



# Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy

February 2025

# Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy

## Strategy Vision

A strategy to guide the aspirations and understand the participation needs in play, active recreation, and sport, for the vibrancy of the communities, spaces and places of the Grey District.

## Executive Summary from the Mayor

*As the Mayor of Grey District, I am proud to introduce our Play, Active Recreation, and Sport (PARS) Strategy. This strategy reflects our commitment to creating a vibrant and inclusive community where everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of play, active recreation, and sport. These activities are vital for fostering wellbeing, strengthening our sense of community, and enhancing the unique identity of our district.*

*The Grey District is blessed with an extraordinary natural environment, a wealth of recreational facilities, and a community with a strong tradition of collaboration.*

*This strategy builds on these strengths, addressing challenges and identifying opportunities to ensure that play, active recreation, and sport remain accessible, sustainable, and enjoyable for all.*

*I invite you to explore the strategy and consider how you can contribute to its success. Together, we can create a district where play, active recreation, and sport support happier, healthier lives and a connected, resilient community.*

**Tania Gibson | Mayor, Grey District Council**



The play, active recreation, and sport sector contributes to the vibrancy of the people and places of the Grey District. This strategy serves as a tool to guide planning and decision making for the sector, now, and for the future.

## Projected Outcomes

The projected outcomes of this Play, Active Recreation, and Sport (PARS) strategy and its development include:

- To encourage accessibility of our natural and built environment for everyone.
- Sustainability for facilities, spaces and places, and activity opportunities.
- Maximisation of facilities, spaces and places through collaboration and sharing.
- A guide for planning, investment, and development of play, active recreation, and sport enablement across all areas of Council.

These align with Grey District Council's Our Vision<sup>1</sup> - Grey District Council ([greydc.govt.nz](http://greydc.govt.nz))

<sup>1</sup>Our Vision - Grey District Council ([greydc.govt.nz](http://greydc.govt.nz))

This strategy aligns with the shared vision of Te Whanaketanga te Tai Poutini West Coast Strategy 2050 which states “Te Whanaketanga sets out our shared vision for improving the lives of all Coasters and shows us the pathway forward to achieving our aspirations as a hapori. It:

- Articulates a bold vision and intergenerational outcomes for the West Coast;
- Identifies the challenges and opportunities we face in achieving that vision;
- Identifies the priority missions that have been identified to drive that growth; and
- Provides the blueprint for the Action Plan that will enable the delivery of those missions and the projects that sit beneath them.”<sup>2</sup>

A ‘SOAR’ (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, and Results) analysis early on in the development of this strategy outlined current and prospective features of the play, active recreation, and sport sector in the district as follows:

<p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural environment and appeal to recreational enthusiasts and adventure sport athletes.</li> <li>• Communication and engagement improved.</li> <li>• Solid range of facilities.</li> <li>• Consideration of the network (sector and transport).</li> </ul>	<p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A collaborative approach to PARS enablement</li> <li>• Promote the recreational and multi sport opportunities in Te Tai Poutini West Coast more broadly (novice to international level athletes)</li> <li>• Cultural narrative to support PARS enablement and awareness</li> <li>• Events to bring a range of cultures and groups together</li> <li>• PARS meeting needs of cultures, individuals with disabilities, aging population, youth, and an accessibility and inclusivity approach</li> <li>• Transport and active transport network enhancement.</li> </ul>
<p><b>ASPIRATIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep pace with trends, wants and needs.</li> <li>• Grey District is a destination attraction for PARS participation.</li> </ul>	<p><b>RESULTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration between codes, organisations, and sectors.</li> <li>• Dynamic, multipurpose spaces that are as inclusive as possible.</li> <li>• Transport network that empowers and enables active modes of transport and linkages to PARS opportunities.</li> <li>• People who live in Grey District are proud to live here, and have opportunities and are enabled to participate in PARS to support their vibrancy.</li> <li>• The future of the PARS sector considers the vibrancy of the spaces and places of the Grey District.</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup>Te\_Whanaketanga\_Feb\_2022 - 24.07.10.pdf



## Context: Physical Activity, Play, Active Recreation, Sport

<sup>3</sup>The following extract from the Sport Canterbury Strategic Plan 2022 – 2026 has been utilised to define the activities of:

**Physical Activity** is any activity involving bodily movement.

**Active Play** means physical activity that is intrinsically motivated, freely chosen, for no specific outcome.

**Active Recreation** is non-competitive physical activity undertaken for lifestyle, wellbeing, health and enjoyment.

**Sport** is physical activity in which an individual or team compete against each other for wellbeing, enjoyment, and sometimes performance.

## Why?

Grey District Council recognise the importance of play, active recreation, and sport (PARS) for the hauora of our community and the spaces and places of the district. This focus enables the consideration of cultural acknowledgement, accessibility and inclusion needs, as well as planning and functionality of the district, such as environmental conservation, the transport network and transport modes, and health promotion approaches.

This strategy can connect considerations about how PARS enablement can contribute towards the kaitiaki responsibility we have collectively for the taiao.

Participation in PARS can contribute to the holistic hauora of individuals, whānau, and hapori and align with Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand daily physical activity recommendations<sup>4</sup>. The components of Te Whare Tapa Whā, developed by leading Māori health advocate Sir Mason Durie in 1984, can all be related to participation in PARS and how this can contribute to hauora<sup>5</sup>.



<sup>3</sup>Sport Canterbury Strategic Plan

<sup>4</sup>Physical activity – Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand

<sup>5</sup>Te Whare Tapa Whā | Mental Health Foundation

# Acknowledging Mana Whenua, Tangata Whenua

## 10 TANGATA WHENUA

*Toitu te whenua he whakangarongaro te tangata.  
The people may perish but the land will remain.*

**10.1 STATEMENT OF IDENTITY** Tangata Whenua (Poutini Ngāi Tahu) are those Iwi, or Hapū that hold mana whenua (customary authority) over the area of the Grey District.

**10.2 TANGATA WHENUA AND THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT** The Act contains specific obligations in relation to the Treaty of Waitangi and Māori interests. The Act identifies, as a matter of national importance, the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu and other taonga. The Act also states that the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi must be taken into account when managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources.

In relation to the Plan, the most significant principle of the Treaty of Waitangi is that of partnership. An integral aspect of this is the Council's obligation to consult with local Māori to achieve an ongoing working relationship with the Tangata Whenua. The Council must also have regard to the Treaty principle of active protection of Māori people in the use of their traditional resources. This could be reflected by Tangata Whenua involvement in decision making, regarding those natural resources important to them.

**10.6.1 EXPLANATION AND REASONS** The Ngāi Tahu Settlement also has resource management implications in recognising and providing for management of significant areas.

Māori contribution to decision-making processes in the Grey District: Through a specific activity, "Efficient and Open Consultation", Council has set specific performance targets relating to the establishment and maintenance of processes in providing opportunities for Māori to contribute to the decision-making processes of the Grey District Council.<sup>6</sup>

### Process of developing this strategy and who was involved

It was Grey District Council's intention to acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the cultural communities of the district in the process and the eventual development of this strategy.

In addition, for the strategy and related process to be effective, it was imperative that meaningful community (internal and external) engagement occurred for insights gathering to understand the needs and wants of play, active recreation, and sport for the neighbourhoods and community of the Grey District.

#### Engagement included:

- Project team development.
- Working Group consisting of representation from numerous cultural communities, disability, health, youth, and PARS sectors.
- Semi structured interviews.



<sup>6</sup>Grey District Plan

## Who is this strategy for?

This strategy is a guide for Grey District Council and its various units when addressing the enablement of participation in play, active recreation, and sport for the communities of the Grey District. This strategy can and should support the planning, investing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating of play, active recreation, and sport opportunities for the communities of the district. It can also be a thread that can be woven through a range of units at Council.

## The Grey District

The Grey District is made up of a number of settlements. Greymouth, the commercial centre for the region, is the largest town on the West Coast. A range of retail, banking, medical, dental and other services are available to residents and visitors.

The West Coast and the Grey District is renowned for its natural beauty and opportunities to connect with nature and recreate.



## What we learned: key themes

The engagement process for the development of this strategy has included a Working Group, conversations with cultural communities and disability advocates, conversation with a group of rangatahi, and conversations with numerous sport sector representatives and some council staff. A range of themes came out of this engagement with regards to PARS enablement across the district. Below is an overview of the insights.

### Strengths

- Collaboration – this already occurs, and the smaller populations in the district help this, however, there is potential to enhance this approach.
- Culture and Accessibility – focus on culture and accessibility is developing, and there is potential to support this further.
- Spaces and places
  - ARTSOUP – the place for rangatahi to connect, is a fantastic space.
  - There is a breadth of activity opportunities across the district.
  - The amazing natural environment of Te Tai Poutini West Coast.
  - Consideration of the network (sector and transport).
- Focus on accessibility is increasing.
- Play is a focus for the Council, and within this strategy.



## Challenges and threats

- Lack of public transport options to access PARS places and activity opportunities for disabled people, rangatahi, older adults, and those living in remote areas.
- Communication methods:
  - Council to community and vice versa.
  - Communication mediums and platforms.
- Participation opportunities in programmes (if some programmes have age limits, then what are other options?), and in spaces.
- Some playgrounds not meeting needs of communities (not fit for purpose).
- Access to beach (via rocks) can be challenging.
- Climate change and the threat that it poses to the people and places of the district, broader than and including the PARS sector. This also poses the potential for change of focus.
- Resource to maintain focus on this strategy - there are resources that contribute to the planning, delivery, and management of the PARS sector. The depletion of human, financial, or material resources could pose a threat to effective PARS enablement.
- Volunteerism decreasing - this challenge is not unique to the Grey District or Te Tai Poutini West Coast, however, it is a challenge that poses a risk to the current sector model which relies heavily on volunteerism.
- Focus change (away from PARS) - there is energy, focus, and momentum for the PARS sector at this time, however, there is a risk of diminishing focus on the PARS sector if attention shifts to other kaupapa or sectors. Significant crisis and disasters would also present a shift in focus, however, as learnt through the Access to Play for Tamariki During and Beyond a Crisis resources<sup>7</sup> play can and should be a key response to support crisis relief and trauma recovery alongside other key priorities.



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## Opportunities

- Accessibility enhancements – considerations include cost, geographical, and physical (in place).
  - Note: Transportation to support accessibility to PARS opportunities was a recurring theme and included supporting those living with a disability, rangatahi, older adults, and those living more remotely with limited transportation methods.
  - Bespoke transportation services is an opportunity.
- Strengthening the active transport network.
- Support a cultural approach to the PARS sector and needs of cultural communities.
- Encouraging and supporting collaboration.
- Enhance communication channels, methods, platforms and where communication occurs - between council and communities, and to support opportunities for enhanced cross sector communication.
- Develop respite facilities.
- 'Risk/benefit' matrix for parents/caregivers, and for staff training.

<sup>7</sup>Access to Play for Tamariki During and Beyond a Crisis | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa

## Opportunities Continued

- Project to assess functionality of facilities and PARS spaces (i.e. meeting needs), including assessment of the play spaces network.
- Events to bring a range of cultures and groups together.
- Assess functionality of floodwall to not only provide safety, but also to support PARS opportunities.
- Space for connecting (like ARTSOUP).
- Volunteerism – enhance awareness of opportunities for the community.
- For initiatives and developments, consider culture, accessibility, nature, creativity, cost (not all developments have to cost a lot).

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## New ideas for the future / desired state

- Healthier, happier whānau and communities.
- A broad range of PARS participation opportunities, spaces and places that meet the needs of communities, including but not limited to tamariki, rangatahi, and older adults.
- A PARS directory that is strengthened collaboratively, and driven by one/several organisations, and remains current.
- People who live in Grey District are proud to live here, and have opportunities and are enabled to participate in PARS to support their vibrancy.
- PARS partners working with Grey District Council want open channels for transparent two-way communication.
- Grey District is considered a great place (to live). People travel to do PARS activities in the district.
- The future of the PARS sector considers the vibrancy of the Grey District.
- It is advised that engagement with various demographic groups is guided by trusted sources, for example:
  - Māori communities – consultation Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae.
  - Cultural communities.
  - Rangatahi - Mana Taiohi, from Ara Taiohi, is a principle based framework to help inform the way people work with young people in Aotearoa. This framework can support the way Grey District Council engage with young people.<sup>8</sup>
  - Disabled individuals and their whānau – Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand, Te Tai o Poutini West Coast, CCS Disability Action, WorkBridge, and various other disability advocate groups.
  - Older adults – Age Concern New Zealand he Manaakitanga Kaumātua Aotearoa.



<sup>8</sup>Mana Taiohi - Ara Taiohi



## Grey District Council Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy

### COLLABORATION

#### Opportunities

- Open channels for transparent communication (two way between council and communities, and cross sector) to gather insights and understand the needs and aspirations of the sector
- A coordinated approach to funding and submissions (for significant projects) to increase and evaluate impact
- Enhance connections and partnerships internally, with communities, and cross sector

#### Actions

- Utilise a range of platforms to communicate with the sector
- Annual forum of the PARS key stakeholders (earlier in the year). Topics could consider:
  - Communication and updates
  - Assessment of facilities and space needs
  - Funding and submissions
- Utilise Sport Canterbury partnership & leadership to provide insights & guidance

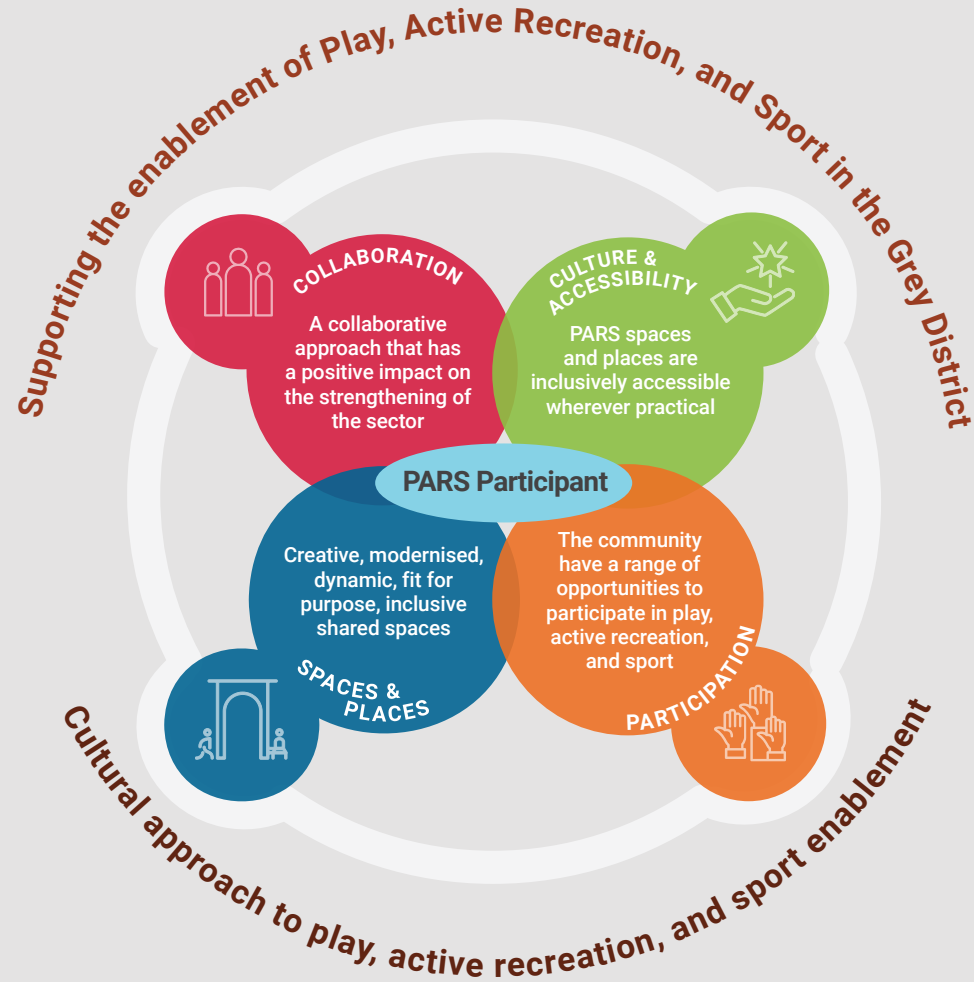
### SPACES & PLACES

#### Opportunities

- Collaborative leadership to identify dynamic and practical use of PARS spaces and places

#### Actions

- Consult with community around their needs for PARS in spaces (including disabled individuals, youth; older adults)
- Review of the West Coast Sport and Active Recreation Spaces and Places Strategy, aligned to the Long Term Plans



### CULTURE & ACCESSIBILITY

#### Opportunities

- Engage with mana whenua and other cultural representation when considering PARS opportunities
- Identify and reduce the barriers of transport/travel for accessibility to participate in PARS
- PARS spaces and places are accessible and inclusive to all users (where possible)

#### Actions

- Ensure a process exists for engaging with mana whenua and other cultural representation regarding PARS opportunities
- Support the provision for a community van
- Include an 'audit' of PARS assets and spaces in the Spaces and Places review
- Support the provision of modified activities and sports to enhance participation across all ability levels

### PARTICIPATION

#### Opportunities

- Provision for affordable physical activity participation opportunities
- A network of volunteers across the sector is enhanced
- Utilise insights on participation trends to help inform decision making and investment into PARS Actions

#### Actions

- Annual review of fee structures for access to facilities and programmes for the community
- Champion a volunteers directory (which is regularly updated)
- Engage with stakeholder partners to inform annual and Long Term Plans
- Support the consideration of play spaces in urban design projects and sub-divisions within the district

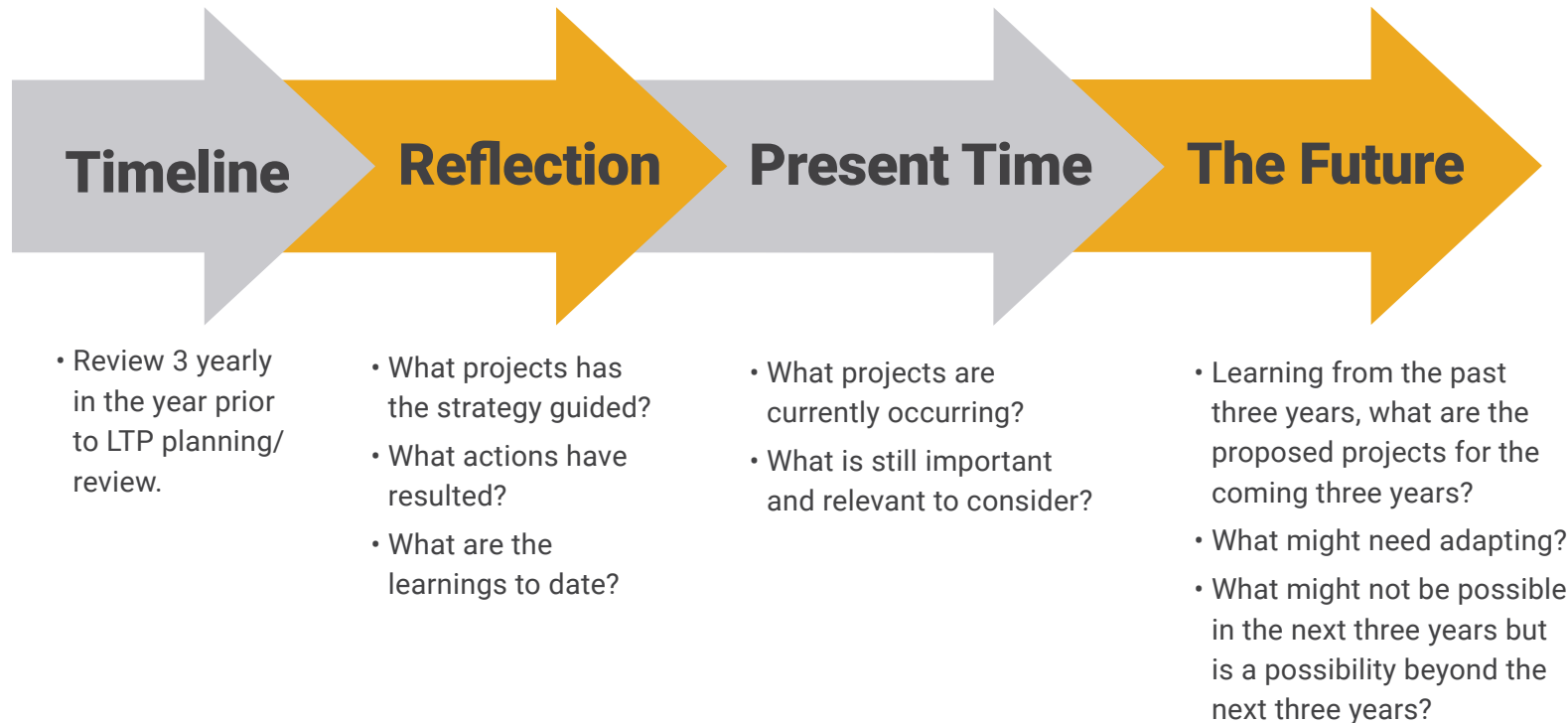
**A strategy to guide the aspirations and understand the participation needs in play, active recreation, and sport, for the vibrancy of the communities, spaces and places of the Grey District**

# Review process

*Kia whakatōmuri te haere whakamua*  
*Walking into the future, looking to the past*

This whakataukī provides a good analogy of how this strategy should be reviewed - to acknowledge and learn from the past as planning for the future occurs. To maintain relevance of this strategy it should have three yearly review cycles and consider the Long Term Plan (LTP) planning cycle.

**The review process should include:**



## Summary

Whilst some of the themes from the engagement in the development of this strategy and in the framework could be related to any units of the Council, there is real opportunity to utilise the themes as opportunities to help support participation in PARS for the district. In addition, and because of this, there is potential for this strategy to inform the development and review of various other strategic documentation and projects for the Council.

The overarching themes are:

### *Collaboration*

**An opportunity to enhance communication methods and a coordinated approach to community and sector connectedness for the development of PARS in the district.**

### *Culture and Accessibility*

**Explore connection with culture when acknowledging PARS spaces and places, when considering PARS participation opportunities, and, support accessibility to participation in PARS by those facing more barriers.**

### *Spaces and Places*

**Consideration for creative, dynamic, and collaborative spaces for PARS in current spaces, redevelopments and new builds.**

### *Participation*

**Annually review participation fees based PARS events and programmes, community needs and wants in PARS, and support a collaborative approach to developing the volunteer network.**



## Alignment

The following are strategic documents that this PARS Strategy aligns with:

- Te Whanaketanga te Tai Poutini West Coast Strategy 2050: Te\_Whanaketanga\_Feb\_2022 - 24.07.10.pdf
- Te Tai o Poutini Plan (proposed plan): ProposedTTPP\_2023.pdf

## Glossary of terms

tamariki	to be young/children
rangatahi	youth
whānau	family group
hāpori	community
hauora	to be fit, well, healthy, in good spirits
taiao	environment
kaitiaki	guardian, steward
kaimahi	staff
kaupapa	theme, topic

9



# Acknowledgements

## Project Team

Nelia Heersink – Grey DC

Adam Gard'ner – Sport Canterbury

Jack O'Connor – Sport Canterbury

## Working Group and Acknowledgements

Two Grey District Councillors

Family Start

Focus Trust

Takiwā Poutini

WestReap

Grey District Youth Trust

New Coasters

Canterbury District Health Board

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Waewae

Grey District Youth Trust - Youth representation

Other: Workbridge



# Play, Active Recreation, and Sport Strategy - Appendix

February 2025

## Why?

Grey District Council recognise the importance of play, active recreation, and sport (PARS) for the hauora of our community and the spaces and places of the district. Considering this focus, it enables the consideration of cultural acknowledgement, accessibility and inclusion needs, as well as planning and functionality of the district, such as environmental conservation, the transport network and transport modes, and health prevention approaches.

This strategy can connect considerations about how PARS enablement can contribute towards the kaitiaki responsibility we have collectively for the taiao.

Participation in PARS can contribute to the holistic hauora of individuals, whānau, and hāpori. The components of Te Whare Tapa Whā, developed by leading Māori health advocate Sir Mason Durie in 1984, can all be related to participation PARS and how this can contribute to hauora.



<sup>1</sup> Te Whare Tapa Whā | Mental Health Foundation

This strategy also aligns with Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand daily physical activity recommendations<sup>2</sup>:

	Children (under 5 years)	Children and young people (5-17 years)	Adults	Older people (aged 65+)
<b>Sit Less</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular activity breaks</li> <li>Discourage screen time for under 2's and limit it to less than 1 hour for over 2's</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No more than 2 hours/day recreational screen time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Break up long periods of sitting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limit sedentary behaviours</li> <li>Consult a health practitioner before starting or increasing activity</li> </ul>
<b>Move More</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide fun activities – at least 3 hours/day for toddlers and preschoolers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 1 hours/day of moderate to vigorous physical activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 2.5 hours of moderate or 1.25 hours of vigorous physical activity each week</li> <li>Do muscle strengthening activities at least 2 days/week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start off slowly and build up to recommended PA levels</li> <li>Aim to do at least 30 minutes per day of moderate intensity exercise on 5 days/week</li> <li>Or 15 mins/ day of vigorous activity on 5 days/week</li> </ul>

## Process of developing this strategy and who was involved

It was Grey District Council's intention to acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the cultural communities of the district in the process and the eventual development of this strategy.

In addition, for the strategy and related process to be effective, it was imperative that meaningful community (internal and external) engagement occurred for insights gathering to understand the needs and wants of play, active recreation, and sport for the neighbourhoods and community of the Grey District. There was the intention for the process to support the potential for sustainable and positively impactful outcomes, for the strategy, and to help support the vibrancy of people and places of the district. The process included, but was not limited to:

- Development of a steering group.
- Development of a working group – made up of representatives from a range of stakeholder groups including accessibility, disability and inclusion, culture, education, health, recreation sport, youth, and, two elected members.

Engagement also included:

- Workshop with Grey District Youth Trust and the Youth Council.
- Surveys for the working group and an invitation for them to share the survey with their communities and networks.
- Conversational interviews with a Grey District Council staff member, and a disability sector representative.
- Grey District Council and Sport Canterbury working together and connecting with their existing relationships and insights.
- A collaborative approach.

<sup>2</sup>Physical activity – Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand <sup>3</sup>Our Vision - Grey District Council (greydc.govt.nz)



This process aligned with Grey District Council's 'Our Vision' <sup>3</sup>

This project involved a broad range of Grey District Council staff and community they serve.

The intention was to have genuine and meaningful engagement with a range of communities on this project, particularly mana whenua, and representation of accessibility, diversity, inclusion, and physical activity.

## **Pou/Pillars that supported this strategy**

**The development of this strategy was supported by four pou / pillars, which were:**

- *Consideration of communities*
- *Consideration of the spaces and places of the district*
- *Community voice*
- *Collaboration*

## **Who is this strategy for?**

This strategy is a guide for Grey District Council and its various units when addressing the enablement of participation in play, active recreation, and sport for the communities of the Grey District.

This strategy can, and should, support the planning, investing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating of play, active recreation, and sport opportunities for the communities of the district. It can also be a thread that can be woven through a range of units at Council. For example, developing a new urban bike and walking path requires input not only from the community and recreation services, but also from transport, drainage, communications and marketing, and more.

This strategy encourages reflection, and helps provide direction for future focus and planning for investment and development in the sector. It supports an approach of collaboration with individuals, communities, and organisations. Because the development of this strategy involved engagement with a range of community and stakeholder voice, this resulting strategy is a valuable evidence-based document to help decision making.

<sup>3</sup>Our Vision - Grey District Council ([greydc.govt.nz](http://greydc.govt.nz))

## The Grey District

<sup>4</sup>The Grey District is made up of many settlements. Greymouth is the largest town on the West Coast, and is the commercial centre of the region. Greymouth is broken into several suburbs, mainly Camerons, Gladstone, Paroa and Karoro to the south, central Greymouth, Blaketown and Cobden, which is situated over the bridge on the far side of the Grey River. Just out of Greymouth you will find the small townships of Kaiata, Dobson, Taylorville and Stillwater, all overlooking the mighty Grey River.

Ten km north of Greymouth, at the beginning of the famous Coast Road Highway, are former coal mining towns Rūnanga and Dunollie. Further north, past Rapahoe (a beach front township 12 km north of Greymouth) and Barrytown is the start of the Paparoa Range and the Paparoa National Park. The park includes a diverse landscape with limestone features, rugged coastlines and sub-tropical rainforests.

Situated 20 km north from Greymouth near the foot of the Paparoa Ranges is Blackball, founded in 1864 as a base for transient gold seekers, and thirty years later, the focus was on coal. The larger goldfield of the area was further up the Grey Valley at Moonlight. The famous Croesus track takes you from Blackball across the Paparoa range to Barrytown. The newest Great Walk, the Paparoa Track, begins in Blackball and ends in Punakaiki.

Grey DC work closely with the Department of Conservation, who administer approximately 87% of the Grey Districts land, to ensure residents and visitors safe access for recreational activities within the conservation estate. Lake Brunner and the township of Moana, which is situated on the northern end of the lake, is 37 km inland from Greymouth. It has abundant bird life, wetlands and rainforest ecosystems. It is a popular holiday destination. The new Lake Brunner Scenic Trail between Moana and Mitchells, nestled along the lake edge, is being developed with Council 3 Water tranche funding, lotteries, and volunteers.

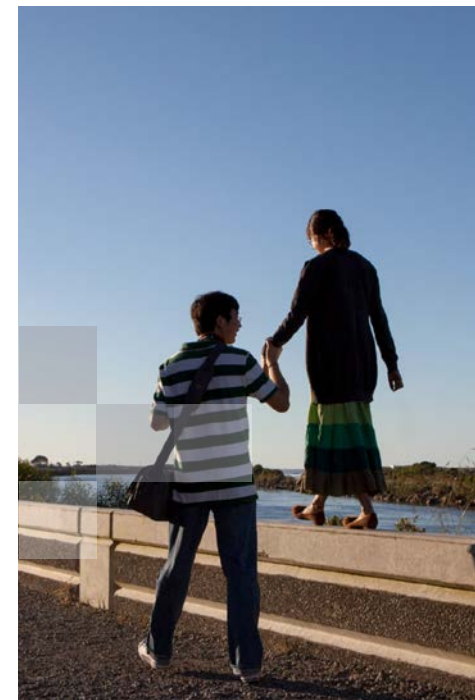
Lake Brunner's full Māori name is Moana Kōtuku, meaning the sea of white herons. The nearby farming settlement of Kōtuku has a historic school and oil seeps - evidence of petroleum on the West Coast. The area has a rich history in timber milling and logs used to be transported across Lake Brunner by steam powered vessels.

These days the area is known for brown trout fishing and is home of many water based activities. Mt Te Kinga, 5 km south-east of Moana, is one of the many tramping tracks in the area, offering superb viewing points of Iveagh Bay and the lake.

Grey DC will continue to promote and provide access to the annual Contestable Fund to support volunteer groups and organisations to support thriving, connected and resilient communities of the district. The Contestable Grants Fund is managed by the Grey DC, to assist in the vision of becoming a Thriving, Connected, and Resilient Grey District. Requests for grants from not-for-profit clubs, groups or organisations who provide direct benefit of the grant to ratepayers/residents of the district and align which Council's Long-Term Plan are considered in this annual funding round.

The middle reaches of the Grey Valley and its tributary valleys are one of the largest areas of flat farmland on the West Coast. In the rain shadow of the Paparoa Range, the western side of the valley has lower rainfall than the surrounding area.

The main settlements in the Grey Valley are small farming centres, which from north to south are Tōtara Flat, Ahaura and Ngahere. The flat farming land is surrounded by dissected hill country, formed mainly of brown gravel and sand. During past ice ages, glaciers extended down most of the eastern tributaries of the Grey. The furthest extent of the glaciers is marked by terminal moraines (a hummocky belt of gravel and mud) that now hold in lakes such as Brunner, Hochstetter and Haupiri. The natural vista also includes the cold, damp, misty, katabatic wind known as "The Barber" which blows down the Grey Valley.



## Contextual Statistics

### Population by age

2023 Census Grey District	
<b>Population:</b>	14,043
<b>Age:</b>	
0-4	774
5-14	1,764
15-24	1,410
25-24	1,596
35-44	1,497
45-54	1,875
55-64	2,205
65-74	1,755
75-84	888
85-89	177
90+	102
<b>Median Age:</b>	44.9 years
% aged under 15 years	18% (2,538 people)
<b>Ethnicity:</b>	
European	12,744 (91%)
Māori	1,662 (12%)
Pacific Peoples	192 (1%)
Asian	564 (4%)
Middle East/ Latin America/ Africa (MELAA)	66 (1%)
Other	294 (2%)

Note, resident population in the Grey District increased from 13,344 (2018 Census) to 14,043 (2023 Census), a 5.24% increase.<sup>5</sup>

2018 Census	Grey District
<b>Languages spoken:</b>	
Te Reo speakers	1.6%
NZ sign language	0.5%
English speakers	97.9%
<b>Health:</b>	
Regular smokers	17.4%
1 or more activity limitations (defined here)	8.8%
% Unemployed	3.5%
Median income	\$27,700
<b>Travel to education:</b>	
Passenger in vehicle	37%
Walk or jog	26%
Study at home	9%
Own or partly own home	63%

Note, at time of developing this strategy, 2023 data was not available for the above data sets.<sup>6</sup>

### Monthly average water temperature in Greymouth:<sup>7</sup>



<sup>5</sup>2023 Census population, dwelling, and housing highlights | Stats NZ

<sup>6</sup>Place Summaries | Grey District | Stats NZ

<sup>7</sup>Sea water temperature Greymouth today | New Zealand



## Contextual Statistics

Meeting the physical activity guidelines is:



Sport NZ Ihi Aotearoa Active NZ Participation Trends ages 5 and over 2017-2023<sup>8</sup>

Disability status is derived from six activity questions:

- difficulty seeing
- difficulty hearing
- difficulty washing all over or dressing
- difficulty communicating
- difficulty remembering or concentrating
- difficulty walking or climbing steps

The questions were designed to allow comparisons to be made between average outcomes for disabled and non-disabled populations. They were not designed to identify the disabled population.<sup>9</sup>

Activity Limitations in the Grey District				
	One or more limitations, by age, for people in Grey District and Aotearoa New Zealand		One or more limitations, by age, for Māori in Grey District and Aotearoa New Zealand	
Age	Grey District	Aotearoa New Zealand	Grey District	Aotearoa New Zealand
<b>Under 15 years</b>	4.3%	3%	6.2%	4.3%
<b>15 – 29 years</b>	4.1%	3.5%	4%	5.3%
<b>30 – 64 years</b>	6.4%	4.8%	7.5%	8.7%
<b>65 years and over</b>	21.4%	17.7%	23.8%	24.8%

### Climate

Season	Months	Average Temp - C	Average Temp - F
<b>Summer</b>	December - February	12-25	53-77
<b>Autumn</b>	March - May	9-17	48-63
<b>Winter</b>	June - August	5-15	41-57
<b>Spring</b>	September - November	9-17	48-63

11

## Health

Activity Limitations: A person is regarded as disabled if they have ‘a lot of difficulty’ or ‘cannot do at all’ one or more of the six activities in the Activity Limitations questions. These questions are the Washington Group Short Set of questions on Disability and are referred to as Activity Limitations in the 2018 Census.”

The questions ask whether people have difficulty performing any of six basic universal activities (walking, seeing, hearing, cognition, self-care, and communication) and were designed for use with the general population. The questions were not designed to measure all domains of functioning with which people may have difficulty, but rather those domains that are likely to identify a majority of people at risk of participation restrictions.

Travel to work	
56.6% drive a private vehicle	12.8% drive a company vehicle
18.6% work at home	4.6% passenger in a vehicle
4.5% walk or jog to work	1.5% bicycle

Travel to education	
7.4% drive a private vehicle	16.9% school bus
36.6% passenger in a vehicle	26.3% walk or jog to work
9.1% study at home	2% bicycle
0.2% public bus	

10

<sup>8</sup>active-nz-participation-trends-2017-2023-19\_20.pdf

<sup>9</sup>Activity limitations (information about this variable and its quality) - Stats NZ DataInfo+

<sup>10</sup>Place summaries - Grey District

<sup>11</sup>Climate - Grey District Council (greydc.govt.nz)

## Council responsibilities within Play, Active Recreation, and Sport

<sup>12</sup>A local authority can only undertake activities which are permitted by central government. Whilst Council can exercise its initiative in deciding its aim and policies, it must do so only within the laws, regulations and requirements set down by central government.

The Council has a range of responsibilities in serving the places and people of the Grey District.

The Council decides the range of services and activities to be provided. Council sets the policy for the services and activities. They delegate the implementation of these to the staff and monitor their performance.

In general, Grey District Council is responsible for the following activities/services related to this strategy or the systems that support play, active recreation, and sport, however, it should be noted there are more topics under each subheading that the Council is responsible for:

### *Co-ordinating the provision of essential services:*

- *Infrastructure and services related to drinking water; stormwater and sewerage; roading, footpaths, bridges; waste collection.*
- *Emergency management, i.e. Reduction, Readiness, Response and Recovery.*

### *Managing and protecting the environment and public health:*

- *Environmental management and monitoring to take care of community resources. E.g., Resource Management Act, District Plan.*
- *Park and town landscape maintenance e.g. CBD Development Plan, Community Economic Development Strategy 2015 - 2025.*
- *Recreation and leisure services. These help our community stay healthy and happy by promoting active recreation. Providing facilities such as swimming pools, playing fields and walking and cycling tracks.*
- *Providing special purpose community services and amenities. E.g., public libraries, public toilets, retirement housing.*

### *Improving community vibrancy:*

- *Working with community groups and agencies to help reach our common goals.*
- *Economic development.*
- *Community development and advocacy.*
- *Heritage and arts. To advance the unique identity and special character of our community.*

## The current PARS landscape in the Grey District

The Grey District has an abundance of natural beauty. The native bushland, beaches, and riverways are incredible features of the district and are a connection to recreational activities for many, from walking and wheeling on tracks and trails, to fishing and swimming. Play occurs in nature and built environments such as playgrounds within the district. And, a range of sports are played in the district at entry level through to competitive level. Additionally, the district is popular for many multisport participants.

The Westland Recreation Centre in Greymouth is a popular facility. It features a swimming pool, indoor courts, a gym and fitness facilities, and a meeting room. Programmes offered at the centre include swimming lessons, fitness programmes and classes, and a range of events.

Grey District Council continues to promote and administer the Sport NZ Ihi Aotearoa Rural Travel Fund which supports the removing of travel costs as a barrier to participation for rural sports teams within the Grey District.





# Related Resources

February 2025

**Below is a list of some of the resources that can support planning, monitoring, and evaluation of PARS kaupapa in the Grey District:**

## Education, Health, People

- Ministry of Youth Development Te Manatū Whakahiato Taiohi Youth Plan 2023 – 2028: youth-plan-strategic-document-final-.pdf (myd.govt.nz)
- Grey District Youth Trust Providing A Voice For Youth | Grey District Youth Trust | Greymouth
- Youthtown West Coast Youthtown - WEST COAST
- Ministry of Education Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga Home – Education in New Zealand
- Ara Taiohi Home - Ara Taiohi
- Youth Voice Canterbury (ReVision; Youth Relevant Design Checkcard; Youth Friendly Spaces Audit) ReVision - Youth Voice Canterbury
- Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand – Physical Activity Physical activity – Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand
- Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand, te Tai o Poutini Disability Steering Group - Disability Steering Group | West Coast District Health Board (wcdhb.health.nz)
- CCS Disability Action (Support Advocacy Information) - CCS Disability Action
- Workbridge Te Arawhiti mō Mahi - Workbridge | Simplify Your Job Search
- Older adults – Age Concern New Zealand he Manaakitanga Kaumātua Aotearoa - Canterbury - West Coast (ageconcern.org.nz)
- Te Whare Tapa Whā (a Māori health model): Māori health models – Te Whare Tapa Whā | Ministry of Health NZ
- Takiwā Poutini Takiwā Poutini – Improving our Health and Wellbeing (takiwapoutini.nz)
- Te Whanaketanga Te Tai Poutini West Coast Strategy 2050 Te Whanaketanga Te Tai Poutini West Coast Strategy 2050

## Sport NZ Ihi Aotearoa

- Kia Hīanga Kia Hīanga - Sport NZ Play Plan 2022 FINAL
- Tākaro Māori Tākaro Māori | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)
- Neighbourhood Play System The Neighbourhood Play System | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)
- Te Wāhanga Kaupapa Māori Māori Sports | Takaro | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)
- Sport Sport | New Zealand Sports | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)
- Accessibility Introduction to Accessibility | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)
- Disability / Hauātanga Disability Sport | Adaptive | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)

- Disability Plan SNZ0008 Disability Action Plan\_Inside Spreads\_v2.indd (sportnz.org.nz)
- Inclusivity Hub Inclusivity Hub | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)
- Spaces and Places Sports Facilities | Parks | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)
- Access to Play for Tamariki During and Beyond a Crisis Access to Play for Tamariki During and Beyond a Crisis | Sport New Zealand - Ihi Aotearoa (sportnz.org.nz)

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## Sport Canterbury

- Sport Canterbury Strategic Plan 2022 - 2026 downloadasset (sportcanterbury.org.nz)
- Sport Canterbury Women & Girls Strategy 2022 – 2026 downloadasset (sportcanterbury.org.nz)
- Accessible Sport and Physical Activity (ASPA) Waitaha Canterbury Strategic Plan 2022 - 2026 (sportcanterbury.org.nz)

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## Other

- Recreation Aotearoa Recreation Aotearoa | Home (nzrecreation.org.nz)
- Play Aotearoa International Play Association Aotearoa New Zealand (playaotearoa.org.nz)

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## Various national guidelines

- Employment New Zealand – Health and Safety at Work Health and safety at work » Employment New Zealand
- WorkSafe Home | WorkSafe
- Standards New Zealand Te Mana Tautikanga o Aotearoa – for playground safety standards - Home : Standards New Zealand
- Turf management guidelines (available upon request)