrips the current turf - however their preference is to remain on the domain for one more carpet cycle before the current turf would require significant investment - approx. 10-12 years</p>

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Russell peck	The road lay out needs to be better. It's a nightmare getting out at peak traffic times. One day, someone will get hurt.	Council has included in LTP Y1 a road entrance widening project
Maree McNally	It would be great for Ashburton to have a top level competition facility all in one place similar to what Rolleston has with the area near Foster Park.	
Sam Clarke	I support this to an extent, however land around the area is prone to flooding in places. Riverbed is close to the EA centre and extending out the back towards the hill would see dust and dirt blown down the riverbed and surrounding areas especially in nor wester's' and southerlies. This is not practical for a hockey turf or outdoor pool. Dust storms on sports fields etc. Needs to be discussed and considered by players, spectators and officials before deciding it's the right choice only because there is the room for the facilities.	Officers have not noticed any flooding issues with EANC currently and that swales function as designed.
David Mavor	Need to provide good facilities to encourage sport and exercise for our district.	
Liz Waugh	Give more things for families and our young people to do	
Sally Carr	I support the vision because: 1. It will create more opportunities for people in our district to participate in more sports and recreational activities which are beneficial to their health and wellbeing. 2. It has the potential to attract more and larger events (sports and other events) which should have a positive impact on the businesses in the town. 3. The existing facilities are at already at or nearing full capacity.	

1.2.2 Comments NOT in support

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Patsy King	Sport should be played outside	
Perry	I support the need to extend and expand the EA Networks Centre, however, i am puzzled as to the plans for the surrounding land.	Officers understanding is that the aspect of the design should have

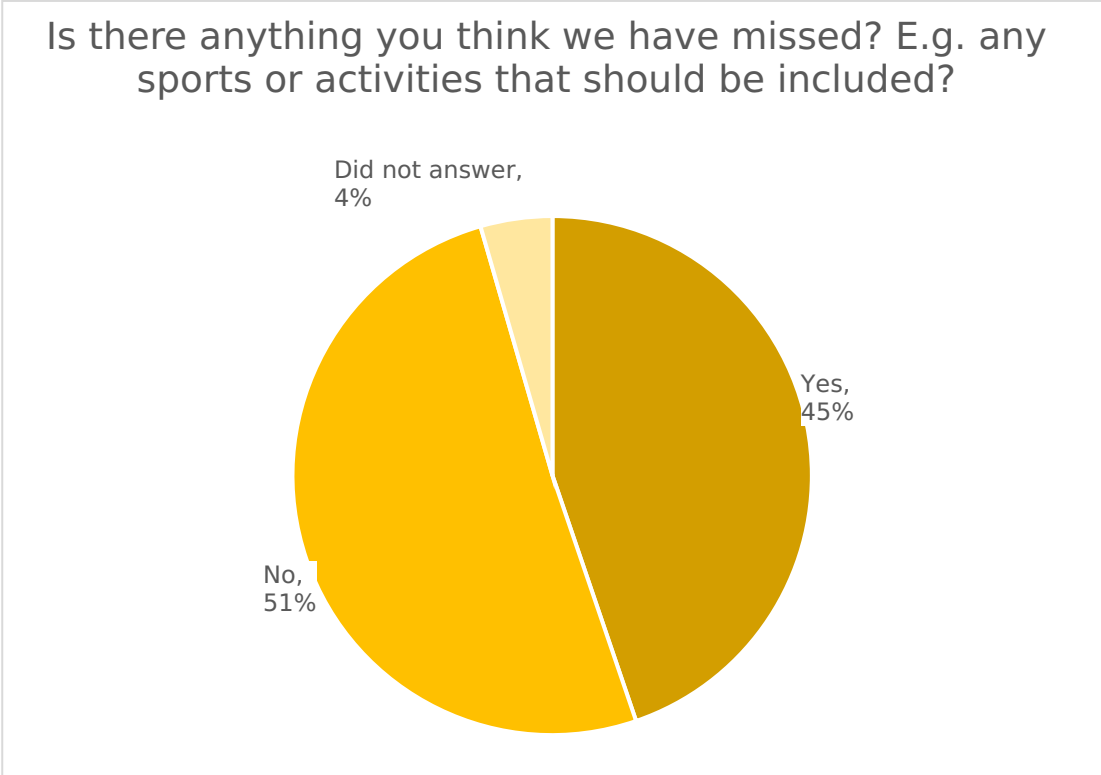
Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>What will be the plan with the Ashburton Rifle Range? This is a historical range on Reserve Land.</p> <p>Can the council guarantee that the Ashburton Rifle Range can still operate with the expansion of EA Centre?</p> <p>Would the council work with the Ashburton Range Users Association in promoting shooting sports so that the 2 properties can co-exist.</p>	<p>no impact on the rifle range. We are aware of the rifle range and happy to work in with users to understand a) any specifics and b) any opportunities for collaboration.</p>
Peter Heney	<p>This is a small rural town and don't need to compete with the big cities, we Haven't got the population to support think big Projects that the Rate Payers will end up footing the bill for.</p>	
Richard R Bruce	<p>The size of this development is a huge cost to ratepayer while the amenities road bridges & water is failing!</p>	
Stacey Naughton	<p>I think we need some but not all sports to be at the EA networks centre. All club sports should be played at the club's to keep them running, if we start taking games away from these places clubs will make less profit and start to die off. It will also drop club numbers as there would be less socialising after games.</p>	
Adi Avnit	<p>I don't believe the council role is to provide more spaces for sports teams, especially as there are multiple spaces available for this purpose that are not owned by council. And as we are heading toward an economic recession I believe the council should reduce costs.</p>	
sonia	<p>You are off the mark with the pool area and that is an embarrassment- considering this was the initial reasoning and purpose</p>	<p>Council has resolved not to invest in water based leisure in this cycle of LTP.</p>
Contributor 905	<p>We are in a recession period and no money should be spend for new projects that will impact the rate tax payers. Instead of wanting new court, options to open longer hours to offer an alternative to sport groups should be explored first (opening at 5am up to 10pm, every day).</p>	<p>Noted however sport and participants have already indicated that later playing times are not of interest to them.</p>
Murray Gardiner	<p>You have produced 19 pages of a wish list with pretty pictures and no mention of costings and how it would be funded.</p>	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>Ratepayers have been shafted for years by this council and are hurting. I do not support an outdoor pool as it would not get enough year round use, even heated, and therefore a waste of money. New courts would be well used at times but we cannot afford it. New hockey turf is not needed as hockey numbers are in decline although the current turf needs resurfaced. Why do we need more rugby/soccer grounds when numbers at adult levels are declining? The showgrounds would not be used which would eventually lead to financial difficulties for the A&P Society. Hydroslide would be fun but would it pay for itself, I think not. More subsidising for the ratepayers.</p>	

1.3 What we may have missed

Based on the question “Is there anything you think we have missed? E.g. any sports or activities that should be included?”

	Number of people
Yes	30
No	34
N/A	3
Total	67



1.3.1 Skate park

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Hayden	A skate park would be a nice addition	
Peter	A bigger skate park would be great	
Janette	Skate park would be great as would be safer away from main traffic	
Harriet	Would be good to have a more safe and bigger skateboard park away from the main state highway	
Brooke	New skatepark	

1.3.2 Running / athletics track

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Grace Bolton	A running track	
Sean H	Athletics track would be nice for Ashburton similar to Timaru one	

1.3.3 Climbing wall

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Sheree Mackenzie	Rock climbing wall!	Officers note that inclusion of some form of active recreation in the 3 court stadium extension is a possibility
Peter Murray	A climbing wall and abseiling space could be incorporated into the tower required for the hydroslide.	Noted. This could be an option if/when the hydroslide is built.

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Stacey Naughton	The community would benefit greatly if some grounds were used for clip & climb, bowling and arcade. Private investors may be useful here.	Officers note that inclusion of some form of active recreation in the 3 court stadium extension is a possibility, however current plans do not include enough space for ten-pin bowling. Staffing considerations/costs also need to be factored into any active recreation project.
Adi Avnit	Potentially look again at installing a climbing wall (within the existing EA network structure) as this feature is not available elsewhere around mid-Canterbury.	Officers note that inclusion of some form of active recreation in the 3 court stadium extension is a possibility. If included in the current facility, it would negatively impact the current offering provided.

1.3.4 Pools / aquatic area

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Ed Eason	I also support the idea of an outside pool, instead of investing any further capital into the Tinwald pool . The money required there, would be better used in being spent on the new pool outside at the stadium.	Council has resolved not to invest in water based leisure in this cycle of LTP.
John Thompson	<p>The water leisure activities have a mix of items however I feel that children aged 9-17 are missed out on. There are the inflatables (at short set times) and a warm pool to jump in (when aqua or hydro therapy is not occurring) but there is nothing else for them.</p> <p>A leaf out of Caroline Bay is the presence of diving boards of various heights with a deep pool.</p>	<p>Council has resolved not to invest in water based leisure in this cycle of LTP.</p> <p>A jumping platform has recently been built at Lake Hood.</p>

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	I feel that inclusion of a deep pool with diving boards would allow for a cost free alternative that would enthuse possible attendees in an age range that find few other activities to do around Ashburton.	
Sonia	You need to reassess the swimming !!	Council has resolved not to invest in water based leisure in this cycle of LTP.

1.3.5 Cricket

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Michelle Knight	Potentially cricket	Ashburton Domain is the current 'home' for cricket.
Mark Medlicott (Mid Canterbury Cricket Association INC)	<p>As above there seems to be no provision for cricket to be involved. Looking at the models presented where No 12 is (an embankment) would perhaps be the ideal place to place a cricket wicket as it would not be impacted by other sports but the outfield would be able to use the existing outfields. As a summer sport this would be able to utilise these facilities at a different time of year to the winter sports like hockey, etc that are catered for.</p> <p>If cricket is not being considered any longer in the mix of sports does that mean the Council in their LTP have more definitive options available to improve the Ashburton Oval, especially for example fencing off of the water on the west side and potentially the east side as well? Possibilities include filling in the west side and piping the relevant section under ground, or a suitable fence much as in the north end that would probably fix 90% of the current issues?</p>	<p>Council could consider other sports within the masterplan however changes could impact the inclusion of other aspects.</p> <p>This masterplan does not touch on specific aspects related to the domain however Council may choose to note these issues for future discussions</p>

1.3.6 Other suggestions

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Sean H	Court space should be at least 4 courts	Council has resolved to extend the stadium by 3 courts in years 7-9 of LTP
Sue Newman	Possibly outdoor bowls. MSA has closed, domain club might be in strife in the future. Tennis is an integral part of the domain so no need for courts, but rugby in the future ?	Noted
Wayne	You seem to have included the mainstream sports, but how about the small fringe sports. Smallbore rifle shooting, Cycling, bowls...	Council could consider other sports within the masterplan if there was shown demand or need.
Peter Kilgour	Cycling tracks and or paths throughout the whole development . Bowling and or croquet greens .	Council could consider other sports within the masterplan if there was shown demand or need.
Peter Murray	The outdoor playground could be adjacent to the EAT Cafe to enable children to play while parents use the cafe. Access to connect the centre to the riverside walkway/cycle tracks around the western end of the industrial area.	Noted on both. The walkway/cycle track cannot go across the western end as this passes through land not owned by Council (Rifle Club etc)
Brendon Quinn	Dance studio and other functions of the Balmoral Hall	This item was covered through the LTP
Sue Heney	Tennis	Tennis was not included due to having great courts in the domain. If a need existed Council could choose to add to the masterplan
Russell peck	A possibility to have ice skating. Not bow. But one day.	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Lisa Hannon	Football/Soccer Goals somewhere would be great!	The green fields are currently shown as multi-purpose – Council would need to provide further direction as to how these were to be managed if the project for these were to progress
Heath Lyttle	Softball was always in the first set of plans for this green fields site, softball had access to funding to help build an artificial diamond, this would need to be looked into again. This sport needs a space to grow and keep kids playing, the artificial diamond would help with all weather and all year round training without damaging green fields when wet. Utilising other sports facilities and fields in a shared space would work for summer/winter sports best using the space.	Softball was not included due to having facilities in Argyle Park – however if it was deemed there was demand could be included again.

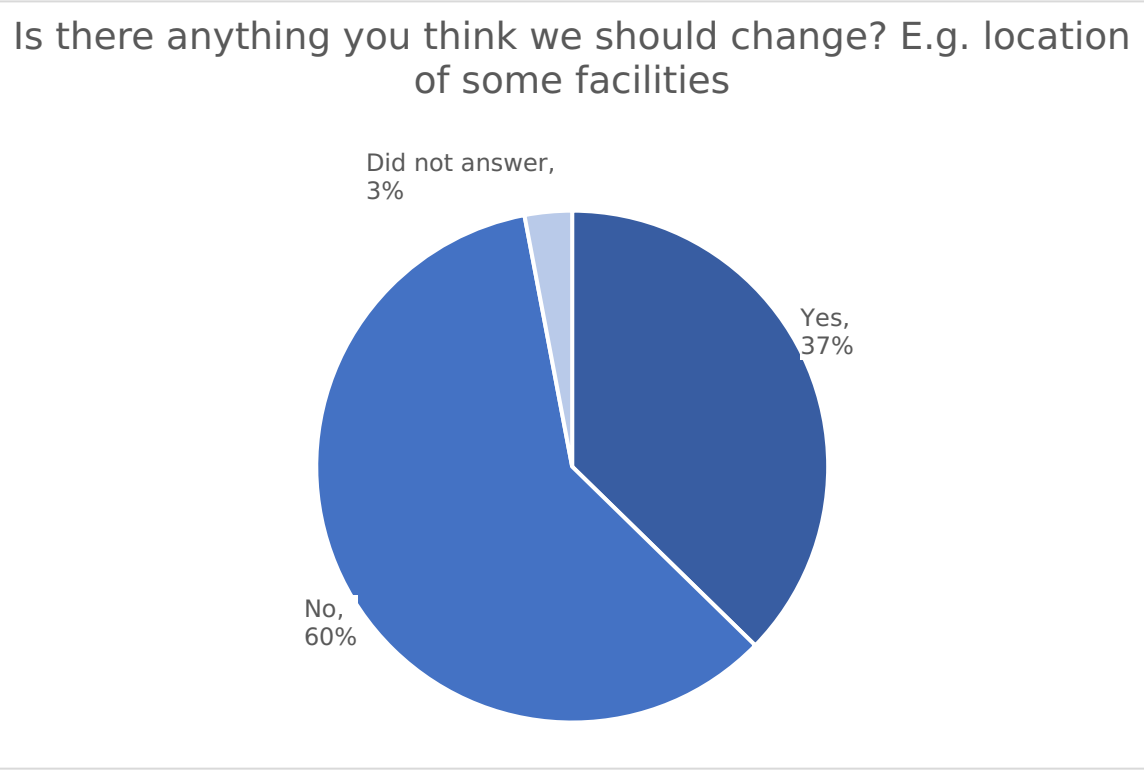
1.3.7 General comments

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Richard R Bruce	It is not Council responsibility to amuse citizens rather it is to assist EDUCATION	
Perry Hunt	The plan needs to be regularly reviewed, to take sporting trends into account. Eg, squash could be a sport there in future years	We are of the understanding that Squash conversations are occurring between the private clubs. If a need existed Council could decide to include within a masterplan.

1.4 What we should change

Based on the question “Is there anything you think we should change? E.g. location of some facilities.”

	Number of people
Yes	25
No	40
N/A	2
Total	67



1.4.1 Play area

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Methven Netball Club (Shirley Clemens)	The playground area should be adjacent to a picnic area and also close to the pool/stadium in particular so that family friendly activities are placed together	Noted
Sean H	Add a better kids play area	Noted
Peter Murray	Location of the playground as mentioned above to the EAT cafe end of the building.	Noted

1.4.2 Pool / aquatic area

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Sean H	4 courts and 50 m pool Hydro slide need more for families in Ashburton	As above. Courts are in Year 7-9 of LTP and Council has chosen 3 at this stage. Council has resolved not to invest in any water based leisure project at this stage
Sue Heney	Prefer the outdoor pool to be at Tinwald Domain. Definitely support installation of hydroslide and widening of access to complex.	Council has resolved not to invest in any water based leisure project at this stage
sonia	Swimming-you are closing pools everywhere and not offering a decent/ suitable alternative. You need an outside option and you need a full length indoor pool for competitions. If done correctly originally you would have been a permanent fixture in the swimming calendar as CHCH had none after the earthquakes	Council has resolved not to invest in any water based leisure project at this stage

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
David Mavor	Don't require an outdoor pool. If we are developing another pool, it should be covered to increase utilization.	Council has resolved not to invest in any water based leisure project at this stage

1.4.3 EA Networks Centre Facility Location

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Patsy King	The collection of too much sport in one place is not good and is noisy. Decentralize and so have smaller, local centres, outside. Umbrellas are great things	Noted
Contributor 905	Stop expending any facility or creating new spaces in an area prone to flooding. This is one of the biggest risk that Ashburton is facing right now due to climate change. Spend money strengthening the banks instead!	EA Networks Centre has not experienced any issues with flooding and the stormwater swales function as designed
Sam Clarke	As per previous comments regarding weather conditions within the area. Just because the space is there doesn't mean it's the best option	EA Networks Centre has not experienced any issues with flooding and the stormwater swales function as designed

1.4.4 Other suggestions

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Audrey Leath	Would be good to have rugby, soccer, cricket, and any other sport there	Noted
Perry	As above answer <i>(I support the need to extend and expand the EA Networks Centre, however, i am puzzled as to the plans for the surrounding</i>	Noted - as above - happy to work together to understand challenges and opportunities

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p><i>land.</i></p> <p><i>What will be the plan with the Ashburton Rifle Range?</i></p> <p><i>This is a historical range on Reserve Land.</i></p> <p><i>Can the council guarantee that the Ashburton Rifle Range can still operate with the expansion of EA Centre?</i></p> <p><i>Would the council work with the Ashburton Range Users Association in promoting shooting sports so that the 2 properties can co-exist.)</i></p>	
Anne & Colin Fleming	Hockey turfs to be installed 'beside' existing facility in domain	There is no space in the domain to support growth of Hockey.
Peter Kilgour	Mini golf should be bigger and probably located in and around the playground area ?	Mini-golf is being scoped at the direction of Council through the LTP
Stacey Naughton	Rugby should be kept at clubs.	
Heath Lyttle	Adding artificial infield diamonds with grass out fields	Council would need to determine sufficient need to relocate softball from Argyle Park. Council could choose to include within the masterplan.
Mark Medlicott (Mid Canterbury Cricket Association INC)	As mentioned above, finding a way to incorporate a cricket pitch in the middle of the two proposed fields. Obviously this may impact lighting, but with more and more sport moving to midweek options as well as weekends, reset lighting may offer an opportunity for festivals under lights and more.	As above
David Folley	<p>Remove mini Golf and remove sand court.</p> <p>Sand court will become a pooping area for cats etc , and will require ongoing cleaning and maintenance.</p> <p>Mini golf , who'll monitor , staff and maintain this ??</p> <p>Not needed at EA as staff are under the pump now.</p>	Noted

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Sally Carr	Suggest more car parking area	Officers continue to look at all options to support parking management
Russell peck	Road lay out. Even with the second entrance, it still needs better median strip for turning right. May be an a merging lane on Alfred forest road .	It should be noted that the road above EA Networks Centre is SH77. Any road layout changes would be a matter for Waka Kotahi

1.4.5 General comments

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Richard Hansen	as i have indicated earlier	
Rachael Redmond (Mid Canterbury Rugby Union)	We should be seeing the sports fields in the 10 year plan, not the 30 year plan.	Noted
Richard R Bruce	Current direction of deliberate neglect of major parts of Council core responsibilities	

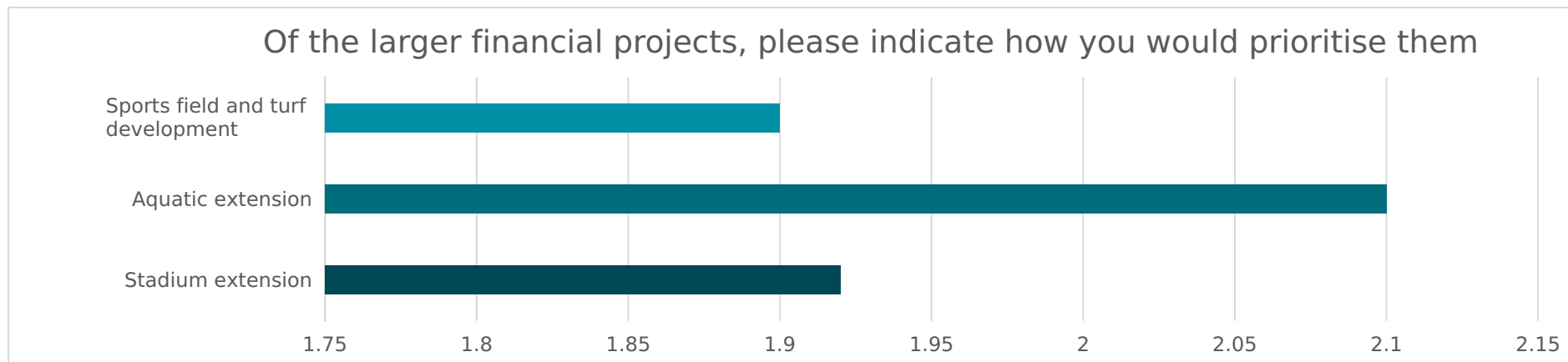
1.5 Priorities

Based on the question “Of the larger financial projects, please indicate how you would prioritise them.”

Options provided included the stadium extension, aquatic extension, sports field & turf development.

	1	2	3	Count	Score	Avg Rank
Stadium extension	31.37% 16	33.33% 17	35.29% 18	51	1.92	2.04
Aquatic extension	35.29% 18	43.14% 22	21.57% 11	51	2.10	1.86
Sports field and turf development	35.29% 18	23.53% 12	41.18% 21	51	1.90	2.06

Score - Sum of the weight of each ranked position, multiplied by the response count for the position choice, divided by the total contributions. Weights are inverse to ranked positions.
Avg Rank - Sum of the ranked position of the choice, multiplied by the response count for the position choice, divided by the total 'Count' of the choice.



1.6 Other comments and feedback

1.6.1 Stadium

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Methven Netball Club (Shirley Clemens)	<p>The space available for our competition is hindering the growth of netball in Mid Canterbury and most likely other sports who wish to use the stadium.</p> <p>More teams (especially social) and longer games cannot be accommodated for with current court space and hours.</p> <p>Aware of other sports who cant get space due to netball.</p> <p>Support 3 new courts in the short-term.</p>	Council have included 3 Courts in Years 7-9 of the LTP
Kate White	I agree with the proposed 3 court extension to not only meet demand at high peak times but also to allow tournaments to come to Ashburton that without this number of courts might not be able to currently.	Council have included 3 Courts in Years 7-9 of the LTP

1.6.2 Aquatic extension / pool

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Mindy Morrison	Prefer to not have an outdoor pool at the expense of the Tinwald pool but Hydroslides are needed within the existing facility	Council has resolved not to invest in any Water Leisure project in this LTP
Harrison	Also a waste of time adding another 25m competition swim pool, add a indoor 50m pool, we have everything else like the correct timing screen, diving blocks etc, if you had a 50m pool and enough/proper seating there is no reason why we cannot hold national swim meets	Council has resolved not to invest in any Water Leisure project in this LTP

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Sue Heney	Ashburton has no outdoor swimming option. Water in outdoor pool could be solar heated, extending its use. Surrounded by grass and seating. After listening to various councillors I feel that the Council has already decided, and our opinions wont be considered, but will post this just in case that changes.	Council has resolved not to invest in any Water Leisure project in this LTP
Lisa Hannon	Current pool change rooms need updated. No bench to keep things dry in the larger family rooms. Kids always get cuts and grazes in the pool.	Council has resolved not to invest in any Water Leisure project in this LTP Noted on small items - officers will look into
Russell peck	Make sure you do a really good hydo slide. That's what the kids want!	Council has resolved not to invest in any Water Leisure project in this LTP
Liz Waugh	We really like the hydroslide idea.	Council has resolved not to invest in any Water Leisure project in this LTP

1.6.3 Timing

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Sean H	Work to start this year or early next would be amazing a need for the district	Council have included 3 Courts in Years 7-9 of the LTP
Sue Newman	Do these 3 as quickly as possible and don't delay on the other developments either	
Sally Carr	If the current facilities are at or nearing full capacity, 7+ years until completion is too long to wait for the extension. Other	Council have included 3 Courts in Years 7-9 of the LTP

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	regions may develop better offerings in the meantime and take over as preferred venues for events.	
Contributor 905	<p>None of them should be prioritised for the next 5 years. Perhaps later, when the global post Covid economic crisis has shown signs of recovery. Don't spend any money, be smarted about the use of the current facility.</p> <p>We also won't attract any people out of town. Facilities in Chch and Timaru are better, more attractive for reasonable prices.</p>	Council have included 3 Courts in Years 7-9 of the LTP

1.6.4 EA Networks Centre Facility Location

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Patsy King	Don't need flashy central things. Keep the venues small and local, and the sport outside in the fresh air e.g. Tinwald Pool.	
Anne & Colin Fleming	Is this area no longer considered a '100 year flood' locality?	EA Networks Centre has not experienced any issues with flooding and the stormwater swales function as designed
Sam Clarke	Workplaces within the riverside industrial area will be able to share experiences regarding flooding and wind events	EA Networks Centre has not experienced any issues with flooding and the stormwater swales function as designed

1.6.5 Parking / access

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
David Folley	Better access in and out of the current facility is a must	Noted
Sally Carr	I suggest that more car parks are needed or at least space reserved to extend parking in the future. Also their doesn't	As above

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>appear to be any coach parking. EV charging stations should be included too.</p>	
Murray Gardiner	<p>You have proposed a new entry to the complex which should be there now as the current entry/exit is one of the most poorly planned pieces of civic engineering you could possibly come up with. The new entry/exit you show on your plan needs to be expanded for faster and more efficient traffic movement!</p>	Noted
Kate White	<p>ONE KEY THING that I would appreciate being considered ASAP and in plans for any future development is access to the centre for CYCLISTS. If I could attend to speak to this in June I would really have liked to but I am not available then.</p> <p>It is understandable that more car parks are being considered and a very needed widening of the exit for a left turning lane - but what about bikes here? Will there be lanes/ green paint or something that makes it safe for them to exit?</p> <p>With increasing concern around climate change and a town that is relatively small and flat, with fine weather most of the year, cycling will be the way of the future for many Ashburton based stadium users (of all ages) and we should be doing all we can to make that easy.</p> <p>Currently biking to EA is not easy. You have to go over the speed bumps that are designed for cars (one sent someone I know off their bike, needless to say she was reluctant to then bike to the gym again) OR if you don't go over the bumps you can squeeze between the edge of them and the curb and take care not to get your tyre stuck in the drains or your peddle on the curb. Then when you get close to the bike parking spot near the entrance there is no way to get up the curb - doable in a mountain bike perhaps but awkward otherwise. There just seems to be no thought given to how cyclists can enter and exit in a manner that is safe and practical for them. Given most users of the stadium</p>	Noted - officers continue to discuss accessibility with the Roding team

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>are able bodied and surely the majority live within 10km of the EA networks centre (bikeable distance) if we made it easier and more obvious how cyclists could access this space then more are likely to bike there!</p> <p>Research all over the world shows that 'if you build it they will come'! If you build more and more car parks - people will use those. If you build well thought out cycling infrastructure people will bike. Cyclists must have input into these plans - so we don't end up with something like the completely hopeless Cass st. cycle way which is unbelievably impractical to use. (After 1 go on this I gave up - having to stop at every intersection and navigate crossing the road, plus avoiding pedestrians in the cycle way, completely impractical! I now ride on the road - in the middle of the lane so as not to get hit by opening car doors, and traffic behind me has to wait/ travel at my speed).</p> <p>What do we want to be encouraging around a sports and recreation venue?? Surely active transport (walking, cycling, scooters etc). It's not only good for the climate but for our health and budgets! If it was safe and easy families could bike there with their kids, right now it is hazardous. PLEEEEEEASE consider this in the SHORT TERM. It has been a bug bear since it opened and after years of cycling most days to the centre I will admit I mostly take my car there now. Please fix this and make it welcoming for cyclists. Let it not be an afterthought but think carefully through every stage - is the bike parking undercover, secure, easy to access (originally it involved bumping your head on something when you tried to get your bike in to it, then I asked for it to be moved out - which stopped the head bumping but now probably gets in the way of pedestrians a bit - sticks out, doesn't look well thought out at all.) How about entry and exit from/ to the road, signage so cars are aware of bikes & cyclists know how to safely</p>	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>exit (it's anyone's guess right now where cyclists are meant to go to exit - I use the footpath down the middle and then up to the exit).</p> <p>This is an access and a health and safety concern. I hope it will be addressed urgently as well as being considered in the big long term plans for the centre.</p>	

1.6.6 Other priorities

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Peter Heney	Stop acting the big person and spend more on keeping roads and footpaths up to a standard that people can use.	
Richard R Bruce	The council priority is roads bridges water supply (currently neglected!), disaster precautions (fire flood storm) and assist education. NOT spend vast amounts on AMUSEMENT	

1.6.7 Other / general comments

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Lisa Hannon	Not your problem but cafe is always freezing - especially after a swim and wet hair, but even as a spectator its freezing.	Officers will review this
Sally Carr	Work with hospitality providers (current and future) to deliver quality and easily accessible food offerings. The current offering will not suffice. Think about how hospitality is offered on site to the public at peak times and during events.	Noted – however contractual restraints exist with the current tenant
Sheree Mackenzie	I would love to see the proposed DoC land planted In a little native forest with walks going through!	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Michelle Knight	Investing in the community for projects that all ages use is a great thing the pool and stadium sees people of all ages on the daily and it's fantastic	
Peter Murray	The facility hours for the whole centre including the pools should be extended to enable workers to use the centre in the evenings.	Council have resolved to extend the pool hours 1 hour later 4 days per week (2 weekdays and 2 weekend)
Peter Kilgour	A lot more bike stands need to be placed all round the development . Do the public have more access to toilets . The whole complex will need more . More water drinking fountains would be required outside too .	Officers have noted no issues with bike parking currently - any grounds expansion would likely include more. Public toilets exist in the foyer of EA Networks Centre currently
Rachael Redmond (Mid Canterbury Rugby Union)	It is of up most importance to create a new home for Mid Canterbury rugby. As you are well aware, the Showgrounds are now no longer fit for purpose. I know our CEO Tanya Dearn has sent an extensive submission outlining our views on this, of which I fully support.	Noted
Gerard Rushton	Netball and basketball have a new purpose built facility it's time to do the same for the other sports	Noted
Harrison	It will be a waste of time having 1 prem hockey turf and 1 community turf, we will be better off having 2 prem turfs.	The inclusion one 1 & 1 was on the guidance from Mid-Canterbury Hockey on community need.
Heath Lyttle	Smaller sports with lower income also need to be considered to grow the sports	Noted

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Mark Medicott (Mid Canterbury Cricket Association INC)	I like that the ADC are being proactive as they look to add these items to long term plans, but after changes to the proposed Ashburton Domain plans only 'finalised' two years ago and no longer happening i.e. internal road I hope that cricket can be involved in any further plans for the future. While our adult numbers have dropped for traditional cricket, we now have 7 adult teams playing on Wednesday nights, and only a couple on Saturdays we still have good numbers at junior and youth level and will continue to do so certainly over the next decade, but like everything are having to change our ways of delivering, and definitely need involvement with any new sports plans for the EA Network area, especially if it is to become a sports hub.	Noted
Kate White	<p>I love the idea of including things that are free to do here - such as mini golf with your own clubs/ balls (but the opportunity to hire, like the disc golf) - it is fantastic to have free family fun. Also the playground and the outdoor courts for people to use.</p> <p>I support the changing of the office space (which looks under utilised) to a sprung floor studio.</p>	Noted

1.6.1 Feedback received through the Long Term Plan consultation

The following comments have been included in this document as they are relevant either to the overall vision or specific projects included in the EA Networks Centre Masterplan. These comments have been received via submissions on the draft

Long Term Plan and not directly received as part of the masterplan consultation. While efforts have been taken to find and include relevant comments received through the LTP consultation, please note that this list is unlikely to be exhaustive.

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
Sean	An Athletic track need to be added into the Sports hub major plan as well yes I get it all cost but need to make Ashburton a town people wanna come to	Noted however could be challenging in the layout
Shannon Johnson	Getting a second exit out of EA stadium.	This is included in the draft masterplan
Mary	Expand the EA Networks Pools as there is currently not enough warm pools to swim in when lessons are being held. Or build a new pool for lessons. Hydroslide is a must. Dont think we need more Rugby fields utilise the Mid Canterbury rugby grounds. Another hockey Turf would be good as the current one is getting past its used by date. Invest for the future.	Council have resolved not to invest in any water based leisure in this LTP
Bev Skates	MINI GOLF - we want the mini golf project to be brought forward for the benefit of the whole community and do it at the same time as the sand court.	Officers are currently reviewing mini golf on Council direction
Debbie Wright	Bring Mini Golf forward as the town needs more things to do. Sand court would be amazing	Officers are currently reviewing mini golf on Council direction
Jenny Matthews	Bring mini golf project forward, and do same time as sand court. This could also be funded with the help of other foundations e.g. Lions	Officers are currently reviewing mini golf on Council direction – sand availability is proving a challenge currently
Angela Reid	It would be good if spin room and outdoor gym didn't get closed in with the extension of courts. Car parking on the new plan does still not look like it will be enough, it already spills over to where a new pool may go	Noted
Peter George	Another worry for me is talk about putting fields by the stadium in the future,no. There is a wonderful asset called the showgrounds	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	being completely under utilised.The council and show committee should get together and talk about a joint ownership,lease??	
Kate White	the proposed upgrading to EA Networks Centre entry and exit is definitely needed and must consider cyclists - currently not easy at all for cyclists to enter or exit this facility. Please give this careful attention (I have written more fully about this with recommendations in my EA Networks Centre 30 year vision submission)	Noted - as above
Keran McDonald	I think the solar farm is a great proposal. Personally I currently enjoy the disc golf and use the group fitness activities in the pool and gym. Its a real asset to our community. 2 of my colleagues have just joined and really loving it too. Having capacity for teams from other towns and cities would be an excellent foresight such as the community and premier turf and fields. There is a fabulous cafe currently which might become inundated if the facility expands- the cafe has an outdoor area which i think is very under utilised, maybe some thought into making it a bit more appealing. I would like to see a cycle way or some safer area for cyclists at the entrances off the main road. I cycle to EA Networks and find it a bit scary especially exiting onto the main road as I turn right. The main road can be quite busy and I can hold up cars behind me trying to cross the road. The alternative is walking to the nearest medianstrip to cross. The medianstrips are a bit narrow for a person and a bike.	The cafe is a tenanted space so operation is dependant on the operator It should be noted that the road around EANC is SH77 and changes would be dependant on Waka Kotahi
Contributor 1721	EANC court extension priority	
Marg and Bob Verrall	If the EA Stadium complex expected to expand with other sports in the coming years, we feel with increased traffic entering and exiting the area, rather than having the two entrance/exit roads as drawn on the plan, keep the two roads there but encourage Transit NZ to make a "round about " where the old water tower was, so incoming traffic to the stadium is all turning Left and all	It should be noted that the road around EANC is SH77 and changes would be dependant on Waka Kotahi

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>outgoing traffic is also turning left. As now there is a lot of impatient maneuvers from vehicles crossing the paths of passing traffic, at busy times and this will only get worse with increased use and extra traffic,</p>	
<p>Ian McBride on behalf of the President NZDA Phil Andrew (NZDA, member of ARUA - Ashburton Range Users Association)</p>	<p>Sports Field Extensions proposals NZDA Ashburton(Deerstalkers) is a member of the Ashburton Range Users Association. We would suggest that where extensions are concerned that the Rifle Range Assoc. & Members are included in those discussions. The Rifle Range has been there since the 1880's and is a certified, compliant and safe range - any movement of people in that direction needs some thought put into it and how any changes be enhanced or problems mitigated.</p>	<p>Noted - there is no intention for users to encroach into the range area as per EANC Masterplan</p>
<p>Jason Rickard</p>	<p>I think we need to keep working on the EA Networks facility becoming the central hub for the majority of sports in Mid Canterbury. This includes artificial turf pitches that can handle multiple sports and look to provide further administration facilities for all these sports. Somehow, working all together for a common goal. In the Long Term Plan there is no provision for an outdoor pool in the proposed 30 year plan. All the rhetoric about an outdoor pool at the EA Centre has been an afterthought</p>	
<p>Neil Pluck (Rakaia Community Association)</p>	<p>The Rakaia community association are very supportive of the EA networks area being expanded to support our local sporting codes in the future as this benefits all of our community.</p>	
<p>• Donna Favel (Ashburton Citizens Association)</p>	<p>Option 3 - Building an outdoor pool at EA Networks Centre (PREFERRED OPTION) - YES - great idea, along with the 30 Year plan for EA Networks Centre grounds and expansion.</p>	<p>Council have resolved not to invest in any water based leisure in this LTP</p>

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donna Favel (Regent Cinema) 	<p><u>Other notes:</u></p> <p>(a) Page 4 and 5 Map has Alfred Forest Road - locals of course will know it as ALFORD Forest Road</p> <p>(b) Page 4 and 5 Map has item 7 - stepped Terrace Seating between Premier Turf and Community Turf - it is a shame that the embankment behind Alford Forest Road residential properties, could not have been incorporated to provide some lawned viewing points, as per New Plymouth Boys High School:- → Field and Courts - New Plymouth Boys High School (npbhs.school.nz) → New Plymouth Boys High School Haka (youtube.com)</p> <p>(c) Page 2 and 12 - each advise that you have until Friday 28 April to provide your feedback - of course 28 April is a Sunday - but thank you for removing the 5.00pm deadline.</p>	<p>Officers do have in mind use of the natural embankment however concerns also exist with this regarding proximity to housing.</p>
<p>Janet Hadley</p>	<p>I love the 30 year plan for E.A., lets keep improving it, it's a real asset for our community</p>	
<p>Maree McNally</p>	<p>I preferred the other option in the 30 year EANC master plan for a separate competition pool area with more seating. It might give Ashburton a greater chance of attracting short course meets. An additional 25m pool at EANC will be next best option though</p>	<p>Council have resolved not to invest in any water based leisure in this LTP</p>
<p>GW Russell</p>	<p>The EA Centre needs better access - maybe traffic in one way & out another.</p>	
<p>Gerard Rushton</p>	<p>We need to plan for the EA networks center outdoor extension particularly for rugby as the present tenure at the showgrounds is unstable with the financial viability of the a&p association given that they had record crowds last year and still lost \$38000 for the year.</p> <p>Rugby involves 25% of the community on any given Saturday and is the only heartland union in NZ that doesn't have a council provided facility.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>Rugby has funds ready to go and invest now, but council seems reluctant to future proof the community by providing this facility. Rugby is experiencing growth of the women's game so all present facilities are not fit for purpose.</p>	
<p>Gerard Rushton (Mid Canterbury Rugby)</p>	<p>Mid Canterbury Rugby Union are submitting regarding the EA Networks Centre & Surrounding land – 30 Year Master Plan.</p> <p>The initial concept of establishing this area as a central sporting hub for the district holds greater importance now more than ever before. In 2021, we conveyed to the Council our strong desire for the continual advancement of this sporting hub and for it to remain in the Long-Term Plan (LTP) as a primary focus for facility development in the upcoming years. Our stance remains unchanged. And again in 2022, as part of our submission to the draft Play, Active Recreation and Sports Strategy (PARS), we outlined facility development as a key strategic area of focus.</p> <p>The Union recognises there is a crucial need to develop a suitable facility to accommodate the ongoing expansion of sport in the district. Rugby attracts a significant portion of the District's community each Saturday throughout the winter season, comprising at least 25% of the population. Notably, female participation in our sport surged by 83% in 2023, while our teenage boys' involvement also experienced substantial growth, increasing by 73%. As a result, our overall participation rates have soared by 26% in the past 12 months. 1st Quarter results in 2024 indicate further growth which augers well.</p> <p>In the existing Long-Term Plan (LTP), we note provisions for indoor sports like Netball and Basketball, which will be</p>	<p>Noted - as above - Officers will take guidance from Council regarding moving forward.</p>

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>accommodated in the planned extension of the current stadium, without any financial burden or commitment from them.</p> <p>Additionally, Cricket and Football needs are met by utilising the green space at the Ashburton domain. However, our current setup at the Ashburton Showgrounds no longer serves its purpose adequately, and significant investment would be required to make it viable.</p> <p>Given the precarious financial situation of the A & P Association, continuing as a tenant under these conditions is not feasible. It's careless to invest in infrastructure without a foreseeable return.</p> <p>Mid Canterbury Rugby is currently the sole Heartland Union lacking a Council-supported facility. With substantial developments underway in Timaru and across the Selwyn district, particularly in upgrading green space facilities, there's a real concern that we'll fall behind. Without these essential facilities, our ability to attract national events/tournaments or offer the ability to host rugby games is at risk.</p> <p>MCRU are prepared to relocate and are willing to partner with the Council to establish new facilities, incorporating features such as a multi-sport, all-weather artificial turf, gender-neutral changing facilities, and supplementary buildings that will provide long term sustainable facilities.</p> <p>While our nine member Clubs operate their own venues, we believe that investing in a central community sports facility development is not only an investment in physical infrastructure</p>	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	<p>of the district but by offering modern sports facilities that are easily accessible, we can enable our community members to embrace active lifestyles, cultivate a strong sense of belonging, and encourage positive interactions within our community. Additionally, such amenities would contribute to the economic growth of our area by attracting larger events and games. The EA Networks Centre Master Plan offers the opportunity to do this - to build a multi-generational, gender neutral facility for outdoor sports and complete the vision for a community sports hub to be based on the land that Council has acquired for the purpose.</p> <p>This masterplan was developed in consultation with user groups and, along with the current facility, underpins Councils own statement - that the "EA Networks Centre, 100% owned and operated by Council, is the district's sporting hub for local residents". The Council must continue to progress the project and we urge the council to consider this proposal favourably and allocate the necessary resources to make it a reality sooner than later.</p> <p>We see the project offering a solution to the rationalisation of sports facilities in Ashburton township. Developing the land adjacent to the EA Networks Centre is essential for realising our strategic priorities and we firmly advocate for its re-integration into the current Long-Term Plan (LTP) rather than the 30-year masterplan.</p> <p>Together, we can create a vibrant and thriving community where sports play a central role in enriching lives and strengthening bonds.</p>	

Submitter name	Summary	Staff comments
	Tanya Dearn CEO Mid Canterbury Rugby Union	