

Bannockburn Oval Amenities Upgrade – Engagement Snapshot – November 2025



Introduction

A process of community consultation was undertaken in mid-2025 seeking community feedback on plans for upgrading facilities at Bannockburn Oval in Pymble. This Engagement Snapshot provides a summary of the results and how the project will proceed from here.

About the project

Ku-ring-gai Council is upgrading **Bannockburn Oval**, a key multi-sport venue featuring an athletics track, synthetic wicket, soccer fields, playground, and clubhouse in Pymble.

The project will modernise outdated amenities and improve accessibility, safety, and community use. The upgrades will benefit local sporting clubs, athletes, families, and visitors, creating a more inclusive and welcoming community space.

Current facilities at Bannockburn Oval are outdated and not fully accessible. The upgrades will:

- Ensure compliance with disability access standards (DDA).
- Improve changerooms, toilets, and canteen areas.
- Provide a modern, multi-purpose sporting and community hub.

This project will also deliver Ku-ring-gai's **second “Changing Places” facility** after St Ives Showground.

Community engagement

Consultation occurred in from June to August 2025 with local residents, sporting clubs, schools, and oval users.

How feedback was gathered:

- Online survey, webpage and written submissions
- Direct consultation with key user groups
- Letters to 1,544 nearby households
- Council e-newsletters and on-site signage

What we heard

Overall sentiment: Broad community support, with constructive feedback on design, access, and facilities.

The survey indicated:

- **77%** rated the concept *Good* and *Excellent*
- **11%** rated it *Poor* and *Very Poor*
- **12%** were *neutral* or *don't know*

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| Theme | Key Feedback |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Strong Support | Residents back the upgrades, describing them as long overdue and beneficial for community sport. |
| Athletics & Sporting Facilities | Requests to retain long jump pits, shot put areas, and good quality 100m track; interest in better drainage and possibly a 400 m track. |
| Spectator & Seating Areas | Desire to keep existing tiered seating and mature trees; calls for shaded viewing areas. |
| Playground & Community Use | Calls for a playground renewal and walking/exercise paths. |
| Accessibility & Inclusion | Strong support for accessibility improvements; requests for better wheelchair access to the oval. |
| Environmental & Cost Concerns | Questions about environmental impacts, construction materials, and project costs. |
| Transparency & Engagement | Requests for continued updates, clearer information, and open community forums. |

Council response

Community feedback led to refinements to the concept plan. Due to budget constraints, only minor changes can be accommodated, including:

- **More spectator seating:** Landscaping is now included in the scope. During detailed design, options for the existing spectator steps will be reviewed and revised plans will be shared with the community.
- **Internal layout:** feedback about adding more openings and connectivity in the meeting room space will be incorporated.

Council will retain key athletics and spectator areas where possible and review design elements for usability, accessibility, and sustainability.

Next steps

- **Detailed Design:** Now underway based on updated concept.
- **Construction:** Expected to begin **late 2026 or early 2027**, subject to approvals and tender outcomes.
- **Funding:** Supported by grant funding focused on accessibility and inclusion, particularly for women and girls.

Expected benefits

- Accessible facilities including step-free paths and "Changing Places" bathroom
- Safer, welcoming environment for players, spectators, and families
- Multi-use recreation areas serving broader community needs