

It's Playtime! Kids play extravaganza: Council unveils a Fresh Playground Adventure at Laycock Street and half-court Netball/Basketball plans.



Promoting Active Living for our Youth in Northern Midlands.

Laycock Street Park, Longford.

Laycock Street will be home to a Contemporary Playground and Picnic Haven in Longford. Families can now enjoy a unique blend of fun, relaxation, socialising, and skill development for their children.



Laycock Street Park plan

The park's thoughtful design includes electric barbecues, a picnic shelter, and a multi-age playground, providing diverse opportunities for families to connect. A dedicated Nature-based area adds an enriching dimension, encouraging exploration and environmental appreciation.

A 3-bay swing coupled with soft fall rubber flooring, ensures that the joy of play extends across all seasons. The preservation of existing Elm trees, strategically woven into the landscaping, further enhances the park's allure by offering shade during the warm summer months. Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Phase 4 funding contributed \$500,768 towards developing the Park.

More than a local gem, Laycock Street Park aspires to be a destination drawing families from all corners. Celebrate the spirit of community and joy as Laycock Street Park transforms playtime into a memorable experience.



Netball and Basketball practice board

Netball/Basketball Half Court Installations.

The rapid growth of basketball and netball participation has fuelled the development of new venues for practice areas. These sports can be played by all age and abilities inclusive of able-bodied and wheelchair users. As part of our commitment to health and wellbeing and in line with our strategic goals we are delighted to introduce the installation of netball/basketball half courts in several communities. The location for these courts has been carefully chose to ensure proximity to public amenities, making them accessible to residents of all ages. The half netball/basketball courts will be constructed in Cressy, Longford, Perth, and Ross. A significant portion of the funding, amounting to \$100,000 has been committed through the Open Spaces Grant Program.



Cressy Netball Basketball Half Court site plan



Perth Basketball/Netball Half Court, site plan

Northern Midlands Youth Programs Flourish, Nurturing Growth and Connection.

Northern Midlands, has a vibrant tapestry of youth programs creating a supportive environment for young individuals and fostering personal growth by building connections within the community.

The Active Northern Midlands Youth Program at Campbell Town and the afterschool activities led by 'PCYC' create a haven for students to connect and play.

These programs have been a staple from 2020 to 2023, recording an impressive 2907 attendances. It's an open invitation for all school students seeking opportunities to enhance their health and wellbeing.

There are also afterschool PCYC Sessions in Perth, Evandale and Longford providing free afterschool activities, from cricket to board games and 'skyball'.



ReLink restarts its free after school programs in Perth, this month targeting young people in Grades 4-6. The sessions promise a diverse range of activities such as Fishing, Dance, and Pickleball, emphasizing the program's focus on social inclusion and holistic health.

The Free2b Girls initiative returns, offering a safe and supportive environment for girls to build positive relationships. The introduction of Branching Out, aimed at girls in Grades 8-10, promises a chance to connect, explore, and have fun. Both initiatives emphasize inclusivity and positive spaces for growth.

Our Youth Officer support extends to the Milo Club, a social group facilitated by Catholic Care, encouraging connections, and providing access to support services. The Rhythms program, held at Perth Primary School, engages primary school students in activities that enhance social and emotional development.

The Northern Midlands Council is committed to nurturing the potential of its youth, illustrated by these dynamic programs. As we embark on 2024, these initiatives continue to play a pivotal role in shaping the lives of young individuals, promoting a sense of belonging, and contributing to the overall wellbeing of the community.



Enjoying Craft Projects and Comradery at Free2B

Mary Knowles OAM,
Mayor