
Auckland Regional Netball Facilities Plan

January 2015



Contents

Section 1	Introduction.....	2
1.2	Process.....	2
1.3	The Value of the 2010 Plan	2
Section 2	Strategic Context	3
2.1	Overview of Netball National Facility Strategy.....	3
Section 3	The Current Situation	4
3.1	Current Situation	5
Section 4	Main Regional Challenges and Opportunities.....	8
4.1	Sustainability of the Centres.....	8
4.2	North	8
4.3	Central	9
4.4	South	9
Section 5	Auckland Regional Population Change	10
5.1	Population change (Census and Population Projections)	10
5.2	Proposed Unitary Plan Growth Areas	11
Section 6	Future Demand	13
6.1	Participation	13
6.2	Court Utilisation	13
6.3	Accessibility	14
6.4	Facility Demand Parameters	15
6.5	Applying demand parameters.....	16
Section 7	Future Priorities	19
7.1	Future Regional Prioritisation Criteria.....	19
7.2	Facility Hierarchy.....	20
Section 8	Key Strategic Priorities.....	22
8.1	Priority 1 - Supporting a regional hierarchy.	22
8.2	Priority 2 - The sustainable operation of the current netball centres.....	22
8.3	Priority 3 - Key facility development	23
8.4	Priority 4 - Securing access to additional courts required by 2031.....	23
8.5	Priority 5 - Access to indoor and covered courts.....	24
8.6	Priority 6 - A unified voice for netball facility development.....	22
Appendix A	Netball Courts included in the audit	25

Section 1 Introduction

Netball Northern, Netball New Zealand and Auckland Council commissioned sports consultants Visitor Solutions to undertake a review and update of the Auckland Regional Netball Facility Plan (2010) to identify the future netball facility needs for the region to inform the next Auckland Council 10 year Long Term Plan (LTP) 2015 - 2025.

Netball is a growing sport in Auckland and it is critical that sufficient quality facilities are provided in a network across the Auckland region. These facilities must be sustainable and accessible to the region's population of current and potential netball players.

This facility plan is focused on identifying the current and future demand for netball within the Auckland region. The report also considers any changes in netball participation, the impact of the 2013 census data on the regions demographics and future population growth.

This report seeks to update the 2010 document where required to reflect the findings of the review. Where possible, information that is considered to still be relevant today has been transferred directly from the 2010 document.

1.2 Process

A working group oversaw the development of the report, with representatives from Netball Northern, Netball New Zealand and Auckland Council.

The process in developing this report included:

- Analysis of participation numbers and turf utilisation.
- Analysis of the Auckland region's population and projected demographic changes.
- Two workshops with representatives from all netball centre invited on the 28th August and the 21st October 2014 to discuss the key changes since 2011 and to assess potential priorities, and potential regional solutions to meet demand.
- Regular steering group meetings.
- A draft Netball Regional Facility Plan outlining potential options and recommendations.

1.3 The Value of the 2010 Plan

Consultation with the key stakeholders identified that the development of the 2010 Auckland Regional Netball Plan had resulted in a number of positive benefits, in particularly helping to identify and support the development of a number of key projects. It was also identified that the Plan had helped to provide clarity key stakeholders and funders around the needs, what facilities are required and why.

While these benefits were identified there have been a number of significant changes in the way that the administration of netball has been structured both national and within the region over the past 3 years. it was recognised that more could have been done to improve co-ordination between the key stakeholders in the region, to ensure wider buy-in by the whole of the netball community which would have enabled netball to 'speak with one voice' on regional priorities.

Section 2 Strategic Context

2.1 Overview of Netball National Facility Strategy

The Netball National Facility Strategy was developed in 2010 which identified that a range of facilities should be developed on a network approach to fully utilise a wide range of facilities within the community, Figure 2.1. It was identified that a netball centre generally has the following characteristics:

- A central administration and competition base, with netball having primacy of use during the netball season.
- A central netball venue supported by other community facilities.
- Run flexibly to meet the local community needs and access to other netball facilities within the local community.
- Have access /use of indoor courts.

In considering the development of each Centre within the region Figure 2.1 sets out the range of possibilities, some of which will be more appropriate for some Centres than others depending on the needs of the individual centres. This approach was adopted in the 2010 Regional plan and endorsed again as the most appropriate way to develop facilities as part of the process of developing this plan.

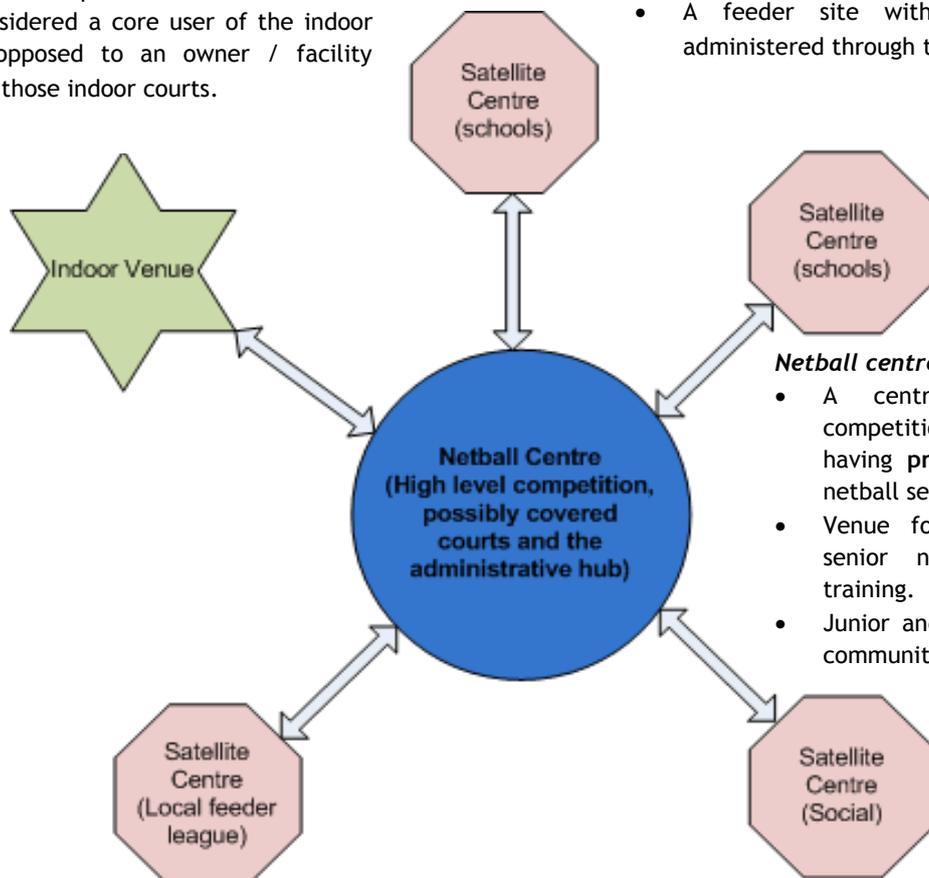
Figure 2.1 A Netball Centre

Indoor Courts

- Multi sport venues (e.g. recreation centre, schools) with netball as one of the core user groups.
- Larger centres may potentially have indoor courts available as part of the centre.
- Netball considered a core user of the indoor courts as opposed to an owner / facility manager of those indoor courts.

Satellite Centre

- Community based courts (e.g. school or recreation centre) providing opportunities for Fun Ferns, Future Ferns, Year 7 & 8, and Social netball.
- A feeder site with netball managed and administered through the netball centre.



Netball centre

- A central administration and competition base with netball having primacy of use during the netball season.
- Venue for secondary school and senior netball competition and training.
- Junior and social netball (for local community).

Note: The model can be implemented in different ways (individual parts or all) depending on the needs of the centre.

Section 3 The Current Situation

In considering the future demand for netball the plan has focused on identifying the demand on the courts during the peak time (the winter netball season). This has identified that in 2014 there were a total of 3,305 netball teams using the 12 netball centres within the region during an average week.

The blueprint has focused on the peak winter season usage as this represents the highest level of demand on the netball facilities. It is acknowledged that the centres are used throughout the year, however it is considered that if the centre has sufficient capacity to meet the needs of the winter season then there will be sufficient capacity to meet the lower level of demand experienced during the summer months.

These teams use the courts for a variety of different activities including affiliated competitions, club training and social netball with many teams using the facilities on several occasions throughout the week.

In addition to the netball use of the centres many fulfil a far wider role within their local community and are used for a wide variety of other sporting and non sporting activity, for example, tennis, school holiday programmes, afterschool programmes, karate and community meetings to name a few.

When analysing the current situation the blueprint has considered a number of factors including the number of teams, the active population, the number of teams per 1,000 active population, and the number of teams per court. A further description can be found in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Factors Considered in Analysis of the Current Situation

	Description
Teams	The teams identified include all teams that play at the centre during the winter season with any summer based teams excluded. Fun Ferns have been calculated as 10 players per team. Some teams utilise the centre on several occasions during the week and some players play for several teams. This has been identified across the region and for consistency a team rather than individuals have been counted and each team has been counted once for the purpose of analysis.
Active Population	The active population has been identified as women and girls aged under 40. It is acknowledged that some players are active beyond the age of 40, however this age range includes the majority of participants to enable consistent analysis.
Teams per 1,000 Population	This identifies how many teams play at the centre for every 1,000 total population within the defined catchment area. This provides an indication of the local participation rate in netball, the higher the number of teams the higher the local participation.
Teams per Court	This provides a measure of how utilised the courts are at a centre by considering how many teams play at a centre for each netball court that is available. Again the higher the number of teams per court the higher the level and intensity of court utilisation.

3.1 Current Situation

In analysis the current situation this has been considered both at the 4 geographical sectors within the Auckland region and by individual centres. The original 2010 plan was considered only at the individual centre level as this was before the formation of the Auckland Council and the Local Boards. The revised approach enables greater consideration of the regional pressures and alignment with administrative boundaries.

While it is possible to consider the current participation at a Local Board level the result are misleading as a number of the centres are sub-regional and serve the need of multiple local board.

There are a number of factors that influence use of the current facility and local participation including:

- Other competing activities.
- People choosing to play at centres other than their local centre.
- Socio economic factors (e.g. cost, travel times, accessibility).
- Development programmes and activities at the centre.
- Availability of other competitions locally.
- Quality of the facility.
- Capacity of the centre to accommodate additional teams.

While it is important these are fully considered the key measures of the current situation are court utilisation, local participation and court accessibility.

3.1.2 Court Utilisation

While the number of teams playing at a centre is important, the number of team per available court is a more appropriate measure of how well a particular centre is being utilised. Table 3.2 highlights that regionally there is an average of 16.7 teams per court within the Auckland region. This ranges from 11.3 in the South to 25.6 in the West area.

Table 3.2 Court Utilisation (Regionally)

Geographical Sector	Centres	Teams	Courts	Teams per Court
North	4	933	49	19.0
West	1	539	21	25.6
Central	1	883	42	21.1
South	6	1003	89	11.3
Auckland region	12	3,358	201	16.7

A summary of available courts has been included in Appendix A.

It is important to consider that a regional overview does not highlight the key challenges within individual centres. Table 3.3 highlights that there are significant variations across the centres with the Waitakere Netball Centre at 25.7 teams per court and the Kaipara Centre at 4.4 teams per court.

Table 3.3 Team per Court (Netball Centres)

	2014 Total Teams	Courts	Teams per court
Auckland	883	42	21.0
Hibiscus Coast	92	6	15.3
Howick / Pakuranga	366	20	18.3
Kaipara	35	8	4.4
Mangere / Otahuhu	111	10	11.1
Manurewa	66	12	5.5
North Harbour	737	29	25.4
Papakura	206	26	7.9
Pukekohe	168	15	11.2
Rodney	69	6	11.5
Waitakere	539	21	25.7
Waiuku	76	6	12.7

A breakdown of the courts included in Table 3.3 can be seen in Appendix A.

3.1.3 Local Participation

In terms of local participation rates Table 3.4 highlights that local participation rates in netball averages 2.4 teams per 1,000 population regionally and ranges from 2.1 teams per 1,000 population in the South to 2.8 teams per 1,000 population in the North.

Table 3.4 Local Participation

Geographical Sector	Centres	Teams	Teams per 1000
North	4	933	2.8
West	1	539	2.4
Central	1	883	2.3
South	6	1003	2.1
Auckland region	12	3,358	2.4

3.1.4 Accessibility

When considering the potential accessibility for netball (population per court) there is an average of one court per 7,149 people regionally and a range of 1 for every 5,247 in the South through to 1 per 10,889 in the West area.

Table 3.5 Court Accessibility

Geographical Sector	2013 Census	Centres	Courts	Population per court
North	336,345	4	49	6,864
West	228,675	1	21	10,889
Central	383,589	1	42	9,133
South	466,941	6	89	5,247
Auckland region	1,415,550	12	201	7,043

Due to the sub-regional nature of the netball centres it is not possible to fully analyse court accessibility within each local board.

Current Gaps in Provision

In addition to the over-arching analysis to identify population per court analysis of the membership location of the main netball centres that serve the central area (Auckland Netball Centre, North Harbour Netball Centre and Waitakere Netball Centre) identify variations in local participation rates and significant gaps in provision which impacts on opportunities to participate in netball.

When the total numbers of members for each of the Local Boards within the urban areas of the Central, Northern and West local board are considered against the population it can be seen that there is significant variations within the participation rates within the local boards.

Table 3.6 highlights that in Local Boards with relatively local access to a netball centre participation rates are between 3.5% to 4.5% of the population. In Local Boards with limited / no access to netball courts participation is lower with both the Puketapapa and Whau Local Boards with a participation rate below 1%. These Local Boards are considered to have a strategic gap in netball facilities.

Table 3.6 Members identified in Central, West and Northern Local Board

Local Board	2013 Census	Total members identified	Participation Rate
Upper Harbour	53,670	1,868	3.48%
Kaipatiki	82,494	1,936	2.35%
Devonport-Takapuna	55,470	1,869	3.37%
Henderson-Massey	107,685	4,990	4.63%
Waitemata	77,136	1,879	2.44%
Whau	72,594	443	0.61%
Albert-Eden	94,695	3,102	3.28%
Puketapapa	52,938	479	0.90%
Orakei	79,536	3,923	4.93%
Maungakiekie-Tamaki	70,005	1,590	2.27%

Based on membership from Auckland Netball Centre, North Harbour Netball Centre, and Waitakere Netball Centre.

Section 4 Main Regional Challenges and Opportunities

While many of the challenges facing the netball centres in the region are similar, it is important to acknowledge that each centre is individual and serves their local community. In considering the future demand for netball and the implications on facilities it is important to consider the diversity within the region and identify the main regional issues.

Through the process of reviewing the plan the main regional challenges identified in 2010 were re-visited and considered to be relevant.

4.1 Sustainability of the Centres

The on-going sustainability of the netball centres is a challenge identified across the region. A review of the financial position of the centres highlights that the majority of centres are able to meet the day to day operational cost involved in operating the centres and administering the game. Meeting the on-going repair, maintenance and development of the centres however is a major challenge.

There are also a number of different approaches taken towards the ownership and maintenance of assets across the centres and, largely due the arrangements with the legacy councils, there is no consistency across the region. While all centres are on publically owned recreational reserve land the different models highlighted include:

- Changing and club rooms leased to the centre with Auckland Council owned and maintained courts
- Changing, clubrooms and court area leased to the centre with the centre responsible for maintenance of courts (with one centre receiving an operational grant towards maintenance and court renewal).

In addition, where the Council is responsible for court maintenance and renewal, the standard of service, frequency of renewal etc varies across the region with pro-active management in some parts of the region and others where significant delays are experienced on court renewals.

4.2 North

The main challenges and opportunities facing the north of the Auckland region were identified as including:

- Future population growth resulting in increased demand.
- Growth focused on certain geographical areas.
- North Harbour currently operating at capacity resulting in:
 - Limited ability to offer a greater range of competition “products” e.g. social netball.
 - Current situation leading possibly to rationing.
- High level of projected growth of the Asian population combined with low participation rates within Asian communities.
- Competition with other sports e.g. football.
- Indoor sports currently at capacity - pay for play.
- Hibiscus Coast will be at capacity soon.

4.3 Central

The main challenges and opportunities facing the central area of the Auckland region were identified as being:

- Auckland operating near capacity.
 - Not just number of courts but also types of court, admin / officials.
 - Require new models e.g. Direct Debit.
- Strong commercial model.
 - Driven by need, providing diversity, effective practice overseas.
 - Significant increase in social netball providing netball in different forms / different seasons to meet demand.
- Development of satellites needed to meet accessibility.
- High quality service - people will pay more / travel. People need to 'belong' to the centre. Satellites are an option not a need.
- Need for appropriate car parking.

4.4 South

The main challenges and opportunities facing the southern area of the Auckland region were identified as:

- Lack of indoor venue for national standard / premier competition.
- Large projected population growth.
- Existing facilities have the capacity to meet the future demand, however the condition of some facilities is of concern.
- Need to maximise the utilisation of the current facilities.
- Needs of local community to be considered, one solution doesn't fit all.
- Concerns over the capacity of the volunteers to manage competitions across the week
- Getting a paid administrator could change the way the centres work and impact on the volunteer / family culture of the centres.

Section 5 Auckland Regional Population Change

5.1 Population change (Census and Population Projections)

The 2013 Census identified that the population of Auckland increased by 5.3% from 1,304,958 in 2006 to 1,415,550 in 2013, Table 4.1. While all areas of the region experienced growth a number of local boards increased by over 5,000 people, these were:

• Waitamata	14,208
• Howick	13,620
• Upper Harbour	10,797
• Henderson Massey	8,898
• Hibiscus Coast and the Bays	7,974
• Franklin	6,720
• Rodney	5,520
• Manurewa	5,052
• Orakei	5,016.

Latest population projections released by Statistics New Zealand suggest that the Auckland regional population could increase from 1.41 million in 2013 to 1.97 million by 2031 with some parts of Auckland projected to experience greater population growth than others.

Based on the Statistics New Zealand projections the growth will not be uniform across the region. The population of some Local Board are projected to increase significantly in numerical terms with the following identified to increase by over 25,000 people by 2031:

- Rodney.
- Hibiscus Coast and the Bays.
- Upper Harbour.
- Henderson Massey.
- Maungakiekie-Tamaki.
- Howick.
- Mangere-Otahuhu.
- Otara-Papatoetoe.
- Manurewa.
- Franklin.

Within this overall increase in the number of people living in the region, it is also anticipated that there will be a broad shift in the age structure of the population, in line with national trends. That is, the number and proportion of the population who are in older age groups will increase. For example, the proportion of the regional population aged 65 years and over will increase from 9.7 per cent to 16.6 per cent. The median age in Auckland will rise from 33.7 years in 2006 to 37.7 years in 2031 (this will still be lower than the projected median age for the country as a whole, at 40.2 years).

Table 5.1 2013 Census and Projected population by local board 2013 to 2031

Local Board	2013 Census	2016	2021	2026	2031
Rodney	54,879	61000	67100	76300	88600
Hibiscus and Bays	89,832	98300	109500	121100	127600
Upper Harbour	53,670	55500	61500	70700	83000
Kaipatiki	82,494	92800	97100	99700	100400
Devonport-Takapuna	55,470	62100	69800	74700	79000
Henderson-Massey	107,685	122800	131700	140700	149600
Waitakere Ranges	48,396	53600	58100	61400	62900
Great Barrier	939	900	910	910	910
Waiheke	8,340	9350	9990	10650	11200
Waitemata	77,136	76400	82800	92200	105700
Whau	72,594	85200	91900	98700	103400
Albert-Eden	94,695	107100	113400	118100	120700
Puketapapa	52,938	61800	66200	69000	71300
Orakei	79,536	89400	96400	100600	103100
Maungakiekie-Tamaki	70,005	81100	86600	94700	105400
Howick	127,125	142700	151100	157800	162400
Mangere-Otahuhu	70,959	84000	90600	98000	106300
Otara-Papatoetoe	75,660	89700	96400	102900	108300
Manurewa	82,242	95900	101400	105500	107900
Papakura	45,633	49800	54300	60500	69000
Franklin	65,322	71800	79500	89400	101400
Auckland region	1,415,550	1591200	1716400	1843500	1968100

Source: Statistics New Zealand

5.2 Proposed Unitary Plan Growth Areas

The current draft Unitary Plan identifies a number of growth areas in the region that have not been fully taken into account with the Statistics New Zealand population projections identified in Table 5.1. These growth areas are new Greenfield sites with the capacity to meet the future growth requirements of Auckland through to 2041. These currently include:

South Hingaia, Opaheke, Drury, Paerata, Pukekohe.

North West Kumeu, Huapai, Riverhead, Brigham Creek, Red Hills.

North Dairy Flat, Silverdale, Warkworth.

The current and projected populations within each of the Associations' catchment areas are set out in Table 5.2.

Table 5.2 Current and Projected Populations

Sector	2013 Census	Estimated Population 2031
North	336,345	478,600
Central	228,675	315,900
West	383,589	518,310
South	466,941	655,300
Total	1,415,550	1,968,110

In projecting future demand it is important to weigh up many factors to ensure that facilities are best placed to meet demand in addition to the location of existing facilities and current gaps in the network. These factors will help to identify the short / medium term priorities however consideration of the locations of future facility development will need to carefully consider:

- Current gaps in provision.
- Areas of significant population growth (in real terms) from 2006 to 2013.
- Areas of projected growth from 2013 to 2031.
- Proposed Unitary Plan Growth Areas.

It is highly likely that the priority for future facility developments will be located in areas where these factors overlap.

Section 6 Future Demand

While there is a projected significant increase in the future population, this is not evenly distributed across the region. In addition future demand is also influenced by three key demand parameters:

- Participation.
- Accessibility.
- Court utilisation.

6.1 Participation

The total population of the Auckland region is projected to increase to 1.968m by 2031. Once the local participation rates have been taken into account it is projected that the demand for netball will increase by 1,301 teams to 4,659 by 2031. This is approximately an additional 13,000 individuals playing netball (excluding summer based competition) in the Auckland region (Table 6.1).

Sector	2031 Projected Population	Current Teams	Future Teams
North	478,600	933	1,328
West	315,900	539	745
Central	518,310	883	1,193
South	655,300	1003	1,394
Auckland region	1,968,110	3,358	4,659

6.2 Court Utilisation

While the number of teams playing at a centre is important, the number of team per available court is a more appropriate measure of how well a particular centre is being utilised. Based on the projected increase in participation Table 6.2 highlights that regionally the average utilisation of courts will increase to 23.2 by 2031. This ranges from 15.7 in the South to 35.5 in the West area.

Table 6.2 Court Utilisation (Regionally)

Geographical Sector	Centres	Teams	Courts	Teams per Court
North	4	1,328	49	27.1
West	1	745	21	35.5
Central	1	1,193	42	28.4
South	6	1,394	89	15.7
Auckland region	12	4,659	201	23.2

A summary of available courts has been included in Appendix A.

It is important to consider that a regional overview does not highlight the key challenges within individual centres. Table 6.3 highlights that there are significant variations across the centres with the Waitakere Netball Centre at 35.7 teams per court and the Kaipara Centre at 6.1 teams per court.

Table 6.3 Team per Court (Netball Centres)

	2031 Total Teams	Courts	Teams per court
Auckland	1227	42	29.2
Hibiscus Coast	128	6	21.3
Howick / Pakuranga	509	20	25.4
Kaipara	49	8	6.1
Mangere / Otahuhu	154	10	15.4
Manurewa	92	12	7.6
North Harbour	1024	29	35.3
Papakura	286	26	11.0
Pukekohe	234	15	15.6
Rodney	96	6	16.0
Waitakere	749	21	35.7
Waiuku	106	6	17.6

6.3 Accessibility

When considering the potential accessibility for netball (population per court) there is an average of one court per 7,149 people regionally and a range of 1 for every 5,247 in the South through to 1 per 10,889 in the West area.

Table 6.4 Court Accessibility

Geographical Sector	2013 Census	Centres	Courts	Population per court
North	478,600	4	49	9,767
West	315,900	1	21	15,043
Central	518,310	1	42	12,341
South	655,300	6	89	7,363
Auckland region	1,968,110	12	201	9,792

6.4 Facility Demand Parameters

In considering overall demand for netball courts it is important to consider that there are many factors that influence the demand for courts. These include:

- Utilisation of courts.
- Accessibility of courts.
- Local Participation.
- Quality of courts.
-

6.4.1 Utilisation (teams per court)

When considering the quantity of courts it is important to consider both the utilisation of existing courts and the geographical access to courts. The 2010 Regional Facility identified that while one solution does not fit all, analysis of the utilisation of a netball centre indicates that:

- A centre can no longer accommodate all games on a Saturday and is required to play competitions across the week, when there is an average of approximately **20** winter based teams per court.
- A centre can be considered to be running at or near capacity when there is an average of **over 30** winter based teams per court.

Further detailed analysis indicates that this level of utilisation is unrealistic and over estimated the potential capacity of a netball court.

Utilisation (teams per court):

The maximum capacity of a netball court before has been revised to 25 teams per court.

6.4.2 Accessibility (Court per 1,000 population):

Reliance on courts per population in isolation is un-realistic in many cases and should not be used in isolation to determine where new courts are required. Consideration should be given to the level of use at the local facilities and analysis of the local population to determine if the number of courts is a barrier or if there are other socio-demographic factors which influence participation.

Where this has been considered then opportunities should be explored to develop additional courts. This will be of particular relevance in areas of population growth, without access to existing facilities, where the number of courts per 1,000 population should be considered more reliable.

Accessibility (Court per 1,000 population):

Based on the above data and the current latent demand it is estimated that 1 netball court is required per 7,000 population.

6.4.3 Participation (teams per 1000 population)

In considering the future facility requirements it has been highlighted that the level of netball participation varies across the region. There are many factors which can influence participation, one of which is access to facilities. Where participation is lower this indicates that there is latent demand.

Participation

Based on the above data it is estimated that there is latent demand where there are fewer than 2.4 teams per 1000 population.

6.5 Applying demand parameters

It is essential that no one factor is considered in isolation. **Teams per court** is considered the primary measure of calculating the additional court requirements. However in areas of population growth, without access to an existing netball centre (with capacity), **Courts per 1,000 population** should be utilised.

In considering the future facility requirements, each sector has been considered against the demand parameters identified to highlight the surplus or shortfall of courts against. In considering the implications it is essential to consider each centre individually. While the sector may have sufficient courts overall an individual centre may be operating above capacity. Where this is the case opportunities to maximise the use of other courts within the sector should be a priority.

Table 6.5 Northern Sector Analysis against Demand Parameters (2031)

Demand Parameter		Comment	Implications for the Sector
Utilisation per Court	27.1	Overall it is considered that there are insufficient courts to meet future demand. North Harbour is projected to be over capacity at 35 teams per court. To maintain 25 teams per court access to an additional 12 courts is required by 2031.	<p>There is very high utilisation of current North Harbour netball centre. Priority should be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure access to existing satellites sites under the umbrella of the North Harbour netball centre. To secure access to an additional 12 courts within the current North Shore urban area. To secure access to a further 11 courts in areas of population growth.
Accessibility	9,767	An additional 23 courts would be required to meet the accessibility benchmark.	
Participation	All areas meet participation criteria.	While all areas are currently within the participation range identified in Table 3.6 they are at the lower end, given population growth this would indicate future latent demand.	

Table 6.6 West Sector Analysis against Demand Parameters (2031)

Demand Parameter		Comment	Implications for the Sector
Utilisation per Court	35.5	Overall it is considered that there are insufficient courts to meet future demand. Waitakere Netball Centre is projected to be over capacity at 35 teams per court. To maintain 25 teams per court access to an additional 3 courts is required by 2031.	<p>There is very high utilisation of current Waitakere netball centre. Priority should be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure access to an additional existing satellites sites under the umbrella of the Waitakere netball centre. To secure access to an additional 18 courts with priority given to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whau Local Board area (this should be considered alongside potential future provision in the West Sector). Areas of significant population growth.
Accessibility	15,043	An additional 18 courts would be required to meet the accessibility benchmark.	
Participation	All areas meet participation criteria.	The Puketepapa Local Board area has significantly lower levels of participation and should be considered a strategic priority for additional courts. While all other areas are currently within the participation range identified in Table 3.6 they are at the lower end, given population growth this would indicate future latent demand.	

Table 6.7 Central Sector Analysis against Demand Parameters (2031)

Demand Parameter		Comment	Implications for the Sector
Utilisation per Court	28.4	Overall it is considered that there are insufficient courts to meet future demand. Auckland Netball Centre is projected to be over capacity at 29 teams per court. To maintain 25 teams per court access to an additional 15 courts is required by 2031.	<p>There is very high utilisation of current Auckland netball centre. Priority should be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure access to an additional existing satellites sites under the umbrella of the Auckland netball centre. To secure access to an additional 15 courts within the current urban area with a priority given to the Whau Local Board area (this should be considered alongside potential future provision in the West Sector). To secure access to a further 8 courts to provide local access.
Accessibility	12,341	An additional 23 courts would be required to meet the accessibility benchmark.	
Participation	All areas meet participation criteria.	The Whau Local Board area has significantly lower levels of participation and should be considered a strategic priority for additional courts.	

Table 6.8 Southern Sector Analysis against Demand Parameters (2031)

Demand Parameter		Comment	Implications for the Sector
Utilisation per Court	15.7	Overall it is considered that there are sufficient courts to meet future demand. Based on the peak utilisation of 25 teams per court it is considered that there is a potential over-supply of 32 courts by 2031.	<p>While the number of courts required is lower for the sector as a whole (as there are a significant number of courts provided) these courts are not necessarily in the future areas of growth. The priority should be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring accessibility / maximising use of existing courts Providing additional courts in areas of significant population growth (1 per 7,000 population). Given the location of a number of existing facilities, these are unlikely to be accessible and meet future demand where there is growth in other geographical areas of the sector.
Accessibility	7,363	An additional 9 courts would be required to meet the accessibility benchmark.	
Participation	All areas meet participation criteria.	Full data is not available on teams' locations however a high level analysis would indicate that access to facilities is not a major barrier across the sector as a whole. However given population growth this would indicate localised gaps in provision and future latent demand.	

Section 7 Future Priorities

7.1 Future Regional Prioritisation Criteria

Throughout the process of developing the 2010 Regional Facility Plan a number of criteria by which all future facility developments should be considered were developed. These were developed at the workshop of centres and agreed following consultation on the discussion document. These have been reviewed as part of these plan and are considered directly relevant. These are:

- **Sustainability.**
Future facility developments should be financially sustainable for individual centres and include consideration of the long term maintenance. Where possible the design must be flexible to meet changing needs of netball and enable the facility to be utilised by as wide a range of other users as possible. Consideration needs to be given to the quality of facilities to ensure that future maintenance is undertaken to a high standard.
- **Accessibility.**
Future facility developments should increase the accessibility of netball within the community. This should consider providing opportunities within the local community to minimise travel times and increase the number of opportunities to play netball locally and linking to good public transport.
- **Future proofing of facilities.**
Facility developments should consider both the current and future needs of netball and other complementary sporting activities taking into account future population growth.
- **Increasing participation.**
While it is recognised that maintaining and improving existing facilities is important, future facility developments that maximise the opportunities to increase participation (including social and user pays netball) where there is an identified demand, should be considered a high priority.
- **Co-ordination between centres to avoid duplication.**
Opportunities to co-ordinate between facilities / venues, avoiding duplication of activity and/or maximising opportunities available to participants, while ensuring quality facilities, should be considered a priority.
- **Centre utilisation and population growth.**
All facility developments should be based on meeting current and future demand. A higher priority should be given to projects that increase participation where there is a high level of utilisation and/or high projected population growth.
- **Proposed developments should be appropriate to the local community.**
Facility development should take account of the social fabric / local community culture to ensure that they meet the needs of the local community.

7.2 Facility Hierarchy

To meet the required range of international, national, regional and local competition and training requirements the following facility hierarchy is required.

Table 7.1 Competition Facility Hierarchy

Standard	Number	Range of facilities	Repair and maintenance / sustainability
International	No additional facilities required	No additional facilities required	Ongoing maintenance required.
National	No additional facilities required	No additional facilities required	Ongoing maintenance required.
Regional	No additional facilities required	No additional facilities required. Consideration should be given to provide covered courts at Howick Pakuranga NC	Ongoing maintenance required.
Local	No additional netball centres required. Additional court required to meet areas of demand	Locally accessible courts for club training, primary and local and social competitions.	Ongoing maintenance required.

Table 7.2 Training Facility Hierarchy

Standard	Number	Range of facilities	Repair and maintenance / sustainability
International	Current facilities fragmented. No dedicated training venue available.	Netball NZ training venue to include 2 indoor courts, meeting, analysis rooms, Accommodation.	Potential to align with High Performance facilities at AUT Millennium.
National (Trans-Tasman)	Current facilities fragmented. No dedicated training venue available.	Northern Mystics training venue to include 2 indoor courts, meeting, analysis rooms, Accommodation.	Potential to align with High Performance facilities at AUT Millennium.
Regional	No additional facilities required	No additional facilities required.	Ongoing maintenance required.
Local	Additional court required to meet areas of demand	Locally accessible courts for club training.	Ongoing maintenance required.

Note: The National domestic competition, the ANZ Championship, is a Trans-Tasman competition and as such can be considered as an International standard competition.

Section 8 Key Strategic Priorities

In considering the future priorities for the region it is important to consider that the development of one facility will have an impact on the wider region. A number of options were discussed at the 21st October workshop and recommended options agreed.

In considering the key strategic priorities the following have been identified:

1. A unified voice for netball facility development.
2. Supporting a regional hierarchy
3. The sustainable operation of the current netball centres
4. Key facility developments
5. Securing access to additional courts required by 2031.
6. Access to indoor and covered courts.

For this regional plan to become a living document it is essential that a regional netball facility working group is established to promote and oversee the implementation of the Regional Netball Facility Plan. The first step for the regional netball facility working group is to develop a detailed action plan to implement the strategy.

8.1 Priority 1 - A unified voice for netball facility development.

- 8.1.1 Northern Netball and the centres to engage with Auckland Council and the Local Boards to raise awareness of the Facility Strategy, key regional priorities and the sustainable club model.

8.2 Priority 2 - Supporting a regional hierarchy.

- 8.2.1 No additional regional facilities or netball centres are required. The priority is maintaining existing network of facilities.
- 8.2.2 Future access to courts should be developed through a satellite based approach to provide accessible courts. Additional courts should align with the network based approach (Figure 2.1) and should be developed to align with the Netball NZ and Northern Netball strategic plan.

8.3 Priority 3 - The sustainable operation of the current netball centres

- 8.3.1 In considering the regional priorities for future facility developments the first priority is to ensure that each centre is able to provide for a minimum standard of play. All netball facilities should be provided to a standard which allows netball to be played in a safe environment. The first priority is to maintain and utilise existing facilities before developing new ones and ensuring a minimum standard of play.

Minimum Standard of Play

- A non-slippery court surface free of cracks, weeds and other obstructions.
- Minimum court run off areas appropriate to the level of competition.
- Clear court markings and well maintained goal posts.
- Court floodlighting.
- Appropriate lighting around entrances and car parking areas.
- Access to toilets.
- Access to an administration hub / pavilion.

- 8.3.2 Develop an asset management plan with a maintenance programme of court replacement to include all centres within the region wide basis. Once developed a regional netball facility working group should engage with Auckland Council on a partnership basis to secure on-going investment in the netball centres.
- 8.3.3 Netball centres should explore options to increase the flexibility and utilisation of existing courts (outside core netball times marking up a minimum of 2 courts for multisport (tennis, futsal, basketball etc).

8.4 Priority 4 - Key facility development

- 8.4.1 Undertake detailed investigations into the remedial work required at North Harbour Netball Centre.
- 8.4.2 Undertake a needs assessment and detailed feasibility into the development of a Netball NZ and Northern Mystics training venue co-located with high performance sports facilities at AUT Millennium.
- 8.4.3 Undertake a detailed investigation to identify and secure access to additional courts (minimum of 6 to 8 courts) in the Whau and / or Puketapapa Local Boards. (These should be considered in addition to the 6 courts at Avondale College where funding has been recently secured).
- 8.4.4 Undertake a feasibility study into the development of 2 covered courts at Howick Pakuranga netball centre.

8.5 Priority 5 - Securing access to additional courts required by 2031

- 8.5.1 In establishing demand potential new courts the following parameters should be considered:

Accessibility:

1. Courts should be considered to be operating at capacity when there are 25 teams per court.

Quantity:

2. For every 7,000 population a participation based court should be easily accessible within the community area (15 minute catchment area).

Quality:

2. Existing courts should be in a good state of repair. The priority should be given to courts with high levels of existing utilisation.

- 8.5.2 The demand and gap analysis (Tables 6.5 to 6.8) indicates potential areas of shortfalls by 2031 are in:

- Northern (23 courts)
- West (18 courts)
- Central (23 courts)
- Southern (9 courts).

- 8.5.3 The priority for additional courts should be to meet the demand for training, junior and localise competition. New courts should align with an existing netball centre to ensure additional competitions are under the administration of the current centre and provide a seamless transition of members. Options for securing access to new courts include:
- Maximising use of school / public courts (establishing a formal agreement for use).
 - Securing access to new courts as part of multisport developments in growth areas.
- 8.5.4 In current and future growth areas, where netball facilities do not currently exist consideration should be given to ensuring the 1 court per 7,000 population is achieved. The priority for securing new courts in growth areas should be as part of multi-sport developments
- 8.5.5 New courts should consider all delivery models however ensure that they align with the Netball New Zealand and Northern Netball strategic plans.

8.6 Priority 6 - Access to indoor and covered courts.

- 8.6.1 Securing access to covered outdoor(s) as should be considered a medium term priority. Following the completion of the covered courts at Pukekohe netball centre, Howick Pakuranga is the only large netball centre (with a sub-regional focus) without access to covered courts. Consideration should be given to undertaking a feasibility study to develop 2 covered courts.
- 8.6.2 It is considered unsustainable to develop additional netball only indoor courts. Indoor courts provide for a higher quality environment and opportunities should be explored to develop access to additional indoor courts where:
- A sustainable business case can be demonstrated
 - They are part of a multisport complex
 - Where netball is identified as a core user.

Appendix A Netball Courts included in the audit

Centre	Available Courts	
Auckland	42	30 Auckland Netball Centre 12 Windmill Road ²
Hibiscus Coast	6	6 Hibiscus Coast Netball Centre
Howick / Pakuranga	20	16 Howick Pakuranga 4 Ngati Otara Park ¹
Kaipara	8	8 Kaipara Netball Centre
Mangere / Otahuhu	10	10 Mangere Otahuhu Netball Centre
Manurewa	12	12 Mangere Netball Centre
North Harbour	29	21 North Harbour Netball Centre 4 Westlake Girls College ² 2 Beach Haven Primary ¹ 2 Navy Reserve, Devonport ¹
Papakura	26	26 Papakura Netball Centre
Pukekohe	15	15 Pukekohe Netball Centre
Rodney	6	6 Rodney Netball Centre
Waitakere	21	21 Waitakere Netball Centre
Waiuku	6	6 Waiuku Netball Centre

Note: 1 These courts are independent from the main centres however run as a satellite with support from them.

2 These courts are a satellite of the main centre.