



What the Fair Access Policy Roadmap means for council-owned aquatics and leisure centres

What is the Fair Access Policy Roadmap?

The Fair Access Policy Roadmap is an Australia-first policy that aims to support women and girls with fairer access to community sport and recreation facilities. Developed by the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation in partnership with VicHealth and Sport and Recreation Victoria, the Roadmap supports all Victorian councils to develop and adopt a gender equitable access and use policy (or equivalent). From 1 July 2024, councils having a policy in place will form part of the eligibility criteria for Victorian Government community sports infrastructure funding. This would include funding for councils to build or upgrade aquatic and recreation facilities.

The Roadmap provides direction, guidance and support for councils, facility managers and other employees, and sport and recreation organisations to work together to progress gender equitable access and use of community sports infrastructure. The Roadmap aligns with existing obligations that councils and state government departments, have as defined entities, under the *Gender Equality Act (2020)*.





What are councils doing in response to the Roadmap?

As every community is unique, every Victorian council will develop and adopt a policy that is locally relevant and unique to their community's needs. All policies will need to demonstrate how women and girls will receive a fairer go in the access and use of community sports infrastructure.

The Roadmap is also supporting councils to undertake Gender Impact Assessments as part of their existing obligations under the *Gender Equality Act* (2020), and the results of these assessments may identify changes required within certain facilities, policies or programs to better suit the entire community.

I work at a council-owned aquatics and/or leisure centre. What can I do to support this work?

Great question! It is recommended you start by contacting your local council to understand what their policy might include. You may be able to identify changes that can be made to existing programs or plan for new programs to align with your council's policy.

I still have questions. Who can I talk to?

The Fair Access team are here to help and can be reached at FairAccess@sport.vic.gov.au. For more information, visit the [Change Our Game website](#).



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