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| Responsible Directorate | Community Development |
| Responsible Business Unit/s | Recreation and Leisure Services |
| Responsible Officer | Manager Recreation and Leisure Services |
| Affected Business Unit/s | Recreation and Leisure Services Parks and Sustainability |

Objective

To establish Council's position in relation to the provision of lighting on selected sportsgrounds and sporting facilities to ensure that lighting levels are delivered in accordance with Australian Standards and Council priorities to support safe play, deliver effective sports ground management and foster improved sporting participation.

Scope

This policy covers the installation, replacement and upgrade of floodlights on sportsgrounds and outdoor leased sporting facilities where lighting is required on land under the care and control of the City.

Policy

The City has a significant number of sportsgrounds located on district and regional reserves as well as on leased premises which are used for sports and recreation training and practice. It is necessary to ensure that lighting installations, upgrades and replacements are in accordance with Council's available resources and budget priorities, meet the relevant Australian Standard and support safe and functional sporting participation outside of daylight hours whilst being cognisant of spill light impacts to adjacent properties.

Sportsgrounds

Sports Floodlighting provision

The City will provide and maintain floodlighting infrastructure on sportsgrounds that comply with the appropriate Australian Standard, this policy, sports floodlighting priorities and in accordance with the City's available resources and budgetary priorities.

In the event that there is no Australian Standard to determine lighting requirements for a specific use or for new sporting activities, then the City, in consultation with the appropriate Sporting Association or the Department of Sport and Recreation shall determine an appropriate standard to which lighting must comply.

The Australian Standards, this policy and the sports floodlighting priority criteria will determine the lighting illuminance required (lux level) and the playing area to be lit.

Competition Lighting

Given the cost of providing sportsground floodlighting suitable for competition purposes is higher than the cost of training lights for ball and physical training the City's priority is to provide sportsground lighting to a training level in order to benefit the largest possible number of local sports participants.

The City recognises that it is necessary to have some selected sportsgrounds that are suitable for use at higher levels. The City will consider installing sports lighting to a Club Competition and Match Practice standard in accordance with the Australian Standards for large ball sports only:

- On selected major district and regional classified public open spaces;
- Where there is significant district club level utilisation of the reserve (including junior and senior participation);
- Where the project has been determined a priority in accordance with the criteria identified in this policy;
- In accordance with City's available resources and budget priorities;
- Where there is a demonstrated need such as large growth in membership and sporting participation demand and utilisation; and
- Where external funding opportunities are available, including club contributions and/or grant funding opportunities identified through the Department of Sport and Recreation Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF).

Installation and Maintenance

The City will project manage the installation and maintenance of all sportsground floodlights provided by the City on sportsgrounds, on land under the care and control of the City, to ensure there is a consistent approach to the level and quality of floodlights provided.

Floodlighting on sportsgrounds whether fully or partially funded by community groups and external sources or not, shall be recognised as an asset of the City and made available to other sporting and community groups as deemed appropriate.

Usage

Sport, recreation clubs, personal trainers, dog training groups and associations are able to apply for training lighting on sportsgrounds subject to the satisfactory completion and submission of a formal 'Seasonal Ground Allocation application' to the City.

The use of the City's sportsgrounds where floodlights are installed will be restricted to the type/s of sports that comply with standard of lighting installed to ensure effective and safe use.

Floodlighting charges will be considered by Council on an annual basis as part of the development of Council's annual Fees and Charges Schedule and once adopted will form part of the seasonal sports ground usage fees.

Floodlighting on active reserves throughout the City will be made available throughout the year with the provisions that:

- All users are charged the standard hourly rate as per the City's adopted Fees and Charges Schedule; and
- Due regard be given to the wear and tear factor for year-round use.

Floodlights will be made available for use by sport, recreation clubs, personal trainers, dog training groups and associations on the days and hours specified.

Leased Sports Facilities

Sports Floodlighting Provision

Clubs and sporting groups operating a sports facility under a lease agreement will be responsible for providing (new and upgrades), installing, replacing and maintaining all sports floodlighting infrastructure to the appropriate Australian Standard, electrical code and relevant City specifications at their cost.

In the event that there is no Australian Standard to determine lighting requirements for a specific use or for new sporting activities, then the club, in consultation with the appropriate Sporting Association or the Department of Sport and Recreation shall determine an appropriate standard to which lighting must comply.

Installation & Maintenance

Floodlights installed on leased sports facilities, such as (but not limited to) tennis clubs, sportsmen's clubs and bowling clubs which have individual lease agreements, are required to develop a lighting design and seek the necessary approval from the City prior to installation. The club or group will be responsible for project managing the floodlight installation unless otherwise determined by the City.

Clubs/groups who install sporting floodlights on leased sports facilities will be responsible for the maintenance and repair of all floodlighting infrastructure including (but not limited to) the provision of new or upgraded lighting, replacement, and maintenance costs.

Usage

Clubs and groups who operate a leased facility that includes sporting grounds or facilities within a leased area that require sports lighting such as bowling and tennis clubs and sporting venues will be bound by the terms of the lease agreement in regards to floodlighting utilisation and responsibility for consumables and outgoings (including electricity).

Sports Floodlighting Priority and Funding

The need and priority of sports floodlighting installation, provision, upgrade and replacement will be determined by, but not limited to the following criteria:

- Where the existing condition of lighting identifies a need for upgrade such as the:
 - Age and condition of infrastructure;
 - Compliance with Australian Standards; and
 - Spill light mitigation or amendment;
- Where safety and risk management requirements necessitate the improved provision or replacement of floodlighting for player safety;
- Where there are no lights or if the existing lights are deemed insufficient;
- Where there is a demonstrable need for improved/additional lights such as growth in membership and sporting participation demand;
- Where there is a continued need to improve the availability of reserve playing space to address participation demand and wear and tear;
- Where the usage of the sportsground or sports facility identifies high utilisation numbers including junior and senior participation and high reserve/facility use capacity;
- Where there may also be a community benefit for improved lighting such as use by additional groups such as dog obedience groups and personal trainers;
- Where the sports floodlighting provision is in accordance with the classification and role of the reserve/facility in accordance with the Public Open Space Strategy;
- Where there is an opportunity to increase the sporting activation of a reserve where there is a justified need and demand subject to the capacity of the reserve surface;
- Where reserve and floodlight usage per week and season are high; and
- Where there is a justified need provided by sporting clubs and groups to provide or upgrade sports floodlights.

Sporting Clubs and groups operating under a Lease Agreement on land under the City's care and control, can apply, where determined eligible and feasible and in accordance with this policy, for external funding

assistance, in partnership with the State Government and the City through the Department of Sport and Recreation's Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF) for the provision of new, replacement and upgrade of sports floodlighting.

Where a sports floodlighting proposal for a leased sports facility is determined needed and complies with the Australian Standard and this policy, the City will consider a funding contribution up to a maximum of a one-third (33%) partnership contribution through the State Government's Community Sporting and Recreation Facilities Fund (CSRFF). The City's one third (33%) contribution will not include funding for the cost of floodlighting (and associated equipment) over and above the Australian Standard and this policy.

Sporting Club/Group Funded Sports Floodlighting

The City may receive requests from sporting clubs and groups to:

- provide additional sports floodlighting towers;
- upgrade existing sports floodlighting; or
- increase or improve illumination levels beyond specific Australian Standards.

The sporting club or group is required to submit an application which contains full details and specifications of the proposed lighting proposal including:

- Need and demand justification;
- Proposed lighting design including proposed layout and location of poles;
- Provision of a lux diagram, produced by a qualified electrical engineer confirming that the oval is consistently lit to the relevant Australian Standard;
- Confirmation of adequate power supply to the reserve;
- Confirmation that the work will be completed by a licensed electrician in compliance with the City's specifications;
- Provision of two cost estimates; and
- Detail of funding sources.

In order to assess and respond to requests in a consistent and equitable manner, the City will assess each application in accordance with this policy and the sports floodlighting priority criteria. Depending on the scope and impact of the project it may be presented to Council for approval.

The cost of the installation of any additional sports floodlights (including associated works such as power upgrades if required) over and above the current sports floodlighting level and in accord with this Policy will be the responsibility of the sporting club or group(s), providing the installation of additional lighting is approved by the City and is in accordance with Australian Standards.

Only grounds/facilities located at regional open spaces and major district reserves or leased sports facilities will be eligible for consideration.

All applications by sporting clubs and groups for the provision of sports floodlights will need to comply with planning and development requirements.

It should be noted that a sporting club or group contribution to sports floodlighting provision or upgrades above the City's policy and Australian Standards does not result in the club having exclusive access or reduced utility charges.

Floodlights installed on land under the care and control of the City, remain the City's asset and may not be altered or removed without prior written approval of Council.

Where required, site specific hire charges will be in accordance with the City's adopted Fees and Charges Schedule.

Additional approved usage of sportsgrounds as a result of supplementary lighting assets will continue to be monitored to ensure there are reasonable prospects for functional ground surfaces throughout the season.

Community Consultation

The need for community consultation with local residents will be determined by the proposed level of change to the current floodlighting provision or where new provision is proposed and there is a potential impact to nearby residential amenity. If a need for community consultation is required and where not addressed through a Development Application then the following consultation process will be undertaken:

- Formal correspondence will be circulated to the property owner immediately surrounding the reserve and within a 200 metre catchment that outlines the proposed sports lighting installation or upgrade;
- A map identifying the proposed positioning of new or upgraded sports lighting and where relevant will identify measures proposed to manage spill light;
- Residents shall be provided with a consultation period of not less than two (2) weeks; and
- The outcome of the consultation will be considered and where required submitted to Council for determination.

Recreational Use

Floodlights installed on sportsgrounds may also be made available to the community when they are not being utilised by approved users and where recreational and park lighting is not considered adequate. The determination for use of recreational lighting will be guided by the current level of organised sporting access and availability, residential impact, reserve condition, level of need and demand and where there is no or minimal impact on reserve maintenance.

Floodlights will only be made available where approved on specific locations in accordance with the Public Open Space Strategy on selected active sportsgrounds on the days and hours specified.

Definitions

Sports Floodlighting – is characterised by outdoor, weather proof, elevated light fittings established to provide uniformity of illumination across a playing area in accordance with appropriate standards. The basic requirement of sportsground floodlighting is that the focus of play, most usually around the position of the ball, is adequately illuminated consistently across the entire field of play.

Sporting Club and Group – a not for profit and incorporated sporting club or groups in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Act.

Australian Standards - are published documents setting out specifications and procedures designed to ensure products, services and systems are safe, reliable and consistently perform the way they were intended to. They establish a common language which defines quality and safety criteria.

Lux – the total amount of visible light illuminating a point on a surface from all directions above the surface. The standard unit for illuminance is Lux (lx). For a lamp it normally refers to the total light emitted irrespective of the directions in which it is distributed.

Sportsground – a parcel of land specifically utilised for organised sporting activities and less formal and individual activities, undertaken solely or in groups managed by the City.

Leased Sports Facilities – Sportsgrounds include leased sports facilities, such as tennis clubs, sportsmen's clubs and bowling clubs (but not limited to) which have individual lease agreements.

Regional Open Space – Large signature reserves that are of high recreational, social, environmental and tourism value as identified in the Public Open Space Strategy.

District Open Space – Principally provide for organised formal sport and recreation for surrounding neighbourhoods yet are large enough to accommodate a variety of concurrent uses as identified in the Public Open Space Strategy.

Recreational Activities – any activity that a person chooses to participate in during their free time for the purpose of enjoyment. This can include activities such as walking, jogging and dancing. Recreation activities are less structured than organised sporting activities.

Relevant management practices/documents

Clubs Forever Club Information Kit
 Public Open Space Strategy
 AS 2560 – Sports lighting – General principles
 AS 2560 – Sports lighting – Lighting for outdoor tennis
 AS 2560 – Sports lighting – Lighting for football (all codes)
 AS 2560 – Sports lighting – Lighting for outdoor netball and basketball
 AS 2560 – Sports lighting – Lighting for Baseball and softball
 AS 2560 – Sports lighting – Lighting for Outdoor hockey
 AS 4282 – Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting

Legislation/local law requirements

City of Stirling Local Government Property Local Law 2009
Land Administration Act 1997
Occupiers' Liability Act 1995

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