

Hunter Indoor Sports Centre – Project Summary

March, 2024





About Newcastle Basketball

- Operating out of the existing Stadium in Broadmeadow for almost 55 years
- Over 5,300 members, the third largest association in NSW
 - A higher participation rate than state averages
 - 74% of members are under 19
 - 25% of members are female
 - Members on waiting lists to play
 - Using additional courts in schools to meet demand
- Cater for a range of other activities including volleyball and pickleball

Project Background



Overview

The Hunter Indoor Sport Centre will deliver state of the art multi-purpose indoor sports courts; allied health suites; cafe, social spaces; gym/movement studio, multi-purpose function rooms; change rooms; spectator seating and car parking. Co-located with the visionary Hunter Park Precinct, the project will deliver crucial indoor sport infrastructure to serve the Lower Hunter as well as providing an excellence hub for the Hunter Region.

The project will address the chronic short fall in the quantity and quality of indoor courts in the region and provide athlete development and high performance opportunities. This will reduce barriers to participation that are currently preventing people from participating in sport and physical activity.

The design vision for the Hunter Indoor Sports Centre is for a multifaceted sports hub that serves the whole community. All facilities are fully accessible and inclusive for all users regardless of age or ability. Courts will be marked and fitted out for multiple sports including basketball, netball, volleyball, badminton and futsal. The facility has been designed in modules to enable a range of activities and services to be provided at one time but connected through a central movement zone.

The Need

- The driving project needs are to
 - Replace an ageing stadium that no longer meets contemporary standards
 - Address the short fall in indoor court provision across the Lower Hunter
 - As an enabler and supporting project for the visionary Hunter Park Precinct and Broadmeadow Place Strategy



The Need

• Justification

- Over 500 players turned away each season
- Population growth - potential for over 10,000 members
- Shortfall of 20+ courts in the Lower Hunter
- State and national events
- Insufficient venue capacity results in substantial unmet demand and lower participation in indoor sport in the Lower Hunter
- The lack of suitable indoor sports facilities negatively affects the health and wellbeing of residents and economic productivity in the Lower Hunter
- The existing venue is 55 years old which is well past its useful life
- Athlete development opportunities will be increased
- A new venue creates the opportunity to host mass participation sport and other events in the region
- The new venue will contribute to increased community connectedness and social cohesion

The Objectives

- To facilitate improved health outcomes, economic opportunity and social and community inclusion
 - particularly for people with a disability, culturally diverse communities and women and girls.
- To address a priority regional need by increasing the supply of indoor courts to address part of the identified shortage of court availability in the region

The Objectives

- Create a regional quality facility to
 - Improve user experience and address functional and quality issues of the current facility
 - Enable major regional events and representative games to be held in the region
 - Compliment high profile basketball spectator facilities to be provided in Hunter Park
 - Provide athlete development and training opportunities and pathways
 - Compliment and leverage existing and planned sport facilities in and around the Hunter Park Precinct
 - Provide multi-sport courts for other indoor sports and spaces for community and partner events

Current Project Scope and Planning



Funding and Staging

- \$25m was granted to Newcastle Basketball in 2019
- Some funding was expended on planning for previous identified sites at Hillsborough and Glendale
- The remaining funding is adequate to deliver 6 courts in a stage 1 development
- Additional funding is being sort to deliver more courts in Stage 1 and hopefully the full development (Stage 1 and 2)

Project Scope

Ultimate Scope

- A concept design is being developed to include:
 - 12 community courts for basketball and other sports
 - a show court with 2,400 seats that will complement the proposed new entertainment centre in Hunter Park
 - a cafe and social zone
 - participant change rooms and public amenities
 - tenant areas for associated health and wellbeing services
 - athlete development and training facilities

Stage 1 Options

- Minimum 6 community courts
 - Potentially 8+ courts with additional funding
- Supporting amenities and other facilities
- Continue operation of current stadium

Stage 2 Inclusions

- Additional community courts
- Show court hall
- Athlete development and training facilities

Concept Design

- The following pages outline key concept design elements -
 - Project location
 - Key design considerations
 - Staging Options
 - Concept Design Features
 - Concept Design Images



Locality

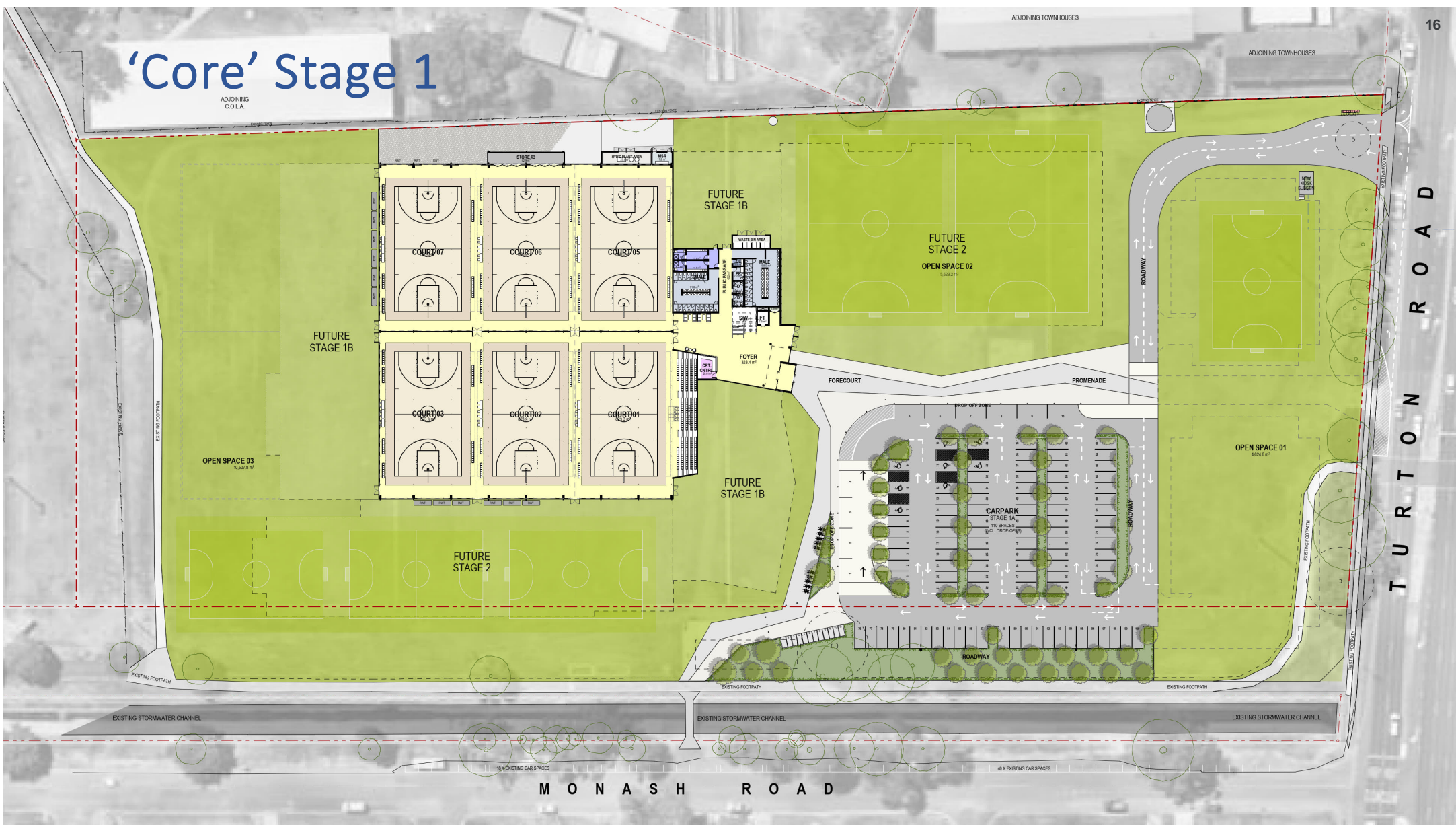
Key Project and Design Considerations

- Access, traffic and carparking
 - An assessment of demand has been used to determine appropriate traffic management measures and car parking numbers
 - Access will be off Turton Road (left in and out only)
 - Onsite car parking will be adequate for day to day use with events coordinated with McDonald Jones to ensure adequate parking at peak times
- Flood management
 - Flood modelling has been completed and design measures implemented to ensure a negligible impact on surrounding and downstream areas
 - The proposed car park design has been developed to assist with managing flood impact

Key Project and Design Considerations

- **Open space**
 - Stage 1 will retain up approximately 22,000m² of open space which could be used for some ongoing sport use
 - The full project will retain around 6,000m² of open space adjacent to the Lambton High School covered outdoor learning area providing function space for break out space and PE programs as well as general open space for the community
- **Existing users**
 - The current playing fields have poor drainage in wet conditions and are not usable during extended periods of rain
 - The City of Newcastle is working with football and cricket to identify appropriate sites for their relocation and have commenced planning for new facilities to support the relocation
 - Alternative sites will provide improved playing surfaces and facilities and sporting groups are satisfied with the plans
- **School access**
 - Along with open space adjacent to Lambton High School, access will be facilitated into the facility for school use during the day
 - Courts on the western side of the facility have been specifically planned with school groups in mind

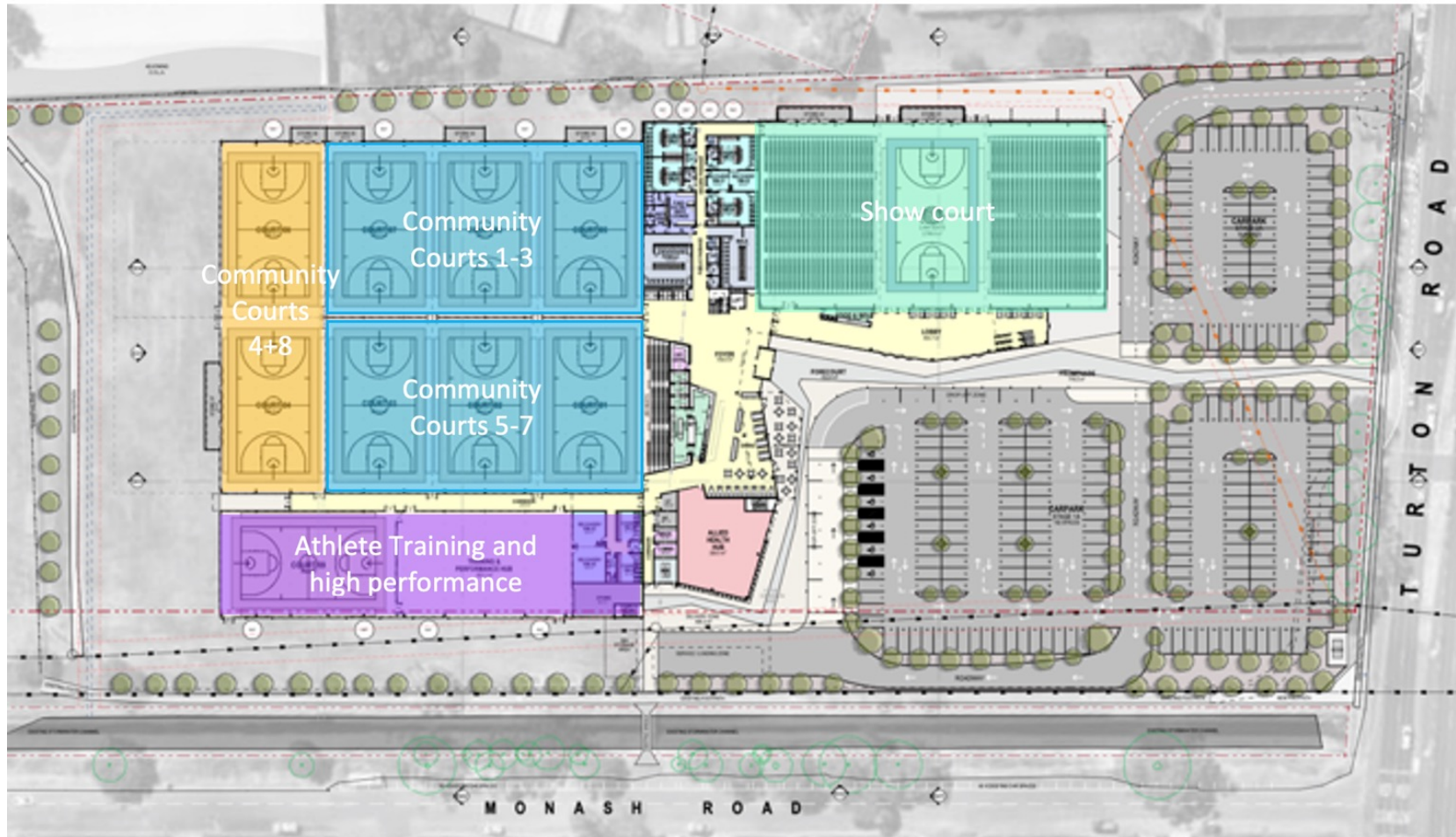
'Core' Stage 1



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Full Development





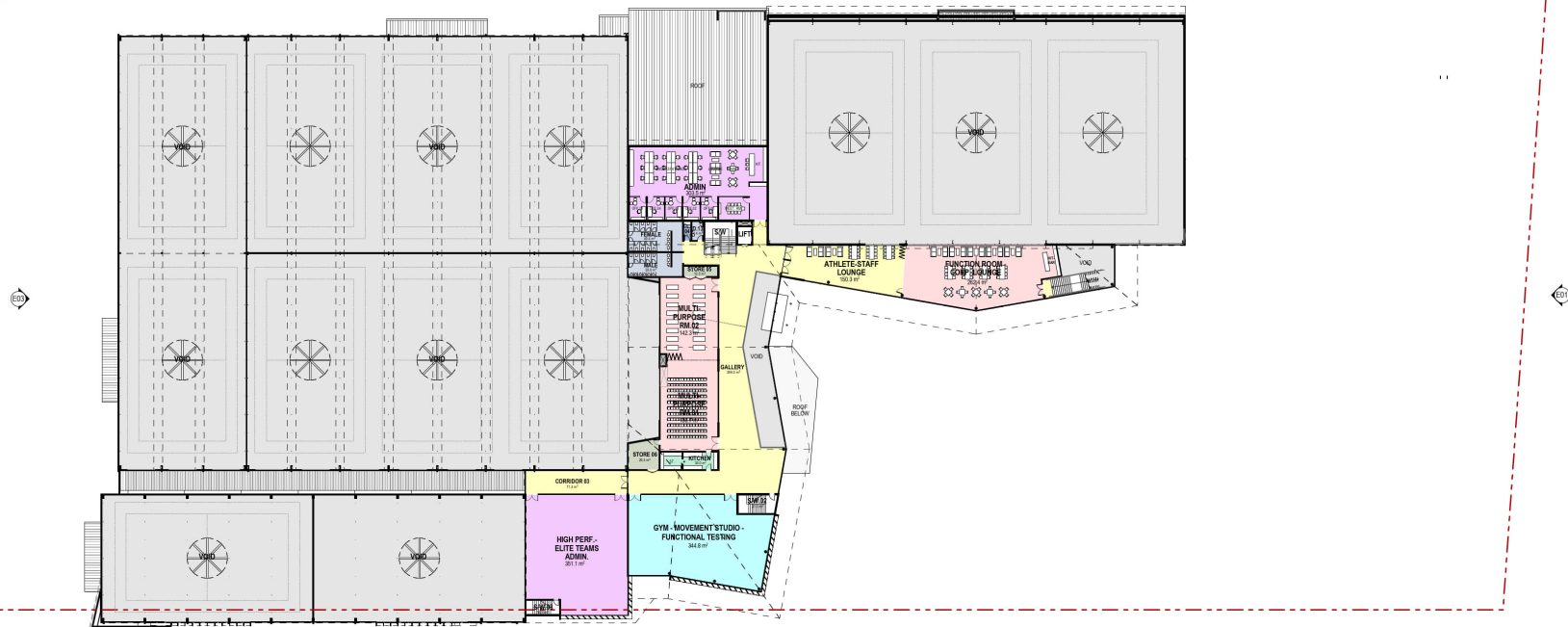
Hunter Basketball Stadium – Ground Floor - Modules

EJE

Functional Features – Full Development

- Showcourt module – includes retractable seating so that in normal use contains 3 courts but in ‘show mode’ can hold approximately 2,400 spectators and includes a function room overlooking the main court
- High Performance module – includes one standard court and one training and performance hub that will include a range of specific training and performance and analytical equipment to help all athlete reach their optimum levels
- Community court modules
 - Two 3 court sports halls enables connectedness yet separation of activities, each big enough to accommodate full sized international futsal and/indoor hockey courts for tournament play
 - One two court hall provide a separate training and competition space for an alternative activity, it also provides an opportunity for specific group users (e.g. school, community service providers) to utilise a secure space
- Allied health hub – will be available to service providers that support and complement the core functions of the centre, connecting community health as well as athlete development
- Administration spaces (upstairs) – provide accommodation for Newcastle Basketball, Basketball NSW, Volleyball, Hunter Academy of Sport and for a future NBL team (potentially other partner sports)
- Studios and rooms – combined provide a multi-functional suite of spaces that can cater for fitness, physical conditioning and testing, education, meetings, functions and events.

Full Development – First Floor





'Core' Stage 1 – Six Courts



'Optimal' Stage 1 – Eight Courts



Full Development



Internal Precedent

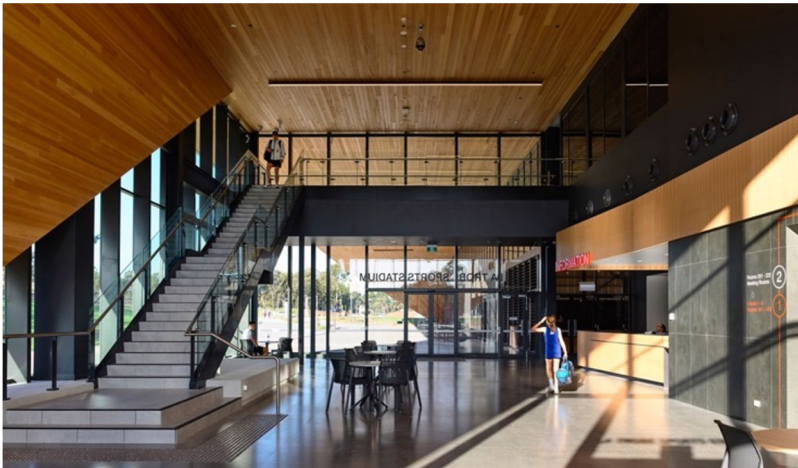
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Show Court



Back Courts



Lobby



Retractable Seating

14683

Internal Precedents

EJE

Project Planning and Implementation



Project Outcomes – Optimal Stage 1



Construction of Stage 1 is forecast to

increase economic output by \$89 million and economic value added (gross regional product) by \$33 million.

support 153 local jobs (direct jobs and indirect jobs).



Operation will generate

Increased participation in key indoor sports by 100%
80% utilisation of peak court time

200,000 annual active visits per annum within 2 years
(300,000 – 400,00 beyond that)

Sustainable operations

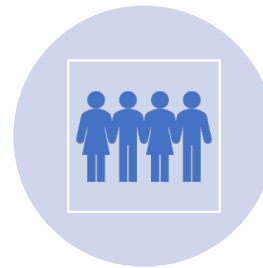
Diverse programs, activities and services delivered to a cross section of community abilities, cultural background, age, gender

up to \$187 million in productivity benefits

Project Benefits



Increasing economic opportunity, health and economic productivity



Increasing social inclusion and community connectedness



Increasing visitor / tourist and resident expenditure



Construction and ongoing employment benefits

Engagement Process

Direct engagement by the project team:

- Government Agencies
 - NSW Department of Planning
 - NSW Office of Sport
 - Venues NSW
 - Transport for NSW
 - City of Newcastle
 - NSW Government Architects
(State Design Review Panel)
- Utility Providers
- State and local sporting organisations
- Newcastle Basketball Association members

Engagement through Council:

- Newcastle District Cricket Association
- Cricket NSW
- Newcastle Football Association
- Northern NSW Football
- Lambton Jaffas FC

Our Immediate Focus

- Broadening engagement/communication
 - Notification letters distributed to surrounding local residents
 - Drop-in sessions to be held at current Newcastle Basketball Stadium:
 - 9am to 11am Saturday 16th March
 - 5:30pm to 7:30pm on Monday 18th March.
 - Further information on Newcastle Basketball website and opportunity to lodge questions and/ or comments.
- Further design development and detailed planning studies
- Planning approval submission

