



MANNINGHAM

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date:	Tuesday, 28 February 2023
Time:	7:00pm
Location:	Council Chamber, Civic Centre 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

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**MANNINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 28 FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7:00PM
IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE
699 DONCASTER ROAD, DONCASTER**

The meeting commenced at 7:00pm.

PRESENT: Councillor Deirdre Diamante (Mayor)
Councillor Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor)
Councillor Anna Chen
Councillor Andrew Conlon
Councillor Geoff Gough
Councillor Michelle Kleinert
Councillor Carli Lange
Councillor Laura Mayne
Councillor Stephen Mayne

OFFICERS PRESENT: Chief Executive Officer, Mr Andrew Day
Chief Financial Officer, Mr Jon Gorst
Director Experience and Capability, Ms Kerryn Paterson
Director City Services, Ms Rachelle Quattrocchi
Director Connected Communities, Ms Lee Robson
Director City Planning, Mr Duncan Turner

**1 OPENING PRAYER AND STATEMENTS OF
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Mayor read the Opening Prayer & Statements of Acknowledgement.

2 APOLOGIES AND REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

There were no apologies or requests for leave of absence.

3 PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Chairperson asked if there were any written disclosures of a conflict of interest submitted prior to the meeting and invited Councillors to disclose any conflict of interest in any item listed on the Council Agenda.

There were no disclosures made.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR ANDREW CONLON

SECONDED: CR CARLI LANGE

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 December 2022 be confirmed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5 PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Australia Day Honours 2023

The Mayor acknowledged and congratulated Manningham residents who had received an award in this year's Australia Day Honours List:

- Ms Inaam Barakat for service to the multicultural communities of Victoria;
- Mr Peter Clifford Burns for service to the community and to youth;
- Mr Gifford Ernest Hatfield for service to youth through Scouts and to the community;
- Former Councillor, Ms Dorothy Haynes for service to the community of Doncaster; and
- Dr Margaret Rwth Stuckey for service to community health.

6 PETITIONS

There were no Petitions.

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

7.1 JM Kardaras

- Q1 Will Council consider permanently displaying the pride flag amongst the Australian flag, Aboriginal flag and Torres Strait Island flag?

Ms Lee Robson, Director Connected Communities thanked Jenny for her question and responded that Manningham continues its commitment to being inclusive and celebrate diversity, by attending Midsumma Pride March, recognising IDAHOBIT Day and working closely with Council's Gender Equality and LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee.

The Australian National Flag Protocols stipulate that only official flags of nations recognised by Australia should be flown in conjunction with the Australian National Flag.

Mr Robson advised that Manningham recognises the significance of certain flags and utilises the five designated flagpoles within the Civic Precinct to permanently fly the:

- *Australian National Flag;*
- *Victorian State Flag;*
- *Aboriginal Flag;*
- *Torres Strait Islander Flag; and*
- *Manningham Council Flag.*

Under Manningham's Flying Flags In The Civic Precinct Policy, the Manningham Council Flag may be removed to accommodate an endorsed celebration or event, and replaced with the relevant flag for the specified event or timeframe, for a maximum of seven days.

Community flags flown as part of the Manningham annual schedule include:

- *International Women's Day – 8 March;*
- *IDAHOBIT Day – 17 May; and*
- *United Nations Day – 24 October.*

7.2 W Burns, Donvale

- Q1 Would the council consider publishing its current and future performance against service levels relating to council response times associated with planning permits?

Mr Duncan Turner, Director City Planning thanked Mr Burns and responded that Council issues planning permits in accordance with the processes defined by State Government laws. Timelines for planning decisions are influenced by numerous variables including the quality and level of information lodged by applicants; the complexity of planning scheme considerations; public consultation; external agency referrals; and appeal processes.

Mr Turner advised that statutory planning performance data is reported to the community in the Manningham Quarterly Report. In addition, planning application activity data is published on State Government reporting platforms including the Planning Permit Activity Reporting System (PPARS) and the Local Government Reporting Framework (LGPRF). The platforms provide the ability to compare individual Council's performance across Victoria. Mr Turner noted that based on the benchmarks set by the State Government, Manningham is high performing relative to other Metropolitan and Victorian Councils.

- Q2 Would the council undertake a review of the existing processes related to the provision of planning permits to ensure that reasonable service levels are communicated to applicants in advance and those service levels remain measured and visible to all parties throughout the application process?

Mr Duncan Turner, Director City Planning responded that Council embraces continuous improvement and a commitment to improving user experiences across all of its services. This is facilitated through an embedded service management framework that has an annual review to assess service planning and performance on all Council services.

Mr Turner noted that Council takes particular interest in its performance for the management of statutory planning applications. Performance indicators are included in the Manningham Quarterly Report, which was tabled at the Council meeting for the last quarter. Manningham's performance across a range of services is also included in the annual report, which is available on Council's website.

7.3 M Waters, Doncaster

- Q1 Why does the council not have a dedicated Complaints Department? Are senior council officers (CEO etc) aware of complaints?

Ms Kerryn Paterson, Director of Experience & Capability thanked Mr Waters for his question and responded that Manningham is committed to a fair and consistent process for managing complaints. The complaints process is outlined in the Manningham Complaints Policy, which is available on Council's website.

Ms Paterson advised that the policy has been developed with reference to the Local Government Act 2020 and a range of best practice guides, including from the Victorian Ombudsman. The policy provides a tiered framework for handling complaints. It also includes a process for internal independent review by a senior member of Council, including Directors and the CEO, and an option for external review via the Victorian Ombudsman. In addition, there is monthly reporting of customer data to senior officers to ensure transparency and timely action in handling requests and complaints.

Manningham encourages feedback as a valuable opportunity to review policies, procedures and practices and make changes where necessary. Manningham is committed to continuous improvement in the review of its complaints policy and processes.

- Q2 Rate Notices – We were charged interest (since remitted) as we did not receive in the mail two instalment notices. Rate Officer advised these two notices were issued by BPay View. There is no such thing.

Officer also advised there is a 10 day notice sent by email requiring a very complex online form to be completed. I am an older person (82) with limited computer skills and poor memory. I am unable to do this – surely Council would encourage email rate notices, not discourage them.

Mr Jon Gorst, Chief Financial Officer thanked Mr Waters for his question and responded that a member of the Rates team had left a message for Mr Waters to contact them and they would take him through the process to set up email notification of rates notices.

7.4 N Down and D Kilmartin, Doncaster Athletics Club

Q1 Mr N Down

Do the Councillors of Manningham believe that where a decision is made by a Council officer that greatly impacts the club in question and where the club feel an error in the application of the Council seasonal allocations policy has been made, and where we formally challenged the decision, that the desire to support the officer by their superiors should take precedence over the exercise of due process?

Q2 Mr D Kilmartin

Will the Councillor's here present, intervene on behalf of the Doncaster athletics club, to ensure that the seasonal allocations policy, established by this Council to ensure due process and transparent outcomes, is correctly applied, and overturn the unjustifiable and untenable determination that the Doncaster Athletic Club be required to share the Thursday night 7:30pm to 9pm allocation at Tom Kelly Athletic Track with a rival group?

Councillor Anna Chen thanked Mr Down and Mr Kilmartin for their questions and responded that she and her fellow Councillors appreciate the work and dedication of the Doncaster Athletics Club.

Councillor Chen advised that she was aware that the speakers had met with council officers on several occasions regarding this matter and that the matter had been reviewed by senior officers.

Councillor Chen noted that whilst there was disagreement with the determination made by officers, she acknowledged that officers had tried to negotiate an outcome that would maximise the use of the athletics track to the widest possible range of user groups.

Councillor Chen advised that Councillors have called for a review of the grounds allocation policy to improve transparency and help clarify the process.

Councillor Chen extended an invitation to both speakers to meet with herself, the Mayor and officers to work through the criteria to gain a better understanding of how it had been applied.

7.5 M Vincent, Templestowe Lower

- Q1 What is the status of the Illegal Parking reports (9 to date) that have been submitted to Council relating to a Non-Resident parking in a 'Resident Only' location in Mahoney Street? This includes an infringement relating to parking on the nature strip only on the day of the signs being updated by Council.
- Q2 When is Council going to take action on the Parking Restrictions in place at Mahoney St, Lower Templestowe?

Mr Duncan Turner, Director City Planning thanked Mr Vincent for his question and responded that officers take a measured approach when enforcing parking restrictions across the municipality.

Mr Turner confirmed that Mr Vincent's notifications had been received by Council officers and that multiple visits to Mahoney Street had occurred in direct response to Mr Vincent's concerns and appropriate enforcement action had been taken.

Mr Turner confirmed that the matter remains open and that officers will continue to patrol the area.

7.6 A Ray, Lower Templestowe

- Q1 Is Manningham Council concerned about the potential for deer invasion and damage within Tindals Wildflower Reserve, given that the boundary fence is old and built to a low height?

Ms Rachelle Quattrocchi, Director City Services thanked Ms Ray for her question and responded that as part of a state-wide deer control program, the State Government has granted \$100,000 to Manningham for the "Protecting Manningham's Biodiversity Values through Strategic Deer Control," project which will encourage residents to participate in Council's Local Environment Assistance Fund (LEAF) grant program for feral deer control.

Ms Quattrocchi advised that a contractor has also been hired to manage and improve Council's Deer Control Program, which includes delivering the State Government's Peri-urban deer control grant for 2022-2023. The contractor will work three days a week until 30 June, raising awareness among residents about the impact of feral deer on biodiversity, and coordinating and expanding the deer control program across Manningham. The program involves monitoring feral deer and their impact on the environment and targeting eligible private properties in the Green Wedge to consider deer management.

Ms Quattrocchi noted that Council is not aware of issues with deer in relation to Tindals Wildflower Reserve, however, as part of the program, officers will investigate further to ensure that this area is protected.

7.7 R Fallem, South Morang

- Q1 I'm keen on finding out more on the 20 minute neighbourhoods initiatives that will slowly be rolling out. Will every Council simply be called a 'smart city' or will all local Councils have multiple 20 minute neighbourhoods within their boundaries?

Mr Andrew Day, Chief Executive Officer thanked Mr Fallem for his question and responded that whilst he cannot make comment with regards to the other 78 municipalities, Manningham Council has in place strategic planning and strategic planning frameworks for the municipality, with the objective of setting out a plan for the next 20 years.

Mr Day advised that in July 2022 Manningham adopted its Liveable City Strategy 2040, which is the key guiding document at Manningham in planning for the future of the City. The Strategy sets out a blueprint to make sure Manningham remains one of if not the most liveable place in Melbourne and also recognises that Council needs to do this in a planned way. Mr Day noted that this approach will ensure the community has access to all the amenities it needs locally and that they are delivered in a planned way for the community.

8 ADMISSION OF URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

9 PLANNING PERMIT APPLICATIONS

There were no planning permit applications requiring a decision of Council.

10 CITY PLANNING

There were no City Planning reports.

11 CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

11.1 Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-25 Adoption

File Number: IN23/49
Responsible Director: Director Connected Communities
Attachments: 1 Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025 [↓](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025 (RAP) has now been finalised.

Following a period of community consultation, the RAP was submitted to Reconciliation Australia for approval. Reconciliation Australia has now endorsed the document. The purpose of this report is to seek final Council endorsement for the RAP 2023-2025.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR LAURA MAYNE
SECONDED: CR CARLI LANGE

That Council:

- A. Notes that the final Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025 has been endorsed by Reconciliation Australia.**
- B. Endorses the Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In August 2020, Council engaged with Reconciliation Australia regarding the draft Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The RAP was then further developed in consultation with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, and in collaboration with Manningham's Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group. The Working Group comprises community representatives, including Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and other First Nations people and Council officers.
- 2.2 The draft Manningham RAP was endorsed by Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation in March 2022.
- 2.3 At a Meeting on 28 June 2022, Council:
 - A. Noted the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation had endorsed the Manningham RAP.
 - B. Approved the draft Manningham RAP for public exhibition.
 - C. Nominated Cr Diamante as the Councillor Representative to join the Manningham RAP Working Group.

- 2.4 The draft Manningham RAP was exhibited publicly for a four-week period. The community engagement process involved:
- Drop-in sessions at four Manningham Neighbourhood Houses
 - Online survey on Your Say Manningham website
 - Consultation with Council's Advisory Committees
 - Receipt of customer requests for information
- 2.5 At the conclusion of the community engagement process, the initial findings of the community consultation were tabled for discussion at the August RAP Working Group meeting.
- 2.6 On 25 October 2022, Council endorsed the submission of the draft Manningham RAP to Reconciliation Australia for its endorsement.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

- 3.1 The Manningham RAP is now complete and was submitted to Reconciliation Australia for endorsement of both the final content and design.
- 3.2 Reconciliation Australia has endorsed the Manningham RAP 2023-2025.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

- 4.1 The **Council Plan** supports the establishment of the Manningham RAP.
Theme: Healthy Community
Goal 2: Connected and inclusive community
Action 2.1.4: Recognise and promote Aboriginal cultural heritage and connection to country.
- 4.2 The RAP development and its implementation delivers on the **Health and Wellbeing Strategy** Action Area 'Healthy Community - Increased connection and engagement in community life' by respecting, supporting, and celebrating First Nations people, culture and heritage.

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The actions listed within the Manningham RAP have implications for Council's reconciliation journey. The RAP actions have been identified through a process of consultation and negotiation, and each Council business unit is aware of their obligations as it relates to reconciliation.
- 5.2 Under the Victorian Human Rights Charter, Victorian councils are required to protect the distinct cultural rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Victoria. Section 19(2) of the Charter states:
- Aboriginal people hold distinct cultural rights and must not be denied the right to enjoy their identity and culture;
 - maintain and use their language;
 - maintain their kinship ties; and
 - maintain their distinctive spiritual, material and economic relationship with the land and waters and other resources with which they have a connection under traditional laws and customs.
- 5.3 The Local Government Act 2020 refers directly to Traditional Owners of land in the municipal district of the Council as members of the municipal community.

6. IMPLEMENTATION**6.1 Finance / Resource Implications**

6.1.1 Year 1 actions focus on strengthening relationships and organisational practice and will include ongoing cultural consultations and Welcome to Country. The cost of cultural consultations and ceremonial attendances will be considered as part of ongoing operational budgets.

6.1.2 Year 1 and 2 actions and financial implications will be considered during the 2023-2024 budget planning process.

6.1.3 With a focus on First Nations relations and to further support and enable a successful implementation of the RAP, additional resourcing will be required.

6.2 Communication and Engagement

6.2.1 The Manningham RAP has involved regular engagement with a range of internal and external stakeholders, including the RAP Working Group and cultural consultations with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation. This will continue as Council implements the RAP.

6.2.2 A communication and engagement plan has been developed in consultation with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation to enhance opportunities to engage with local First Nations people and organisations.

6.2.3 Council will continue to work with Reconciliation Australia to ensure the reporting requirements of the RAP are achieved.

6.3 Timelines

6.3.1 Following Council's approval, the RAP will be launched at the Yaluk Langa Community Day at Heide Gallery on Saturday 18 March 2023.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.



Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2023 – 25

April 2023 – April 2025





Ash Firebrace, *Coming Together* (detail), 2021, acrylic on canvas, 147 x 215cm.

Commissioned as part of the exhibition *Myths and Legends* held at the Manningham Art Gallery in 2021 that depicted Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung ancestral beings and deities in Ash's powerful graphic style.

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this document may contain images of deceased people.

Manningham Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways that is now known as Manningham.

Council pays respect to Elders both past, present and emerging, and values the ongoing contribution to enrich and appreciate the cultural heritage of Manningham.

Council acknowledges and respects Australia's First Peoples as Traditional Owners of lands and waterways across Country and encourages reconciliation between all.



Endorsement from Reconciliation Australia



Since 2006, Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPs) have provided a framework for organisations to leverage their structures and diverse spheres of influence to support the national reconciliation movement.

With over 2.3 million people now either working or studying in an organisation with a RAP, the program's potential for impact is greater than ever. Manningham Council continues to be part of a strong network of more than 1,100 corporate, government, and not-for-profit organisations that have taken goodwill and transformed it into action.

The four RAP types — Reflect, Innovate, Stretch and Elevate — allow RAP partners to continuously strengthen reconciliation commitments and constantly strive to apply learnings in new ways.

An Innovate RAP is a crucial and rewarding period in an organisation's reconciliation journey. It is a time to build the strong foundations and relationships that ensure sustainable, thoughtful, and impactful RAP outcomes into the future.

An integral part of building these foundations is reflecting on and cataloguing the successes and challenges of previous RAPs. Learnings gained through effort and innovation are invaluable resources that Manningham Council will continuously draw upon to create RAP commitments rooted in experience and maturity.

These learnings extend to Manningham Council using the lens of reconciliation to better understand its core business, sphere of influence, and diverse community of staff and stakeholders.

The RAP program's emphasis on relationships, respect, and opportunities gives organisations a framework from which to foster connections with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples rooted in mutual collaboration and trust.

This Innovate RAP is an opportunity for Manningham Council to strengthen these relationships, gain crucial experience, and nurture connections that will become the lifeblood of its future RAP commitments. By enabling and empowering staff to contribute to this process, Manningham Council will ensure shared and cooperative success in the long-term.

Gaining experience and reflecting on pertinent learnings will ensure the sustainability of Manningham Council's future RAPs and reconciliation initiatives, providing meaningful impact toward Australia's reconciliation journey.

Congratulations Manningham Council on your second Innovate RAP and I look forward to following your ongoing reconciliation journey.

Karen Mundine
Chief Executive Officer
Reconciliation Australia

Mayor's message



Manningham Council is committed to being an inclusive and connected community. We proudly acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways known as Manningham, and are respectful of the Victorian First Nations communities.

We recognise and respect the deep and continuous connection the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people have for the land Manningham Council operates on.

Manningham's new Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is the most recent milestone in a journey that began back in 1997.

At this time, *A Statement of Commitment to Indigenous People* was developed with the Eastern Region Councils and adopted by Manningham Council. It was an affirmation of respect and recognition for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of Manningham.

There have been many years of work since then to build on our commitment to our First Nations Peoples and the work of reconciliation. We recognise that although there is still much work to be done, local government has a key role to play in the achievement of reconciliation.

This new RAP has been developed in partnership with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation and local First Nations peoples. We thank them for their contribution and generosity in helping us to produce this document. We also thank the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group who guided the development of this document.

It is our hope that this RAP supports us to:

- create meaningful relationships
- recognise and support First Nations self-determination and cultural rights
- build understanding of our shared history
- celebrate, recognise and respect First Nations cultural heritages
- educate our community on First Nations culture and history and provide them with an opportunity to take an active part in the process of reconciliation.

We are committed to fostering respect for and understanding of First Nations cultures, histories, knowledge and rights throughout our organisation and the municipality.

Cr Deirdre Diamante
Mayor, Manningham Council

Message from Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation

As the Traditional Owners of the areas, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, we acknowledge that Manningham Council have consulted with us widely in producing this document and they have shown respect and understanding in regard to working with Traditional Owners and other First Nations peoples.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation are proud to be associated with like-minded people at Manningham Council who understand that we must accept and acknowledge the wrongs of the past, so we can all move forward together in the spirit of reconciliation.

Local governments are in a unique position, and they also have a responsibility to care for the Country and people within their municipality in order to form a real community that is inclusive and respectful for all, but particularly to those who are First People of the Country.

We are pleased to have involvement in Manningham Councils development of their Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-25.

Sincerely,

Wurundjeri's consultation team Elders



Wurundjeri
Woi-wurrung
Cultural Heritage
Aboriginal Corporation

Our vision for Reconciliation

Manningham’s vision is for an inclusive and connected community, which proudly acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways and is respectful of the Victorian First Nations communities¹. It is an informed community that celebrates and values the rich cultural heritages of First Nations peoples, their diversity, strengths and roles as knowledge holders, and their ongoing contributions to making Manningham what it is today.

We will achieve our vision by embedding the aspirations and commitments contained within the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) throughout our core business and with all activities, programs, and services in collaboration with the Manningham community. Namely, by

- developing meaningful relationships and strengthening our connections between First Nations people and the broader community;
- fostering respect and understanding;
- valuing and protecting cultural heritage; and,
- supporting self-determination in which Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and First Nations cultures are visible, widely recognised and apparent across all public spaces and through civic engagement.

We will learn from the past, we will celebrate continuing cultures, and together we will build our shared future for reconciliation.

¹ First Nations is used rather than 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander' and 'Indigenous' unless referring to the title of past policies. This was identified as preferred terminology by the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group in July 2021.

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung is used when referring to the Traditional Owners of Manningham. It is noted that there are many cultural differences between and within First Nations communities and while terms are often used interchangeably, the most appropriate terminology will be the way in which the community and or individuals wish to describe themselves. These preferences change with time.



Artist Robert Michael Young creating his colourful mural at Templestowe Village.
Photo credit, Charlie Kinross

A placemaking activation project to bring life, connection and colour to a shared community space. The artworks across the village reflect the changing of seasons and indigenous animals - black swan, wombat, echidna and platypus which can be found in the Manningham area.

Our business/our city

Situated entirely within Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung homelands, Manningham Council is the Local Government authority of the Manningham municipality, and provides more than 100 services to residents, ratepayers, businesses and community groups across the City. Manningham is a diverse community with an estimated resident population of 125,827 (2021 Census).

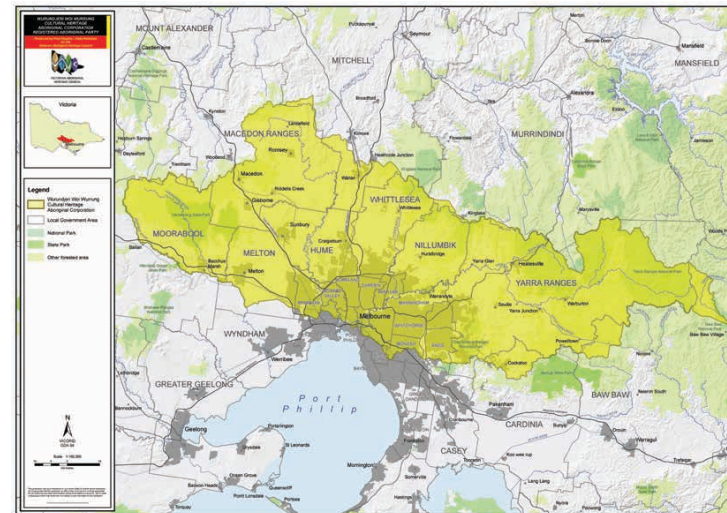
Manningham Council currently employs 638 people in a full-time, part-time or casual capacity, across two offices in Doncaster and Doncaster East, Victoria, none of whom identify as belonging to First Nations.

Manningham is in Melbourne's eastern suburbs and stretches from Bulleen, about 12km from Melbourne's Central Business District (CBD) to Wonga Park, about 32km from the CBD, linking to the Yarra Valley – bringing a unique combination of both cosmopolitan city and country lifestyles together, over a total land area of 114 square kilometres, including substantial green open space.

The municipality is mostly defined by natural boundaries: the Yarra to the north and west, Koonung Creek to the south, including the suburbs of Bulleen, Doncaster, Doncaster East, Donvale, Nunawading (in part), Park Orchards, Ringwood North (in part), Templestowe, Templestowe Lower, Warrandyte, Warrandyte South and Wonga Park (in part).

First Nations communities

Manningham's First Nations community is diverse, with varied cultures, heritages, and histories. Based on the 2021 Census data, Manningham hosts a population of approximately 297 people who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, representing 0.2% of the resident population. The median age of the First Nations population of Manningham is 24 years. Census data does not take into consideration those who may reside outside Manningham but have continuing cultural or community connections to the municipality.



Source: Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council

Our Reconciliation Action Plan

Manningham Council recognises that local government has a key role to play in the achievement of reconciliation. This includes playing a leadership role in creating meaningful relationships; recognising and supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander self-determination and cultural rights²; building understanding of our shared history; celebrating, recognising and respecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritages; and providing our local community with an opportunity to take an active part in the process of reconciliation.

Manningham Council has appointed Lee Robson, Director Connected Communities as its RAP Champion. The role of the RAP Champion is to drive internal engagement and awareness of the RAP at a senior leadership level.

Manningham Council also has a role in providing accessible services as an employer, procurer.

Reconciliation Action Plan Development

The development of the Reconciliation Action Plan has involved a collaborative process. In 2019 Manningham Council formed a Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group to guide the development and implementation of the Reconciliation Action Plan and established regular Cultural Consultations with Elders and staff of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation (the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation).

As the Registered Aboriginal Party for Manningham, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation plays a key role in decision making for and protection of cultural heritage and as such are recognised as the 'primary guardians, keepers and knowledge holders of Aboriginal Cultural heritage'.³ In particular the contribution and guidance from the Cultural Consultations team, Aunty Gail Smith, Aunty Julieanne Axford and Aunty Doreen Garvey-Wandin.

The Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group membership comprised of First Nations community members, representatives from a range of agencies and Manningham Council officers. The Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group is chaired by Manningham Council's Director City Planning and Community and includes:

- Dale Wandin, Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung - Community Member
- Uncle John Baxter, Latji Latji/Narungga - Community Member
- Karen Milward, Yorta Yorta - Community Member
- Bronwyn Arnold, Whitehorse Manningham Libraries
- Alicia Wheatley – Wiradjuri - Department of Family Fairness and Housing

The contribution of former members is also acknowledged; Dr Jim Poulter (Reconciliation Manningham) Autumn Pierce (Women's Health East) Kate Jeffery (Inner East Primary Care Partnership), Jenny Mitchell (Whitehorse Manningham Libraries) and Alice Young, Gunai Kurnai /Yorta Yorta (Department of Education).

Each member of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group has brought with them their extensive experience, knowledge and skills to support Council's reconciliation efforts. While the accountability for actions rests with Council officers, the majority of actions require engagement and collaboration with external agencies for their successful delivery.

A number of lessons were learnt, and improvement opportunities were identified through the review of the 2015 – 17 RAP. This included:

1. The establishment of a new Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group with greater representation from the Executive Management Team
2. Ensure the actions are realistic and achievable
3. Strengthen corporate ownership, commitment, accountability, and resources to reconciliation
4. Embed the Reconciliation Action Plan within Council's corporate reporting framework
5. Invest in relationship building and partnerships

Council has strengthened relationships with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community groups and residents. In addition, the establishment of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group and the inclusion of two members of the Executive Management Team demonstrates the increased ownership and commitment across Council.

The Reconciliation Action Plan is being championed by the Director Connected Communities, as well as members of the Diversity and Inclusion Working Group which will bring greater prominence to Council's Reconciliation efforts. Importantly, Manningham Council recognised the principal role our partnerships play in driving reconciliation outcomes and endeavours to work constructively with key stakeholders going forward.

² The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

³ Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and the Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018

Case study

Annual art exhibition and programing

Manningham Art Gallery's National Reconciliation Week exhibition has been a key part of its annual program for over a decade and has hosted a number of significant and emerging contemporary First Nations artists in that time.

In recent years, exhibiting artists including Adam Ridgeway and Hayley Millar-Baker, the Manningham-based Young family (Richard, Judith, Robert and Lyn-AI) and emerging artists Maddi Moser and Troy Firebrace have extended the reach of the exhibition with a variety of successful engagement programs including artist talks, art workshops with local school students, the development of an education kit and a film screening and panel discussion that was praised by many in attendance.

Ash Firebrace's 2021 exhibition, included the commissioning of a new artwork permanently displayed in Manningham's Civic Building foyer, paved the way for further creative collaborations. In 2022 and 2023, consecutive exhibitions *Serving Country* and upcoming *Unfinished Business* exhibitions by photographer Belinda Mason, further enshrine the gallery as a space for exploring cultural attitudes, ideas and representation through the arts.

These programs have depended upon the deep commitment and positive engagement of these artists, along with members of the RAP working group and community, as well as the gallery and partners like Whitehorse Manningham Libraries and Aboriginal Victoria providing open and safe spaces to present culturally relevant art and discuss complex and sometimes difficult social issues. Council continues its commitment to delivering a diverse program and provide the opportunity for First Nations community members to share stories, arts and culture with Manningham and the broader community.



Ash Firebrace and his piece *Coming Together*.

The journey so far

Manningham recognises the role of key partners, organisations and individuals and their contributions to Manningham Council's Reconciliation Journey.

- 1997** A *Statement of Commitment to Indigenous People* was developed with the Eastern Region Councils and adopted by Manningham Council. It was an affirmation of respect and recognition for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of Manningham.
- 1999** The first *Indigenous People's Policy* was developed, which provided a basic set of principles for Manningham Council to activate the journey of reconciliation, including the protocol of flying the Aboriginal flag on key dates, and the introduction of a Statement of Acknowledgement, to be read prior to key Council meetings.
- 2006** The second *Indigenous Peoples Policy* was developed which introduced a commitment to delivering a program of community activities during National Reconciliation Week, based on local partnerships.
- 2008** A more formalised *Indigenous Policy and Action Plan (2009 – 2012)* was developed, which saw the introduction of clear and measurable actions to support reconciliation. This guided the development of strong partnerships with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders and local community in developing an extensive suite of programs and projects during National Reconciliation Week (NRW). This year also saw the Aboriginal Flag being permanently flown at the Manningham Council Municipal Offices.
- 2011** Manningham Council was awarded the National Local Government Award for Reconciliation, which recognised Council's program as outstanding in terms of its' community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander partnerships, and diverse array of cultural, heritage, arts and education experiences for our community.
- 2012** Council developed our first nationally endorsed *Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan (2012 – 2014)*, an extensive and diverse set of actions that put Manningham at the forefront of Reconciliation programming within the Eastern metropolitan region. Most of these actions were achieved, with a number of actions that continue to roll over into the new Reconciliation Action Plan.

- 2013** Manningham Council received Federal funding for the "Wurundjeri Stories" Interpretive Signage trail project at Pound Bend, supporting Manningham Council's vision to signpost and culturally develop known Aboriginal Heritage Sites of Significance in Manningham in partnership with the Wurundjeri Tribe Council. The trail has been developed to provide a framework for schools to access local cultural heritage and progress their reconciliation objectives within a local setting. Resources have been developed to support school access to this program.
- 2015** Review of the *Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan (2012 – 2014)* sees the introduction of the *Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan (2015 – 2017)* using the Reconciliation Australia framework, which is designed to address reconciliation through three core pillars being Relationships, Respect and Opportunities.
- 2019** Review of the *Reconciliation Action Plan (2015 – 2017)* found that while a number of actions were undertaken, the completion of the actions diminished over time following a major restructure of the organisation. Manningham Council has identified the need to strengthen the approach to reconciliation outcomes and has established the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group to guide and support this work.
- 2021** The *Acknowledgment of Country* was revised and included in all external council meetings and events. The *Vision for Reconciliation* is included in Council Plan, providing organisational commitment.

Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group contribution to the placemaking framework resulting in changes to Manningham signage to include "Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country".
- 2022** Manningham Council worked closely with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Elders in the naming of wonguim wilam, Warrandyte. This work was nominated by Geographic Names Victoria to receive the inaugural award for Excellence in Place naming. The award recognised the process Council took to engage the community and respect for Traditional Owner language.

The activities of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group were a significant contributing factor into Manningham Council's accreditation as a "Welcoming City"

Our commitment

Manningham acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the land and waterways in our city and recognises and respects their unique rights, obligations to and deep connection to Country. Manningham Council recognises the unique status of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia’s First peoples, and the world’s oldest living cultures.

Manningham Council recognises the profound impact of colonisation and the dislocation from traditional lands on First Nations, as well as the injustices influenced by government policies and practices, including the forced removal of children from their families, a trauma still being felt today. Manningham acknowledges the strength and resilience of First Nations communities.

Manningham Council respects the rights of all First Nations peoples to exercise cultural rights and we acknowledge our role in supporting self-determination and empowering the community to share their stories. Manningham Council understands the importance of working with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation and local communities and organisations and is committed to building meaningful relationships.

Manningham Council recognises that the land we now call Manningham is a cultural landscape, nurtured by the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, with many sites of significance being the combination of the tangible elements (e.g., artefacts, scarred trees, middens) and intangible elements of cultural practices (e.g., stories and traditional land management). There is a rich connection to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung culture and heritage embedded within Manningham’s history with a number of areas of great importance including the Birrarung (Yarra River), Bolin Bolin Billabong and surrounding billabongs, and Pound Bend, a central living and gathering place for the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people from time immemorial.

Council understands the important role we play in supporting the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people’s rights to preserve archaeological sites and landscapes of cultural importance, located within Manningham and surrounds.

Manningham Council acknowledges and values the contributions made to our community by First Nations peoples. Manningham Council commits to fostering respect for and understanding of First Nations cultures, histories, knowledge and rights throughout our organisation and the municipality. This includes learning from our past, valuing cultural heritages and celebrating continuing cultures.



Interpretive signage at wonguim wilam in Warrandyte. Boomerang artwork by Ash Firebrace.

Policy context

The Reconciliation Action Plan supports Manningham Council to deliver on its vision for a peaceful, safe and inclusive community. We celebrate life with its diverse culture, wildlife and natural environment. We are resilient and value sustainable and healthy living, a sense of belonging, and respect for one another.

Manningham Council's mission is "A financially sustainable Council that listens, consults, and acts with integrity, value and transparency." Our strategic direction flows from our mission, vision, values, and five strategic themes:

1. Healthy community
2. Liveable places and spaces
3. Resilient environment
4. Vibrant and prosperous economy
5. Well governed council.

The following strategies and policies also have objectives that support the delivery of the Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan (2023 – 2025):

Local Government

Local Government Act 2020

The updated *Local Government Act* refers directly to *Traditional Owners of land in the municipal district of the Council* as members of the *municipal community*.

Manningham Council Key Strategic Documents:

Manningham Council Generation 2030 Community Plan

A 20-year community plan for Manningham, based on community aspirations, that drives Council policies and prioritisation of resources.

Manningham Council Plan 2021 – 25

Council's major strategic document that outlines the goals of Council and guides the delivery of services over a four-year period.

Manningham Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021 – 2025

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy sits alongside the Council Plan to improve health and wellbeing, across themes of inclusive and harmonious; healthy and well; safe and resilient; and connected and vibrant.

Other relevant Council Strategies include:

- Active for Life Recreation Strategy
- Ageing Well in Manningham Strategy
- Dementia Friendly Action Plan
- Early Years Plan
- Economic Development Strategy
- Engagement Policy
- Environment Strategy
- Liveable City Strategy
- Manningham Planning Scheme, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and Cultural Heritage Policy
- Open Space Strategy
- 2010 – 2025 Affordable Housing Plan

State

Local Government Act 2020 (see previous section)

Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 2010 (2)

Protects the rights of all people to equal opportunities. Prohibits discrimination on the basis of age, disability, employment activity, gender identity, physical features, pregnancy, race, faith, sex, sexual orientation and other attributes.

Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

Defines the fundamental rights of all people in Victoria under law. The Charter particularly acknowledges the special importance of human rights for Aboriginal Victorians including the rights to:

- enjoy their identity and culture
- maintain and use their language
- maintain their kinship ties
- maintain their distinctive spiritual, material and economic relationship with the land and waters and other resources with which they have a connection under traditional laws and customs.

Public authorities have a legal obligation to properly consider Aboriginal cultural rights when they deliver services, engage with the public, make decisions, and develop new projects or policies.

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

Designed to protect the health of Victoria's population, promote conditions in which people can be healthy, and reduce inequalities in the state of public health and wellbeing.

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act is a key piece of legislation on matters of national environmental significance. However, a review of the Act commenced in October 2019, with an Interim Report suggesting that the Act is currently ineffective. Terms of reference for the review include consideration of Indigenous peoples' knowledge and role in the management of the environment and heritage.

Advancing the Treaty Process with Aboriginal Victorians Act 2018

Australia's first ever treaty law, which provides a road map to treaty or treaties in Victoria. The Act requires the future Aboriginal Representative Body and the State to establish foundations to support future treaty negotiations. This includes a treaty authority, treaty negotiation framework and a fund to support Aboriginal self-determination.

Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murron) Act 2017

'Wilip-gin Birrarung murron' means 'keep the Birrarung alive' in the Woi-wurrung language. The Act is bi-cultural in its intent. The first overarching legislation which outlines the protection of the Yarra River and adjacent corridor, recognising its significance as a single living and integrated natural entity, and the Traditional Owners' intrinsic custodianship of it. The Act established the Birrarung Council, guided the development of

a long-term Community Vision, the development of the Yarra Strategic Plan and requires the development of a decision-making framework (DMF) against which individual projects and proposals may be assessed or evaluated.

Victorian Aboriginal and Local Government Strategy 2021 – 2026. This is a practical guide towards self-determination, designed to support local councils to include Aboriginal Victorians at the centre of their decision making, and foster mutual respect, trust, and goodwill.

Water Act 1989

The Water Act (Vic) legislates the use of water resources, including use, conservation and management. It allows for the rights of Traditional Owners to access, take and use water in specified areas where an agreement is in place.

Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2018

The Act ensures protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria. The Regulations enforce the Act through a set of standards, defining 'high impact activity' and 'areas of cultural sensitivity', and requiring the development of cultural heritage management plans.

Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework 2018 – 2023

The overarching whole-of-government framework for Victoria, representing bipartisan commitment to long-term generational change. Through foundations of self-determination, the VAAF provides oversight to a range of existing strategies in the areas of:

- Children, family and home
- Learning and skills
- Opportunity and prosperity
- Health and wellbeing
- Justice and safety
- Culture and country

This includes policies such as *Korin Korin Balit-Djak: Aboriginal health, wellbeing and safety strategic plan 2017–2027*; *Balit Murrup: Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing framework 2017–2027*; and *Marrung, Aboriginal Education Plan 2016 – 2026*.

Victorian Local Aboriginal Networks Five Year Plan 2016 – 2020

Local Aboriginal Networks (LANs) provide a local level, community led voice for Aboriginal people, and a forum for connection. The Five-Year Plan is designed to ensure the success and sustainability of LANs. Note: the LAN program is currently under review.

Water for Victoria

Launched in 2016, Water for Victoria is a strategy to ensure the state's water system is efficient and affordable into the future. It recognises the value of water for Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians, and highlights consideration of Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge.

Federal

Racial Discrimination Act 1975

Enshrines equity in law, by legislating that all people should be treated equally regardless of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic background.

Closing the Gap

First introduced in 2008, Closing the Gap addresses the gaps in health, life expectancy and other outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, aiming to do so within a generation. The policy has recently been reviewed and resulting in the release of the first Commonwealth implementation plan in August 2021. The plan is designed to change commitments to meaningful actions and includes four priority Reforms and 17 socioeconomic targets. The Reforms are:

- Formal Partnerships and Shared Decision Making
- Building the Community-Controlled Sector
- Transforming Government Organisations
- Shared Access to Data and
- Information at a Regional Level

International

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People

Adopted in 2007, the Declaration expands on universal human rights by applying them specifically to Indigenous peoples, through a framework of minimum standards for their survival, dignity and wellbeing.



Serving Country

In 2022 and 2023, consecutive exhibitions by documentary photographer Belinda Mason, *Serving Country* (with Dieter Knierim) and *Unfinished Business*, further enshrine the Manningham Art Gallery as a space for exploring.

Photo credit, Charlie Kinross

Our actions



Relationships

Manningham Council is committed to developing and nurturing meaningful relationships built on respect between First Nations, Council and the wider community. Strengthening relationships and engagement will enable First Nations perspectives to be heard and increase responsiveness to community needs and aspirations.

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility*
1. Establish and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and organisations.	1.1 Meet with local First Nations stakeholders and organisations to develop guiding principles for future engagement	June 2023	Director Community Connections
	1.2 Develop and implement an engagement plan to work with First Nations stakeholders and organisations	December 2023	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
	1.3 Develop a First Nations community profile for Manningham	December 2023	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility*
2. Build relationships through celebrating National Reconciliation Week (NRW).	2.1 Circulate Reconciliation Australia's NRW resources and reconciliation materials to our staff	May 2023 May 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing supported by Diversity and Inclusion Working Group
	2.2 RAP Working Group members to participate in an external NRW event	27 May - 3 June 2023, 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing supported by Diversity and Inclusion Working Group
	2.3 Encourage and support staff and senior leaders to participate in at least one external event to recognise and celebrate NRW	May, June 2023 May, June, 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
	2.4 Organise at least one NRW event each year that showcase First Nations Art and programming in partnership with key organisations	May, June 2023 May, June, 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing with support of Manager Engaged Communities
	2.5 Register all our NRW events on Reconciliation Australia's NRW website	May, June 2023 May, June, 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing with support of Manager Engaged Communities

*Please note deliverables sit with Unit Directors and Managers

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility ⁴
3. Promote reconciliation through our sphere of influence	3.1 Implement strategies to engage our staff in reconciliation	June 2023 June 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing with support of Manager Engaged Communities
	3.2 Communicate our commitment to reconciliation publicly and encouraging community participation in council events etc.	June 2023 June 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing with support of Manager Engaged Communities
	3.3 Explore opportunities to positively influence our external stakeholders to drive reconciliation outcomes	October 2023 October 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
	3.4 Collaborate with RAP endorsed and other like-minded organisations to develop ways to advance reconciliation	December 2023 December 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
4. Promote positive race relations through anti-discrimination strategies	4.1 Conduct a review of HR policies and procedures to identify existing anti-discrimination provisions, and future needs	December 2023	Manager People Experience
	4.2 Develop, implement, and communicate an anti-discrimination policy for our organisation	June 2024	Manager People Experience
	4.3 Engage with First Nations staff and/or advisors to consult on our anti-discrimination policy	December 2023	Manager People Experience
	4.4 Educate senior leaders on the effects of racism and the nature of institutional racism	June 2024	Manager People Experience



Respect

Manningham Council has a key role in fostering respect for and understanding of First Nations cultures, histories, knowledge and rights throughout our organisation and the municipality. This includes learning from our past, valuing and protecting First Nations cultural heritages and celebrating continuing cultures.

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility
5. Increase understanding, value and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, knowledge and rights through cultural learning	5.1 Conduct a review of cultural learning needs within our organisation	June 2023	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing and Manager Engaged Communities
	5.2 Consult local Traditional Owners and First Nations advisors on the development and implementation of a cultural learning strategy	June 2023	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing and Manager Engaged Communities
	5.3 Develop, implement and communicate a cultural learning strategy for our staff which considers how learning can be provided (online, face to face, workshops and cultural immersion)	December 2023	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing and Manager Engaged Communities
	5.4 Provide opportunities for RAP Working Group members, HR managers, Councillors, CEO and Executive Management Team and other relevant staff to participate in formal and structured cultural learning	September 2023	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing in partnership with Manager People Experience and Manager Governance and Risk
	5.5 Explore opportunities for cultural immersion for Councillors in term of their appointment	September 2023	Chief Legal and Governance Officer

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility
6. Demonstrate respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by observing cultural protocols.	6.1 Increase staff's understanding of the purpose and significance behind cultural protocols, including Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome to Country protocols	July 2023	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing with support of Manager Engaged Communities Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation
	6.2 Review existing Acknowledgement of Country to ensure it is current and relevant and in line with best practice	December 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing with support of Manager Engaged Communities Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation
	6.3 Develop, implement and communicate a cultural protocol document, including protocols for Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country	July 2023	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing with support of Manager Engaged Communities Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation
	6.4 Invite a local Traditional Owner or Custodian to provide a Welcome to Country or other appropriate cultural protocol at significant events each year	December 2023 December 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
	6.5 Include an Acknowledgement of Country or other appropriate protocols at the commencement of important meetings	December 2023 December 2024	Chief Legal and Governance Officer

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility
7. Build respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories by celebrating NAIDOC Week	7.1 RAP Working Group to participate in an external NAIDOC Week event	July 2023 July 2024	Director Connected Communities
	7.2 Review HR policies and procedures to remove barriers to staff participating in NAIDOC Week	March 2024	Director Connected Communities and Manager People Experience
	7.3 Promote and encourage participation in external NAIDOC events to all staff	July 2023 July 2024	Director Connected Communities and Manager People Experience
8. Increase public understanding, value and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, knowledge and rights throughout the municipality	8.1 Environmental education programs delivered by Council to include Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung educational aspects (including traditional land management, bush tucker and cultural activities)	October 2023 October 2024	Manager City Amenity
	8.2 Create a welcoming environment in Council's offices and other facilities for First Nations peoples by displaying culturally appropriate material	December 2023 December 2024	Director City Planning and Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
	8.3 Build awareness and support for First Nations cultures and histories in our Early Years centres and youth programs and through the promotion of culturally safe and inclusive settings for families and children	October 2023 October 2024	Director Connected Communities

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility
	8.4 Reviewing and update Council's signage and naming policies and processes to align with state policy and consider Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung aspirations	December 2023 December 2024	Manager Integrated Planning
9. Explore opportunities to recognise and promote Aboriginal cultural heritage and Connection to Country.	9.1 Engage Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation early at appropriate stages of conception and design of key places and spaces (e.g. civic facilities, regional park lands, public art projects, interpretative signage)	January, March, May, July, September, November 2023	Manager Integrated Planning and Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
	9.2 Continue to collaborate with the Wurrundjeri Woi-wurrung Corporation in key initiatives in land and water	January, March, May, July, September, November 2023	Manager Integrated Planning and Director City Planning
	9.3 Explore opportunities for cultural practice, spiritual healing and celebration of First Nations communities 'people and stories' and heritage	December 2023 December 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing

 **Opportunities**

Increase and enhance opportunities for First Nations peoples through employment and supporting economic participation of First Nations owned Businesses.

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility
10. Improve employment outcomes by increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander recruitment, retention and professional development	10.1 Build understanding of current First Nations staffing to inform future employment and professional development opportunities	December 2023 December 2024	Manager People Experience
	10.2 Engage with First Nations staff to consult on our recruitment, retention and professional development strategy	October 2023	Manager People Experience
	10.3 Develop and implement a First Nations recruitment, retention and professional development strategy	March 2024	Manager People Experience
	10.4 Advertise job vacancies to effectively reach First Nations stakeholders	December 2023 December 2024	Manager People Experience
	10.5 Review HR and recruitment procedures and policies to remove barriers to First Nations participation in our workplace	March 2024	Manager People Experience
	10.6 Increase the percentage of First Nations staff employed in our workforce	December 2024	Manager People Experience

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility
11. Increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander supplier diversity to support improved economic and social outcomes	11.1 Develop and implement a social procurement strategy	December 2023	Manager Procurement All Service Unit Managers
	11.2 Investigate Supply Nation membership	December 2023	Manager Procurement
	11.3 Develop and communicate opportunities for procurement of goods and services from First Nations businesses to staff	March 2024	Manager Procurement
	11.4 Review and update procurement practices to remove barriers to procuring goods and services from First Nations businesses	December 2023	Manager Procurement
	11.5 Develop commercial relationships with First Nations businesses	December 2023 December 2024	Manager Procurement

 Governance

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility
12. Establish and maintain an effective RAP Working group (RWG) to drive governance of the RAP.	12.1 Maintain First Nations representation on the RWG	February, May, August, November 2023 February, May, August, November 2024	Director Connected Communities
	12.2 Establish and apply a Terms of Reference for the RWG	July 2023	Director Connected Communities
	12.3 Meet at least four times per year to drive and monitor RAP implementation.	February, May, August, November 2023 February, May, August, November 2024	Director Connected Communities
13. Provide appropriate support for effective implementation of RAP commitments	13.1 Define resource needs for RAP implementation	September 2023 September 2024	Director Connected Communities
	13.2 Pursue opportunities to embed RAP vision and aspirations in corporate or strategic documents, including the Council Plan	December 2023 December 2024	Manager People Experience
	13.3 Pursue opportunities to embed RAP vision and aspirations in Council policies	December 2023 December 2024	Chief Legal and Governance Officer
	13.4 Engage our senior leaders and other staff in the delivery of RAP commitments	September 2023 September 2024	Director Connected Communities
	13.5 Define and maintain appropriate systems to track, measure and report on RAP commitments	July 2023	Chief Legal and Governance Officer

Action	Deliverable	Timeline	Responsibility
	13.6 Appoint and maintain an internal RAP Champion from senior management	July 2023	Director Connected Communities
14. Build accountability and transparency through reporting RAP achievements, challenges, and learnings both internally and externally	14.1 Complete and submit the annual RAP Impact Measurement Questionnaire to Reconciliation Australia	September 2023 September 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
	14.2 Report RAP progress to all staff and senior leaders quarterly	March, June, September, December 2023 March, June, September, December 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
	14.3 Publicly report our RAP achievements, challenges and learnings, annually	November 2023 November 2024	Manager Engaged Communities
	14.4 Investigate participating in Reconciliation Australia's biennial Workplace RAP Barometer	May 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing
15. Continue our reconciliation journey by developing our next RAP	15.1 Register via Reconciliation Australia's website to begin developing our next RAP	December 2024	Manager Economic and Community Wellbeing

For more information, please contact:

Catherine Simcox
 Coordinator Social Planning and Community Strengthening
 ☎ 9840 9297
 ✉ Catherine.Simcox@manningham.vic.gov.au

We are committed to fostering respect for and understanding of First Nations cultures, histories, knowledge and rights throughout our organisation and the municipality.

Manningham Council

 Manningham Council, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

 9840 9333

 manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au

 manningham.vic.gov.au



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11.2 Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space

File Number:	IN22/779
Responsible Director:	Director Connected Communities
Attachments:	1 Draft Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space ↓
	2 Summary of Fees ↓

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In response to an action within the Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-25 (2019 Review), Officers have undertaken a review of the Seasonal Sports Pricing Policy. The aim of the review was to create a contemporary, equitable Policy that was transparent and easy to apply. Significant work has been undertaken to develop what is now known as the Draft Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space, including engaging a consultant to undertake benchmarking, review maintenance practices, analyse the cost of this maintenance and develop various fee models for consideration.

A non-endorsed draft Policy was released for an initial targeted consultation process with sporting clubs throughout June 2022, with the aim to engage clubs and seek initial feedback on the direction of the draft Policy. The consultation included a workshop with club representatives, direct emails to key stakeholders as well as an online survey seeking feedback on the draft Policy. Feedback received through this process has been considered and, where appropriate, has informed changes to the draft Policy. This includes:

- Applying a tiered team fee model based on the quality of the sports field used, as well as applying this tiered model for casual users.*
- Reviewing the proposed fee structure for use of turf cricket wickets.*
- Applying a flat peppercorn rate for all leased facilities, regardless of facility size.*

This report seeks support to proceed to further community consultation throughout March 2023 regarding the amended draft policy, which includes information sessions with user groups and the wider community, online engagement through Manningham YourSay, and direct meetings with individual user groups. The feedback from this further round of consultation will be incorporated into a final draft for endorsement by Council in mid-2023.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR STEPHEN MAYNE
SECONDED: CR ANDREW CONLON

That Council:

- A. Supports the for public consultation process proposed for the release of the draft 'Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space'; and**
- B. Notes that a report will be presented to a Council Meeting in mid-2023 for final endorsement of the policy, following the community consultation process.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In response to an action within the Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-2025 (2019 Review), a review of the Seasonal Sports Pricing Policy has been undertaken. This review has seen a significant amount of work undertaken including engaging a consultant to undertake the policy review, significant benchmarking against other Councils, reviewing our maintenance practices and the financial impact of this maintenance, fee modelling, and significant internal consultation including presenting at numerous Executive Management Team and Strategic Briefing Session meetings. This work has resulted in the development of the draft Pricing Policy for Use of Active Open Space.
- 2.2 The draft Policy was presented to Council at the 3 May 2022 Strategic Briefing Session. This presentation did not seek endorsement of the draft Policy, rather it sought endorsement of a preliminary community consultation process. This saw Officers seek feedback on the draft Policy from sporting clubs that tenant a Council outdoor sporting facility.
- 2.3 Three workshops were scheduled to be run as part of the preliminary community consultation however due to limited registration numbers, these workshops were consolidated into one. An online survey was also developed to provide an avenue for sporting club representatives to provide their feedback if they were unable to attend the workshop. Furthermore, sporting club representatives were given an opportunity to meet with Council Officers to discuss any questions or concerns. It is noted that no sporting clubs requested this.
- 2.4 A total of 18 sporting club representatives attended the workshop. The attendees represented 13 different clubs from a range of sports including cricket, tennis, lawn bowls, soccer, athletics and horse and pony clubs. The session was extremely productive with a large amount of constructive feedback received. Notably, attendees acknowledged support for the Policy review and its content, however, did provide some feedback that has resulted in several changes within the updated draft Policy (Attachment 1).
- 2.5 A further 12 responses were received via the online survey. These responses primarily focused on a question around floodlight maintenance, with respondents supportive of Officers exploring a change in maintenance responsibilities. This is currently a club responsibility, with clubs supportive of changing this to a Council responsibility. Further work is required to determine the cost and resource implications of this shift in responsibility.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

- 3.1 Team Fee Model – Turf Sports Fields
- 3.1.1 The current Seasonal Sports Pricing Policy applies a ground fee, which is scaled depending on the quality of the sports field being used (e.g. a higher fee is applied for use of a regional facility that is maintained to a high standard, and a lower fee is applied for local level facilities that traditionally see less maintenance). The draft Pricing Policy for Use of Active Open Space proposed to change from a ground fee to a team fee model to promote fairness, and to assist in more efficient allocation of sports fields. The proposed model saw one set fee per sport, regardless of what level sports field a club uses.

- 3.1.2 Feedback was received from clubs in relation to the team fee model, primarily around the one set fee as this was seen to be unfair if one team on a regional facility is paying the same fee as a team on a local level facility. This feedback was considered, and further work has been undertaken to apply a tiered fee structure based on the level of the sports field that a team plays at. The tiered structure is based on the amount of maintenance a ground receives. On average, a regional level facility receives 20% more maintenance than a municipal or district level facility. A local/school level facility receives on average 40% less maintenance than a municipal or district facility. As such, the fee for regional facilities is 20% more than the district/municipal fee, and local/school facilities is 40% less.
- 3.1.3 The amended team fee structure responds directly to the feedback received from club representatives and creates an equitable approach that still achieves the draft Policy's 35% cost recovery target (before concessions are applied).
- 3.1.4 Further feedback was received from a small number of club representatives that a team fee punishes a club for increasing their size (e.g. the more teams a club fields, the more team fees that will be applied). Whilst Council Officers acknowledge this feedback, no change is recommended within the draft Policy. The team fee is not seen as a barrier to fielding a team, rather it ensures that each club pays an equal fee based on their team numbers, which achieves the draft Policies Guiding Principle of equality.
- 3.2 Team Fee Model – Teams Using Turf and Synthetic
- 3.2.1 A query was raised as part of the consultation process around how a team that uses both natural turf and synthetic sports fields would be charged. Under the draft Policy a team fee is applied to teams using natural turf sports fields, and a per hour fee is applied for use of synthetic pitches.
- 3.2.2 To ensure this section of the Policy is clear and easy to articulate, wording has been added as follows:
- 'Where soccer teams use both natural turf and synthetic soccer facilities, the club must nominate whether a team is predominantly a synthetic surface team or a natural turf team as part of their allocation application. All use of synthetic pitches will be charged at the applicable hourly rate, and a team nominated as predominantly "turf" will be charged the applicable team fee.'*
- 3.2.3 A team fee model was explored for use of synthetic pitches, which was calculated using the same method that the natural turf team fee was calculated. It was determined that a synthetic team fee would be very expensive and was not a viable option to consider.
- 3.3 Casual Use Fees
- 3.3.1 To align with the team fee model, a tiered fee has been developed for casual use. This updated model will now see a higher fee applied for casual use of regional level facilities, and a lower fee applied to local or school facilities.

3.4 Leased Facilities

3.4.1 Currently, it is unknown how the fees and charges for the use of leased facilities has been determined. These fees are historical and in many cases it is unclear about how these were calculated. This has created inequity in how many user groups using leased facilities are charged.

3.4.2 To address this, the draft Policy recommended a flat peppercorn fee across all leased sports fields including per tennis court, per bowling green and per horse arena. A peppercorn fee was proposed as clubs with a lease are responsible for sports field maintenance, meaning a cost recovery based on recouping maintenance costs for Council was not applicable.

3.4.3 Feedback was provided on the proposed fee throughout the consultation process, with some clubs noting this would see an unsustainable increase to their fees. With this feedback in mind, the fee has been further refined with the draft Policy now proposing to apply a peppercorn rate per facility. That is, regardless of how many sporting fields (e.g. tennis courts) a club has, each club will pay the same flat peppercorn fee of \$110. This is in addition to the pavilion fee that will be determined by the Community Facilities Access and Concession Policy.

3.4.4 The initial proposed fee also considered a 'commercial levy' for tennis clubs that engage a professional coach, which equated to 300% of the peppercorn rate. This was proposed given the commercial nature of professional tennis coaches. Additional work is required to be undertaken to consider the impact of a commercial levy on tennis clubs. Further consultation is required with clubs, Tennis Victoria and Council to determine the most appropriate method of recognising the commercial nature of tennis coaches. It is therefore proposed not to apply a commercial levy within this Policy, rather investigate this through the lease renewals process.

3.5 Turf Wicket Fees

3.5.1 Several clubs that use turf cricket wickets queried whether the charge for use of the wickets is inclusive of the maintenance cost to rectify the damage caused to turf wickets by winter sports. Further conversations were held with Council's Parks Team to understand whether the cost to rectify damage from winter sports can be quantified, as club feedback was to remove this cost from the turf wicket charges. It is of the Parks Team's professional opinion that the work undertaken after winter to prepare the turf wickets for summer would occur regardless of whether winter sport is played or not. Damage occurred by winter sport has minimal impact on the overall preparation of turf wickets for summer, and it is therefore recommended to leave the turf wicket charges as is.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

4.1 The proposed draft Policy responds to action 1.3.2 within the Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-25 (2019 Review).

- 4.2 The proposed draft Policy also aims to produce relevant outcomes for the Council Plan 2021-25 and Healthy and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25, by promoting opportunities to participate in a healthy lifestyle through reducing barriers to participate in sport.
- 4.3 In addition, the review aims to complement other programs and policies which focus on equity in sport and recreation.
- 4.4 A Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) has been undertaken on the draft Policy to ensure it promotes fairness and equality. The GIA provided outcomes which have been considered within the draft Policy, namely the fee models.

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposed draft Policy will provide a framework by which we charge for the use of outdoor sports fields. The proposed draft Policy aims to supersede the existing policy.
- 5.2 Given the current maintenance cost recovery is currently 15.5% (current target is 25%) and it is proposed to increase to 35% (before concessions are applied), an increase is anticipated for some user groups. This increase is due to several reasons including:
 - a) User groups having previously been under charged based on the cost recovery model (the current policy was not achieving the desired 25% cost recovery);
 - b) Some user groups have previously been undercharged based on their usage; and
 - c) Some user groups have previously been overcharged based on their usage (this charge is still in line with the current Policy).

6. IMPLEMENTATION

- 6.1 Finance / Resource Implications
 - 6.1.1 The Team fee model for natural turf sports fields has been developed to ensure the 35% cost recovery model can be achieved (before concessions are applied). In total before concessions are applied, \$311,177.06 of income is anticipated from users of natural turf sports fields across any given year, whilst expenditure totals \$910,459.13.
 - 6.1.2 After concessions are applied, it is anticipated that an annual income of \$194,587.60 will be received, representing a cost recovery of 21.4%. This excludes synthetic soccer pitch use (this usage is variable) and leased facilities.
 - 6.1.3 A summary of the fees proposed can be found at Attachment 2.

6.1.4 In total, approximately half of the user groups on seasonal, annual and lease agreements will experience a decrease in fees. 30% of user groups will experience nominal increases, with the remaining 20% to experience an increase of \$1,000 or more. These figures do not consider users of turf wickets, users of synthetic soccer pitches (use is variable and can only be determined once actual usage is known at the end of a season) or pavilion use (governed under the Community Facilities Access and Concession Policy).

6.1.5 The impacts of Covid on user groups is acknowledged, as is the ongoing cost of living and other financial pressures. The aim of this draft Policy is to create equality, not unsustainable fee increases for user groups. Officers will support all clubs that experience financial hardship through providing payment plans and further resources around financial management, sponsorship, strategic planning, and other important sustainability topics.

6.1.6 Any user groups with a seasonal, annual or turf wicket fee that is projected to increase will not have the full increase applied in the first year, rather it will be increased over a 3-year period from the commencement of the Policy. This will see the fee increased by 33.33% year on year for 3 years (plus standard CPI increases) commencing from the 2024/25 Financial Year. An example of how this will be applied is as follows:

- 2024/25 Fee – This fee is calculated by increasing the 2023/24 fee by 33.33%, plus the standard CPI increase.
- 2025/26 Fee – Increasing the 2024/25 fee by 33.33%, plus standard CPI increase.
- 2026/27 Fee – Increasing the 2025/26 fee by 33.33%, plus standard CPI increase.

6.1.7 It is proposed that all fee decreases would be applied immediately within the 24/25 Financial Year.

6.2 Communication and Engagement

6.2.1 Following endorsement of the draft Policy, it is proposed to proceed with a detailed community consultation period. A Communications Plan has been developed which includes running a forum with sporting clubs, schools and other users of Council's sports fields, as well as running an online engagement platform through Yoursay Manningham.

6.2.2 In addition to the above, Officers will meet directly with individual user groups, particularly those with anticipated fee increases. The purpose for these meetings is to provide an opportunity for those user groups to ask Officers direct questions in relation to the Policy. These meetings also provide an opportunity for Officers to discuss the Policy rationale with the user group, demonstrate how to interpret the Policy and also highlight available support options.

6.2.3 Following the community consultation period, a consultation report will be developed summarising the feedback received. This feedback will be considered and where appropriate, changes to the draft Policy will be made.

6.3 Timelines

6.3.1 It is proposed to undertake a detailed community consultation process throughout March 2023. Following this, further refinements to the draft Policy will be made, with the final Policy proposed to be presented at an SBS and Council meeting in early to mid-2023 seeking adoption.

6.3.2 Implementation of the Policy would commence from the 2024/25 Financial Year. It is understood that there will be a financial impact for several user groups as a result of the proposed Pricing Policy. To address this, a staged implementation will be considered as part of the project.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

Policy Register

Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space

Draft - not approved

Policy Classification	- TBA
Policy N°	- TBA
Policy Status	- Draft
Responsible Service Unit	-
Authorised by	- TBA
Date Adopted	- TBA
Next Review Date	- TBA

This policy is part of a suite of policies adopted by Council or the Executive Management Team (EMT).

New or replacement policies can be created and developed within Service Units but can only be added to Council's Policy Register by Governance Services following the approval of the policy by Council or the EMT.

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**Policy Register
Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active
Open Space**



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Policy Register Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space



1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide a pricing framework for the use of Council's outdoor active spaces by incorporated user groups, schools, private users and commercial hirers where fees and charges apply.

This policy sets out the terms and conditions offered by Council, including concession levels for sporting clubs and other hirers using these facilities.

2.0 POLICY STATEMENT

This policy outlines the pricing framework for the use of outdoor active spaces in a fair, transparent and consistent way. It indicates the level of fee applicable to each facility, the rationale for this as well as any concessions that are offered by Council to increase participation, address inequity and support community benefit and enhanced wellbeing.

This policy recognises that financial contributions received from user groups through fees and charges support Council's operations to meet the expectations of our community. The level of income received through fees and charges directly impacts the quality of the playing surfaces. As such, the fees applied for the use of sports fields by user groups, results in meaningful outcomes for both the user group and the community.

2.1 Guiding Principles

The principles set out below will be used by Council to determine the fees to be charged for the use of the Council owned outdoor sport and recreation facilities to which this Policy applies.

- **Equitable and Inclusive access;** Council wishes to actively encourage the participation of groups that may be under-represented in outdoor sports through providing a fee concession.

For the purposes of this policy underrepresented groups include the following:

- Females participating in male dominated sports such as Football, Soccer, Cricket, Baseball, Rugby
- Males participating in female dominated sports such as Netball
- Older Adults in all sports at the Master's level
- Teams eligible to participate in "All abilities" competitions

Council is also committed to supporting the participation of children and young people in sport and will provide a concession for each junior team (which is any team that includes the words "under (insert age)" including Under 19's.

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Council will also fully subsidise the participation of teams for the first season of play in sports that are brand new within Manningham.

- **Transparent and consistent and efficient processes;** Fees will be documented in a manner that users and the community can understand e.g., how the fees have been calculated and why the level of fee imposed has been charged. The administration and system of charging for the use of outdoor active spaces will be simple, resource efficient, easy to understand and will be applied consistently.
- **Contribution / Commensurable;** Fees will be set and reviewed at a level that reflects a contribution towards Council's maintenance of outdoor active spaces. A scale of different charges will apply to commercial, private individuals and community groups.

2.2 Calculating Seasonal Fees

Seasonal Fees have been calculated based on recouping 35% of the total maintenance cost only, rather than full service delivery costs. This framework applies to all outdoor sports fields with the exception of turf cricket wickets, synthetic soccer facilities, satellite netball/basketball courts and leased facilities. The figure of 35% represents the amount of time on average that sporting clubs' book and occupy council sporting facilities, with the broader community having access to the facilities approximately 65% of the time.

The significant administration, construction and capital works costs of facilities have **not** been considered when developing fees. The exclusion of these costs when calculating fees demonstrates the value Council places on community sport as well as Council's commitment to the provision of facilities for organised sport. It also recognises the significant social and community benefits provided by sporting clubs.

Turf wicket fees have been considered based on a 50% cost recovery model due to their exclusive use (section 1.6). Satellite netball/basketball court fees are based on a 15% cost recovery model, which more accurately reflects the amount of time these courts are used by clubs (section 1.8.2). Leased facilities are based on a peppercorn rate (section 1.11), whilst the quality of synthetic soccer surfaces has a 100% cost recovery model (section 1.9).

Fees have been developed with consideration that:

- Facilities which require higher maintenance costs will attract higher fees.
- There is no differentiation for the use of fields for training or competition.
- There is no differentiation for Tenant Clubs that play home and away fixtures.
- The standard of facility is reflected in the fees that are applied.

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Use of turf sports field fees will be charged on a per team basis, with the fee reflecting the classification of the turf sports field used. Turf sports fields are classified in line with Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy which includes:

- Regional
- Municipal
- District
- Local
- School

A per team fee is fairer than a ground fee as it ensures all participants pay an equitable amount to access council facilities, and that clubs pay for their actual usage of the facility. The number of team fees to be applied to each club has been based on participation levels during 2019.

Netball, athletics and synthetic soccer pitches will be charged on a per hour basis.

All pricing within this Policy will increase annually in line with CPI to ensure that users continue to make a reasonable contribution to the maintenance of Council outdoor sports fields. The cost of maintenance of sporting facilities which forms the basis of the fees and charges will be reviewed every three years to ensure they remain accurate, with the Policy itself to be reviewed every six years.

2.3 Sports Ground Maintenance

Sports ground maintenance is defined as those re-current maintenance costs which are required to ensure that the standard of the sports ground is maintained. These costs include but are not limited to:

- Mowing;
- Fertilising;
- Herbicide applications;
- Irrigation system maintenance;
- Top dressing;
- Turf replacement;
- Verti-draining;
- Materials, machinery and labour; and
- Water.

2.4 Turf Sports Field Fees – Seasonal and Annual

2.4.1 Community Sports Clubs and Not For Profits

Team fees have been determined per sporting code based on recouping 35% of the total maintenance costs for each standard of natural turf facilities being Regional, District, Municipal and Local/School. The total maintenance cost for

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each standard of facility has been divided by the number of teams in each sporting code to derive a per team fee per sporting code for that standard of facility.

Team fees will be applied to any team playing in a formal competition, including competitions administered by a sporting association or social competitions within a club. Any team that pays registration fees (and is therefore covered by insurance) to participate will incur the team charge. Where teams do not train (such as in a social competition), or train on a Council sports field however play elsewhere, they will be charged 50% of the applicable team fees.

Bookings for council facilities for the purposes of junior sports development for children, such as Auskick, Cricket Blast or Miniroos will not be charged a fee, as Council wishes to actively encourage and support the participation of children in sport. This is only applied to programs being run by not-for-profit organisations.

A whole of club fee will be charged to the users of the Bulleen Park Archery Field and the Bulleen Park Aeromodel Field, as these sports do not have individual teams. A fee based on recouping 35% of the actual maintenance costs for each individual facility will be applied for these users. Should multiple user groups be allocated the same facility, the fee will be divided based on the amount of usage by each group (e.g. the fee would be split 70/30 if one group is allocated the sports field 70% of the time, and the other group is allocated 30% of the time).

2.4.2 Commercial Entities

There are some commercial entities who use Council open space under a seasonal tenancy allocation, such as personal trainers, dog training groups and private sports coaches for example. Whilst these users have a commercial aspect to them, they also assist Council to meet the health and wellbeing objectives for residents through the services they provide.

Accordingly, these commercial groups will be charged a per hour rate which is the standard casual hire day rate divided by 8 hours (not the commercial rate). This excludes use of leased facilities.

Commercial Hirers who do not contribute to the health and wellbeing objectives for residents will be charged the applicable commercial fee based on whether they have a registered address in Manningham or not. This includes hot air balloon companies who will be charged a commercial rate and invoiced retrospectively for their actual use. Should hot air balloon companies not provide information on their actual use, they will be charged based on their allocated hours.

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2.5 Turf Sports Fields - Casual Use

2.5.1 Casual Hire of Sports Fields

There are 34 sports fields available for casual use within Manningham. The casual fee is derived from the total maintenance cost per standard of facility being Regional, District, Municipal and Local/School divided by the number of sports fields in each category and further divided by 350 (50 weeks) in order to determine a per day maintenance rate for each standard of facility.

An hourly rate has been derived by dividing the applicable day rate by 8 hours for casual users.

This rate is the basis of the community hire rate applicable to any community group which has a registered address in Manningham. This figure is doubled for private hirers who are residents of Manningham, commercial hirers located within Manningham and community groups located outside Manningham. The day rate is tripled for commercial users located outside of Manningham except for personal trainers who are permitted to hire sports fields casually and will be charged the community rate.

2.5.2 Casual Use of Sports Field Floodlighting

The casual use of sports field floodlighting will be charged based on actual usage, which will be determined after the booking date. It is noted that this will only apply to facilities where Council manages the electricity usage (e.g Petty's Reserve). The hirer must contact the tenant user group where the facility's electricity is paid by the tenant user group.

2.5.3 Pre-Season Training and Practice Matches

Turf sports field seasonal fees are inclusive of pre season training and practice matches for Manningham Clubs, and as such, no fee is applied to eligible user groups on a seasonal allocation.

A casual hire fee will be charged for pre season training or practice matches to clubs based outside Manningham or Manningham based clubs that are not currently on a seasonal tenancy.

2.5.4 Finals

Sports field seasonal fees are inclusive of all home and away games (including training). A sports field fee for finals will be charged to the hiring club or association if the finals matches do not involve a Manningham based

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club. The club or association will not be charged if the competing teams in the finals matches involve a Manningham based club.

2.5.5 School Use

Manningham based schools will be permitted free use of 1 ground booking, or multiple bookings up to 6 hours' worth of total use per week (for turf sports fields and netball courts (see section 6.8.3). This free use does not extend to the Tom Kelly Athletics Track or synthetic soccer pitches). Any use above this will be charged at the community rate.

Schools located outside the municipality will be regarded as an external community group and charged fees accordingly which is double the community rate.

School Sports Victoria, State Sporting Associations or any other similar body who are running 'school pathway programs' will not be charged if a Manningham school is involved. Limits on these bookings will be considered on a case by case basis.

As per section 6.8.3, schools are also permitted 6 free hours of use on Manningham netball courts. If a Manningham based school or other eligible body has booked a turf sports field in the same week as their booking of a netball court, the hirer will be eligible for 6 free hours on the netball courts in addition to 6 free hours on the turf sports fields.

2.6 Turf Cricket Wicket Fees

Council maintains turf centre cricket wickets and turf practice wickets during the summer season at four reserves: Donvale, Koonung, Schramms and Zerbes Reserves.

It is significantly more expensive to prepare turf cricket wickets and turf practice wickets compared to maintaining concrete and synthetic cricket pitches and practice wickets.

For seasonal use of turf wickets by community sporting clubs, Council will recoup 50% of the actual maintenance cost for preparation of individual turf wickets and turf practice wickets.

The 50% charge includes the preparation of practice wickets two nights a week as well as the centre match day wicket. The preparation of any additional wickets required outside the standard fixture (e.g. practice matches and other casual use) will be charged the 100% of the cost to prepare the wicket.

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The turf wicket fee is in addition to the team fee that is applied (see section 2.4.1).

No additional fee will be charged for wickets prepared for Manningham clubs playing finals. Sporting associations who book Manningham grounds for finals (if a Manningham team is not playing) or for events like country carnivals will be charged 100% of the cost to prepare the wicket(s). Similarly, commercial, private groups or schools wishing to use turf wickets for casual or seasonal use will be charged 100% of the maintenance cost in preparing the wicket.

2.7 Tom Kelly Athletics Track

2.7.1 Tom Kelly Athletics Track - Seasonal and Annual

The recoupment of 35% of maintenance costs for the Tom Kelly Athletics Track will be apportioned to the user groups of the facility via an hourly fee.

This fee is calculated by considering the annual maintenance cost divided by 350 days (which is consistent with the synthetic turf report which considers 50 bookable weeks in a year) to determine a per week charge. This per week charge is then divided by 50 hours (as the facility is used around 50 hours per week for bookings). This then provides the hourly figure of which is multiplied by .35 to obtain the 35% cost recovery fee.

Commercial entities on seasonal allocations that provide health and wellbeing outcomes for the Manningham community (e.g. personal trainers, yoga instructors etc.) will be charged a per hour fee based on the community casual hire rate. Commercial hirers who do not contribute to the health and wellbeing objectives for Manningham residents will be charged the applicable commercial per hour rate based on whether they have a registered address in Manningham or not.

2.7.2 Tom Kelly Athletics Track – Casual Hire

The hourly rate for casual use is determined by using the method to calculate seasonal and annual hourly fees (section 1.7.1). A 35% cost recovery is not applied to the fee.

This rate is deemed a community hire rate and is applied to any community group within Manningham (including Manningham based schools). School Sports Victoria, State Sporting Associations or any other similar body who are running 'school pathway programs' involving Manningham based schools will be charged at the community rate.

The community rate is doubled for private hirers who are residents of Manningham, commercial hirers based in Manningham as well as community groups located outside Manningham. The community rate is tripled for

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commercial users based outside of Manningham with the exception of personal trainers who are permitted to hire the athletics track casually and will be charged the community rate.

Schools located outside the municipality, School Sports Victoria and State Sporting Associations (that are running programs that do not involve Manningham based schools/clubs) will be regarded as a community group outside of Manningham and charged the applicable casual hire rate.

2.8 Netball Courts

2.8.1 Netball Courts (Manningham Templestowe Leisure Centre) – Seasonal and Annual

The recoupment of 35% of maintenance costs for the netball courts at the Manningham Templestowe Leisure Centre (MTLC) will be apportioned to the user groups of the facility via an hourly fee.

This per court fee is calculated by considering the annual maintenance cost divided by 350 days (which is consistent with the synthetic turf report which considers 50 bookable weeks in a year) to determine a per week charge. This per week charge is then divided by 30 hours (as the facility is used around 30 hours per week for bookings). This then provides the hourly figure of which is multiplied by 0.35 to obtain the 35% cost recovery fee.

No charge will be made for the use of netball courts for junior development programs such as Net Set Go.

2.8.2 Satellite Netball/Basketball Courts – Seasonal and Annual

Satellite netball/basketball courts include those at Warrandyte Reserve and Wonga Park Reserve. These courts are traditionally used less than the courts at MTLC, with the courts only booked by user groups for 15% of their usable hours. As such, the maintenance cost recovery model applied is 15%.

This per court fee is calculated by considering the annual maintenance cost divided by 350 days (which is consistent with the synthetic turf report which considers 50 bookable weeks in a year) to determine a per week charge. This per week charge is then divided by 15 hours (as the facility is used around 15 hours per week for bookings). This then provides the hourly figure of which is multiplied by .15 to obtain the 15% cost recovery fee.

2.8.3 Netball Courts - Casual

An hourly per court fee for casual hire of MTLC and satellite netball/basketball courts is determined by using the method to calculate seasonal and annual

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hourly fees (section 1.8.1 and 1.8.2 respectively). This represents 100% of the maintenance cost.

This rate is deemed a community hire rate and is applied to any community group within Manningham (including Manningham based schools). The community rate is doubled for private hirers who are residents of Manningham and community groups located outside Manningham. The community rate is tripled for commercial users.

Manningham based schools will be permitted free use of 2 netball courts per week up to a total of 6 hours. Any use above this will be charged at the community rate.

School Sports Victoria, State Sporting Associations or any other similar body who are running 'school pathway programs' will not be charged if a Manningham school is involved. Limits on these bookings will be considered on a case by case basis.

If a Manningham based school or other eligible body has booked a turf sports field in the same week as their booking of a netball court, the hirer will be eligible for 6 free hours on the netball courts in addition to 6 free hours on the turf sports fields.

2.9 Full Size Synthetic Soccer Facilities

The recurring maintenance costs of full-sized synthetic soccer facilities consider the routine professional grooming that is essential for playability and preventative maintenance, in order to maximise the synthetics field's life expectancy.

Applicable fees subsidies outlined in section 1.10 of this policy will apply.

This rate is the basis of the community hire rate applicable to any community group or school within Manningham (including School Sports Victoria and other like organisations that run 'school pathway programs' which involve Manningham based schools). This figure is doubled for private hirers who are residents of Manningham and community groups located outside Manningham. The day rate is tripled for commercial users.

Where soccer teams use both natural turf and synthetic soccer facilities, the club must nominate whether a team is predominantly a synthetic surface team or a natural turf team as part of their allocation application. All use of synthetic pitches will be charged at the applicable hourly rate, and a team nominated as predominantly "turf" will be charged the applicable team fee.

2.9.1 Small Sided Synthetic Soccer Facilities

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A small sided pitch is approximately 25% of a full size synthetic soccer. Accordingly, 25% of the applicable hire rate for the full sized synthetic soccer pitches will be charged.

This rate is the basis of the community hire rate applicable to any community group or school within Manningham (including School Sports Victoria and other like organisations that run 'school pathway programs' which involve Manningham based schools). This figure is doubled for private hirers who are residents of Manningham and community groups located outside Manningham. The day rate is tripled for commercial users.

2.10 Fee Concessions

Clubs and not for profit groups who hold seasonal or annual bookings are eligible for a 50% fee concession. This fee concession will be applied to the following teams to encourage participation by underrepresented groups.

- Female teams participating in male dominated sports such as Football, Soccer, Cricket, Baseball, Rugby
- Male teams participating in female dominated sports such as Netball
- Older Adult teams in all sports at the Master's level
- Teams eligible to participate in "All abilities" competitions

A 50% fee concession will be applied for each junior team (which is any team that includes the words "under (insert age)" including Under 19's.

Where juniors or participants from underrepresented groups are members of sports that operate as a whole club rather than fielding individual teams (e.g. athletics, archery, RC clubs etc.), the concession will be applied to the specific proportion of membership made up of junior or underrepresented members. E.g., if 10% of the membership are juniors, a 50% discount will be applied to 10% of the fee.

Council will not apply a fee to clubs for their first season of play in sports that are brand new within Manningham (e.g. a sport that is not yet played on a Council sports field). This is to support the development of new sporting opportunities for the community.

2.11 Leased Sporting Facilities

A flat peppercorn rent will apply per leased facility. This fee is for use of the playing area only and does not apply to use of pavilions, which are governed under Council's Community Facilities Access and Concession Policy. A peppercorn rate is applied to user groups occupying leased facilities, as user groups are responsible for daily and routine maintenance as outlined in the maintenance schedule attached to individual leases.

Leased facilities covered under this policy include:

Policy Register Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space



- Horse and Pony Riding Clubs
- Lawn Bowls Clubs
- Mullum Mullum Reserve Hockey Pitch
- Stintons Reserve BMX Track
- Stintons Reserve Greyhound Slipping Track
- Templestowe Reserve RC Track
- Tennis Clubs

2.12 Ruffey Lake Park

No fee will be applied for the booked use of Ruffey Lake Park Disc Golf Course where there are no additional maintenance costs incurred to facilitate the activity.

2.13 Bonds

Bonds will be applied as per the Sporting Facilities Allocations Policy. Bond amounts are determined based on a fair and reasonable amount as determined by Council Officers, and are included within Council's Annual Budget.

3.0 SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy relates to all outdoor active spaces excluding pavilions and other built facilities within the City of Manningham. Fees and Charges for built facilities are covered in the Community Facilities Access and Concession Policy.

The fees and charges do not consider a 'whole of service' cost or consider investment into capital works, rather they consider the investment into maintenance only.

4.0 RESPONSIBILITY

This policy is the responsibility of the Coordinator Recreation.

Policy Register Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space



5.0 DEFINITIONS

Definitions Terms within the Policy requiring definition or explanation are:

Annual Allocation	The use of a sports field for a 12 month period between 1 October and 31 March.
Casual Hire	Sports field bookings required for 'once off use' or short term bookings e.g. preseason and finals training, finals matches and school use.
Commercial	An organisation, including incorporated body, co-operative society, partnership or sole trader conducting activities for the purposes of deriving a financial return to the proprietors or shareholders.
Community	An organisation that does not earn profits, and any monies used are to pursue the organisation's objective.
Competition	Competition includes any teams who pay registration fees and participate in a competition whether this is run by a Sporting Association or a community club. If the sports field is booked and allocated for this purpose, team fees will apply.
Council Facility	Council owned and/or managed property.
Health and Wellbeing	Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease and infirmity. Our health and wellbeing can be enhanced by participation in activities which contribute to our physical and mental health as well as enhance our connection to our community.
Junior Sport Development Programs	Junior Sport Development Programs are designed to introduce children aged approximately 5-11 to the rules and skills involved in a range of sports prior to participation in formal competition. These programs are run by not-for-profit organisations and not commercial organisations.
Lease	Exclusive occupancy of a facility by a user group e.g. hockey pitches, club tennis courts and bowling greens etc.
License	A license is a form of permission to enter and use land or land/facility for an agreed purpose for a stated period. The licensee does not have exclusive use of the land allowing Council to allocate other user groups or allow general public to use the facility at other times.
Outdoor Active Space	The field of play for various sporting activities (i.e. football oval, soccer pitch, netball court, aero model field, archery field etc.). This excludes any leased sporting facility (e.g. tennis courts, hockey pitch, lawn bowl greens etc.).
Peppercorn Rent	A very low or nominal rent.
Seasonal Allocation	An allocation granting a user group use of a sports field for the duration of a season. Summer season 1 October – 31 March

Policy Register Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space



	Winter season 1 April – 30 September
School Pathways Programs	School Pathway Programs are designed to introduce children from primary and secondary schools to the rules and skills involved in a range of sports. This includes carnivals being run involving multiple schools.
User	The commercial or community organisation or individual specified in the User Agreement Form and where it is consistent with the context, includes the User's members, employees, agents, invitees and persons the Users allows in the facility.

6.0 RELATED POLICIES

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

- Council Plan 2021-25
 - Goal 1.1 – A healthy, resilient and safe community.
 - Goal 1.2 – A connected and inclusive community
 - Goal 2.4 – Well utilized and maintained community infrastructure
 - Goal 5.1 – A financially sustainable Council that manages resources effectively and efficiently
 - Goal 5.2 – A Council that values citizens in all that we do.
- Healthy City Strategy 2021-25
- Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-25 (2019 Review)
- Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy
- Sporting Facilities Allocation Policy
- Community Facilities Access and Concession Policy

A Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) has been conducted in the development of this policy. The outcomes of the GIA have influenced the policy direction with regard to the fee model developed and the subsidies to be applied.

7.0 SUPPORTING PROCEDURES

- Sporting Facilities Allocations Procedure

8.0 ACTION PLANS

- No Action Plan applies to this Policy.

9.0 GUIDELINES

- No Guidelines apply to this Policy.

**Policy Register
Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active
Open Space**



10.0 RELATED LEGISLATION

- Gender Equality Act 2020
- Local Government Act 1989

11.0 SUPPORTING RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

Benchmarking was undertaken with the following surrounding Council’s to determine best practice in relation to the fees and charges applied for the use of outdoor active spaces:

- Whitehorse
- Boroondara
- Nillumbik
- Maroondah

Draft - not approved

12.0 DOCUMENT HISTORY

Policy Title:	Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space
Responsible Officer:	Heather Callahan
Resp. Officer Position:	Coordinator Recreation
Next Review Date:	TBA
To be included on website?	Yes

Last Updated	Meeting type? - Council or EMT	Meeting Date	Item N°

Summary of Fees and Charges

Seasonal Fees

Turf Sports Fields

Baseball

Ground Classification	Team Fee
Regional	N/A
Municipal	\$202.46
Local/School	\$121.48

Cricket

Ground Classification	Team Fee
Regional	\$863.14
District	\$719.28
Local/School	\$431.57

Football

Ground Classification	Team Fee
Regional	\$956.86
District	\$797.38
Local/School	\$478.43

Soccer

Ground Classification	Team Fee
Regional	N/A
District	\$758.07
Local/School	\$454.84

Commercial groups providing health and wellbeing outcomes for the Manningham community are charged the 'community' casual rate. No seasonal or annual rate will be applied to other commercial groups, they will be charged in line with the casual use rates.

Other Facilities

Facility	Annual Fee	Hourly Fee
Bulleen Park Aeromodel Field	\$3,421.54	N/A
Bulleen Park Archery Field	\$2,085.94	N/A
Netball Courts - MTLC	N/A	\$1.43
Netball Courts – Warrandyte and Wonga Park	N/A	\$0.87
Tom Kelly Athletics Track	N/A	\$4.03

Turf Cricket Wickets

Reserve	Commercial Fee	Community Fee
Donvale Reserve South	\$23,276	\$11,638
Donvale Reserve North	\$19,298	\$9,649
Koonung Reserve	\$24,905	\$12,452.50
Schramm's Reserve South	\$29,843.50	\$14,921.75
Schramm's Reserve North	\$14,921.50	\$7,460.75
Wilson's Reserve	No fee – Managed by club	
Zerbes Reserve	\$22,105	\$11,052.50

Casual Fees

Turf Sports Fields

Ground Classification	Manningham Based Community Groups/Schools	Private Users and Commercial (Within Manningham) and External Community Groups	Commercial (Outside of Manningham)
Regional	\$11.20 per hour	\$22.30 per hour	\$33.50 per hour
Municipal/District	\$9.30 per hour	\$18.60 per hour	\$27.90 per hour
Local/School	\$5.60 per hour	\$11.20 per hour	\$16.70 per hour

Tom Kelly Athletics Track

Manningham Based Community Groups/Schools	Private Users and Commercial (Within Manningham) and External Community Groups	Commercial (Outside of Manningham)
\$11.50 per hour	\$23.00 per hour	\$34.50 per hour

Netball Courts (MTLC)

Manningham Based Community Groups/Schools	Private Users and Commercial (Within Manningham) and External Community Groups	Commercial (Outside of Manningham)
\$4.08 per hour	\$8.16 per hour	\$12.24 per hour

Satellite Netball/Basketball Courts

Manningham Based Community Groups/Schools	Private Users and Commercial (Within Manningham) and External Community Groups	Commercial (Outside of Manningham)
\$5.77 per hour	\$11.54 per hour	\$17.31 per hour

Turf Cricket Wickets

Reserve	Casual Rate (community and commercial)
Donvale Reserve South	\$895.23 per day
Donvale Reserve North	\$742.23 per day
Koonung Reserve	\$957.88 per day
Schramm's Reserve South	\$1,147.83 per day
Schramm's Reserve North	\$573.90 per day
Wilson's Reserve	No fee – Managed by club
Zerbes Reserve	\$850.19 per day

Synthetic Soccer Pitches – Seasonal and Casual

Full Size Pitch

Manningham Based Community Groups/Schools	Private Users and Commercial (Within Manningham) and External Community Groups	Commercial (Outside of Manningham)
\$45.80 per hour	\$91.60 per hour	\$137.40 per hour

Small Sided Pitch

Manningham Based Community Groups/Schools	Private Users and Commercial (Within Manningham) and External Community Groups	Commercial (Outside of Manningham)
\$11.45 per hour	\$22.90 per hour	\$34.35 per hour

Leased Facilities

The following fees apply for use of the playing area only. Fees for use of pavilions are determined under Council's Community Facilities Access and Concession Policy.

Facility	Fee
Horse and Pony Riding Clubs	\$110
Lawn Bowls Clubs	\$110
Mullum Mullum Reserve Hockey	\$110
Stintons Reserve BMX Track	\$110
Stintons Reserve Greyhound Slipping Track	\$110
Templestowe Reserve RC Track	\$110
Tennis Clubs	\$110

11.3 Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan for endorsement

File Number:	IN23/46
Responsible Director:	Director Connected Communities
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Summary Document - Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan ↓2 Concept Drawing - Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan ↓3 Situational and Site Analysis - Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan ↓4 Issues and Opportunities - Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan ↓5 Consultation Report - Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan ↓

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The draft Wonga Park Reserve master plan was considered at the 28 June 2022 Council meeting and was subsequently released for community consultation. A detailed consultation process was followed which included targeted consultation with sporting clubs and the Wonga Park community. Based on the feedback received, only minor amendments to the draft master plan are proposed. Overall, the master plan recommends several projects including:

- *Upgrade of both turf sports fields.*
- *Upgrade of netball courts and associated floodlights.*
- *Upgrade of tennis courts, including conversion of floodlights to LED.*
- *Construction of a new support facility to service the netball club, including a public toilet for the wider community.*
- *Improved connectivity through new paths and upgrades to the existing path network.*
- *Provision of exercise equipment, additional seating and a shelter throughout the reserve.*
- *Improvements to the existing dirt jumps.*
- *Future extension of the western sporting pavilion, as well as an upgrade to the eastern sporting pavilion.*
- *Improved reserve and wayfinding signage.*

Implementation will follow endorsement of the master plan, which includes communicating to the community, sporting clubs and other key stakeholders. Actions within the master plan will be added to Council's capital works program and will be delivered based on their priority ranking within the program.

The upgrade of the western sports field is already programmed to be undertaken in 2025/26 as per Council's Annual Budget, with planning to commence in early 2023 to ensure it is ready to proceed should funding become available earlier. The project budget will also include relocation of the sports field floodlighting towers and consolidation of the cricket nets. Furthermore, Council's capital works program proposes to commence design work for the netball floodlights and court upgrade this Financial Year. External funding to supplement Council's funding will be investigated for these projects and other projects listed in the master plan.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR CARLI LANGE
SECONDED: CR MICHELLE KLEINERT

The Council:

- A. Endorses the Wonga Park Reserve master plan, to be made publicly available via Manningham Council's website**
- B. Notes that all groups and individuals who provided feedback on the process will be informed of the endorsed Master Plan.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The draft Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan was endorsed to proceed to a period of community consultation at the 28 June 2022 Council meeting. Consultation on the draft master plan was undertaken between 18 July and 19 September 2022, seeking community feedback to understand whether the direction of the draft master plan met community expectations.
- 2.2 The following documentation has been revised with consideration to the feedback received through the consultation process:
 - Summary Document (attachment 1).
 - Concept Drawing (attachment 2).
 - Situational and Site Analysis (attachment 3).
 - Issues and Opportunities (attachment 4).

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE**3.1 Community Consultation**

- 3.1.1 Community consultation was undertaken between 18 July and 19 September 2022, with two onsite community sessions being held throughout the consultation period. The first session was held on Sunday 7 August within the sporting pavilion, which aimed to seek feedback from club members and parents. The second session was held on Saturday 13 August at the Wonga Park Community Cottage which had a focus on engaging general community members. Over 100 community members attended this session which resulted in a significant amount of feedback being received.
- 3.1.2 Two sessions have also been held with the sporting clubs. One session was held on 30 June which aimed to provide an overview of the draft master plan to the clubs. This session was used as an opportunity to identify how the draft master plan responded to the initial feedback that was provided by the clubs. A further session was held on 14 November to brief the clubs on the consultation results and how this may impact on the draft master plan.

- 3.1.3 Overall, the feedback received from both the community and the sporting clubs was supportive of the proposed actions within the draft master plan. Club feedback was strongly focused on upgrading the sports fields and netball courts, as well as a floodlight upgrade and a change/toilet facility to service the courts. The master plan directly responds to this feedback as outlined in the sections below.
- 3.1.4 The community feedback focused on ensuring the reserve retains its natural feel. This aligns with the guiding principles of the master plan which are to retain the natural feel of the reserve primarily through upgrading the existing infrastructure, with consideration as to how any upgrade can complement the natural environment. This is further supported by ensuring the protection and enhancement of the natural bushland across the reserve.
- 3.1.5 A Consultation Report has been developed to summarise and respond to the feedback received throughout the consultation period, and can be found at attachment 5.
- 3.2 Sports field upgrades
- 3.2.1 The Wonga Park Sports Club, specifically the Wonga Park Wizards Soccer Club, provided strong feedback on the current condition of the sports fields.
- 3.2.2 Currently, the sports fields are maintained by the Wonga Park Cricket Club under an existing lease with Council. Council's Parks Team do however undertake some additional maintenance as per the lease agreement. Throughout winter especially, the sports fields deteriorate, and it is not uncommon for the sports fields to be unplayable.
- 3.2.3 The master plan proposes to upgrade both sports fields to improve drainage, irrigation, and grass coverage. The upgrade of the western oval is proposed to include reshaping to ensure a 50m boundary can be obtained for cricket, whilst reorientating the centre wicket to provide the soccer club with an improved playing surface. The actual orientation is subject to detailed design. The eastern oval is proposed to be upgraded within its existing footprint.
- 3.2.4 Further to this, the master plan also recommends against renewing the maintenance lease agreement when it sunsets in June 2023. Officers have been working with the club regarding this and there is support from the club to cease the lease.
- 3.2.5 The western sports field is proposed to be upgraded in 2025/26 in line with Council's capital works program, subject to the budget process. Detailed designs for this project will be developed in early 2023 to enable the project to be ready should funding become available earlier. This project will also incorporate relocation of the floodlight towers where required, and consolidation of the cricket nets.

3.3 Netball Facilities

3.3.1 Significant feedback was received from representatives and members of the Wonga Park Netball Club in relation to their current facilities. The current floodlighting is in poor condition and is non-compliant, whilst the courts experience issues such as debris run off, poor drainage, and noncompliance with run off distances. The courts are also over 80m away from toilet/change facilities.

3.3.2 In response to the feedback received, the master plan proposes to upgrade the netball courts and associated floodlighting to meet standards and address drainage issues. The master plan also proposes to construct a small facility adjacent to the courts to provide participants with toilets, spaces to change, storage and shelter. This facility is also proposed to incorporate a public toilet to service general users of the reserve.

3.4 Traffic Management

3.4.1 The master plan aims to improve the connection between the eastern and western sections of the Reserve. Consultation was undertaken with our Integrated Transport Team to identify pedestrian links across Wonga Park Reserve, as well as other key traffic issues. Items such as pedestrian crossings across Old Yarra Road, pedestrian paths through the main sporting car park as well as bus access to the site have been reviewed. The reserve presents significant challenges given its dense bushland, with items such as site lines to pedestrian crossings restricting where these crossings can be placed. In principle agreement on informal crossing locations has been made and reflected within the master plan.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

4.1 The master plan responds directly to several priorities, goals and objectives within Council's Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-25 (2019 Review), Council Plan 2021-25, Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25 and Open Space Strategy 2014. This includes:

4.1.1 Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-25 (2019 Review)

- Priority 1 – Provide flexible, multi-use and durable spaces for recreation to meet the needs of a growing community.
- Priority 2 – Collaborate with key partners and organisations.

4.1.2 Council Plan 2021-25

- Goal 1.1 – A healthy, resilient and safe community.
- Goal 1.2 – Connected and inclusive community.
- Goal 2.1 – Inviting places and spaces.
- Goal 2.2 – Enhanced parks, open space and street scapes.
- Goal 2.4 – Well maintained and utilised community infrastructure.
- Goal 5.1 – A financially sustainable Council that manages resources effectively and efficiently.

4.1.3 Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-25

- Priority 3 - Increased active lifestyles.
- Priority 7 - Increased connection and engagement in community life.

4.1.4 Open Space Strategy 2014

- Objective 2.2 – Support the establishment of a range of recreation activities in the most suitable locations.
- Objective 2.3 – Ensure that planning for future built infrastructure considers the values of the open space network.
- Objective 3.2 – Better understand recreation trends, open space values and community expectations.
- Objective 3.3 – Maximise community involvement in open space planning and management.

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Wonga Park Reserve is the largest piece of Council owned open space in the township. It was therefore imperative that a collaborative approach was undertaken to develop the master plan. Tenant sporting clubs, local community groups and the wider Wonga Park community were all involved in the development of the master plan.

5.2 The master plan provides a strategically justified direction for the Reserve, including key capital works projects for both new and upgrade. The delivery of the master plan actions is however subject to Council's capital works and budget processes.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Finance / Resource Implications

6.1.1 Delivery of the Wonga Park Reserve master plan has been undertaken within existing budgets.

6.1.2 A cost plan has been developed by the consultant based on the outcomes of the master plan. The cost plan estimates that implementation of the master plan will cost approximately \$7.038m. The figures within the cost plan are indicative only and will be refined through the detailed design stage for each project. The cost plan can be found within attachment 4.

6.1.3 All sport and recreation-based projects will be ranked against the Recreation Capital Works Criteria, to determine priority and delivery timelines. Once this occurs, the funding will be sought through Council's Annual Budget process based on the timelines identified.

6.1.4 Two projects are already included within Council's capital works program. These are:

- **Netball floodlights and court upgrade** - This project has already been ranked within the Recreation Capital Works Program and is identified as a high priority project. A Business Case has already been submitted, and it is proposed to undertake design work this Financial Year (\$50,000). Delivery of the project (approximately \$500,000) is subject to Council's budget process.
- **Western Oval Redevelopment** - Sports field upgrades sit within the '*Sportsground Redevelopment Program*' and are prioritised based on recent condition audit data and participation benefit outcomes. Council's budget currently includes \$1.1m for the redevelopment program, which is currently flagged to commence in 2025/26. The Wonga Park Reserve western oval is currently identified as the number 1 priority project against all other sports fields and as such, it is proposed to deliver the ground upgrade through this program. Detailed designs for this project will be undertaken in early 2023 using existing budgets, ensuring that the project is ready to proceed if funding becomes available earlier. This project will also entail relocation of the sports field floodlighting (where required) and consolidation of the cricket nets.

6.1.5 The master plan will guide decision making and investment for future improvements within Wonga Park Reserve. This includes the opportunity to attract State or Federal funding to assist in the Master Plan implementation, where available.

6.2 Communication and Engagement

6.2.1 Significant community consultation has been undertaken to inform the content of the master plan. 2 community sessions were undertaken on 7 and 13 August, which was in addition to 2 sessions held directly with the tenant sporting clubs. Further to the consultation sessions, an online survey was developed to enable community members to provide feedback on the draft master plan.

6.2.2 Significant promotion of the master plan occurred, with social media posts, onsite signage, exposure in local newspapers and mail outs to residents some of the key methods undertaken. Direct contact was also made with other non-sport local community groups, as well as members who were engaged with the recent Gooligulch play space project.

6.2.3 A Community Consultation Report has been developed and can be found at attachment 5.

6.3 Timelines

6.3.1 It is proposed to seek endorsement of the draft master plan at the 28 February Council meeting.

6.3.2 Implementation of the master plan will be undertaken in line with Council's capital works process.

6.3.3 It is however noted that design work for the netball floodlights and court upgrade is proposed for this Financial Year. Furthermore, design work for the western sports field upgrade is also scheduled for this Financial Year, with delivery budgeted for within Council's annual budget in 2025/26.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

WONGA PARK RESERVE MASTER PLAN VOLUME 1. SUMMARY

April 2022



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

About this document

This document is Volume 1: Summary; Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan.

The other documents prepared for this project are:

Volume 2: Issues and Opportunities

Volume 3: Situational and Site Analysis

Volume 4: Consultation Findings

Note: The implementation plan with an opinion of probable costs and priorities is provided in the issues and opportunities document. The priorities will be refined following further consultation on the draft.

What is a master plan?

A master plan is a blueprint for the future development, an agreed direction by Council and users about the best way to develop a site, over the medium term. A master plan is not intended to be a commitment to fund development projects in the short term.

Actions in this plan will be progressed if and when funds become available, and may depend on other priorities and grant programs available.

Acknowledgements

@leisure would like to acknowledge the support and assistance provided by:

- Robert Morton and Ian Waugh, Project Managers, and staff of the City of Manningham
- Sports Club Representatives
- Other Council Staff
- Sports Clubs and Peak Body Representatives
- Jeavons Landscape Architects, who prepared the drawings.

@leisure and Manningham Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

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Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

1. INTRODUCTION

The project

In response to demand and playing conditions, the Wonga Park Sports Club presented a master plan to the Council that recommended significant developments on the reserve, including a new pavilion, expanded netball facilities and improvements to the playing surface of the ovals.

However, in considering the detailed proposal, Council felt that it should prepare a master plan with a broader scope, in line with Council's Sports Infrastructure Policy, community views and issues.

- Council sought community views via Your Say Manningham (YSM)
- The Sports Club presented their proposal to the team
- A wide range of clubs, user groups, staff and stakeholders groups were interviewed by telephone
- A detailed site inspection was conducted. The findings were analysed, mapped and shared with staff
- Several staff workshops were conducted
- Issues and opportunities were presented to staff for feedback. A draft was prepared
- This draft will now be circulated for staff, Councillor and community feedback

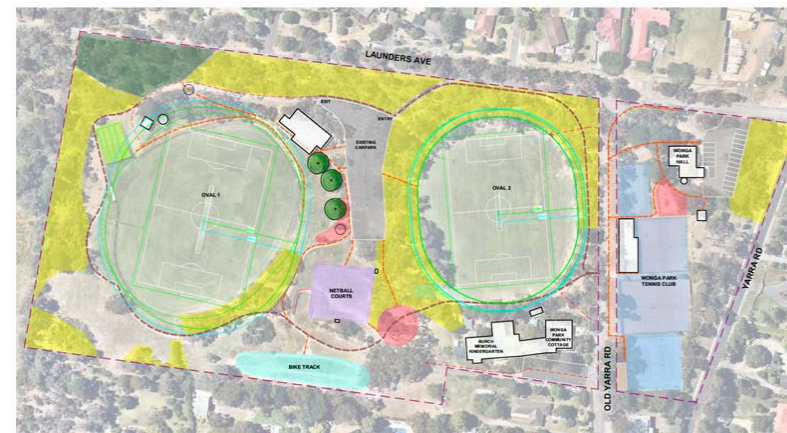
The Reserve

The Wonga Park Reserve is a sports reserve with significant areas of native vegetation, mainly around the perimeter. The reserve accommodates some separate sports and recreation facilities including:

• Play space and BBQ	• The Wonga Park Hall and play equipment
• The Tennis Club	• The Goolgulgulch playground (not in the scope of this plan)
• A bike jumps area	• Two netball courts and basketball ring
• A perimeter trail	• Two ovals for cricket and soccer-football

Also situated on the Reserve is the Wonga Park Hall, and the Wonga Park Community Centre, which houses the Wonga Park Community Cottage, and the Burch Memorial Preschool. These are not addressed specifically in this plan.

The site is sloped and undulating which provides some difficulties for management of sports facilities. The natural setting and trees are part of the character of Wonga Park and important to residents, however the reserve also provides open, flat areas with access to sunlight that are also highly valued by residents because of the bushy and undulating nature of the suburb.



Wonga Park Reserve Existing Facilities

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

Planning and Policy

Most of the reserve is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone. There is heritage, environmental significant and significant landscape overlays over the land. See image below.

The heritage overlay HO99 acknowledges the local significance of the hall (Mechanics Institute) and the Wonga Park Reserve, as “a space long-dedicated to community recreation, is part of its significance.” The Wonga Park Hall and Mechanics’ Institute is of local heritage significance, “reflecting the development of Wonga Park from the Eight Hour Pioneer Settlement through to the present time”.

The nature of facilities is guided by the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020), which classifies netball as a local facility and soccer-football, tennis and cricket as district facilities.

A significant tension exists in protecting the community significance of the reserve for sport (heritage overlay, sport guidelines) and the planting of vegetation (biodiversity). In several areas around the fields and courts, the growth of vegetation is leading to safety risks, increasing costs of cleaning and decreased surface quality.

Wonga Park Reserve Planning Overlays



Wonga Park Planning Zones



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

2. WHAT THE PLAN IS TRYING TO ACHIEVE

Following the site analysis and engagement the following objectives for change are proposed for the reserve to implement over time:

1. Improve infrastructure to enhance user experience, fit for purpose code compliance and accessibility to users of all ages and abilities.
2. Provide a better balance between needing code compliant, safe and functional sports facilities that can be cost effectively managed, and protecting native and indigenous vegetation and biodiversity values on the reserve and facilitating the provision of trails, parking, fencing and support facilities.
3. Manage the peaks and levels of sporting use on the reserve to reduce the impact on playing surfaces, need for car spaces, biodiversity values and residential amenity.
4. Retain and enhance the functionality of the reserve as a social, facility recreation space for residents and users of all ages and abilities.

3. KEY DIRECTIONS

- Reconstruct both ovals to repair drainage, refine the oval shapes and sizes inline with sports codes and enable increased use in winter
- Reconstruct the netball courts, restore full court sizes and upgrade the floodlights
- Extend the main pavilion and provide upgraded shelters/ support facilities for Oval No. 2 plus the netball courts and bike jumps
- Manage encroaching vegetation around the court and ovals and regrade/revegetate slopes to stop debris moving onto courts/ practice wickets
- Plant/reinstate understorey in other areas of the reserve ie along tennis north boundary and around hall etc.,
- Clarify exact areas where to encourage and where to manage vegetation
- Upgrade the play spaces (except Gooligulch), hall surrounds, main perimeter trail, and the bike jumps area
- Investigate traffic management across the whole reserve to improve safety
- Introduce new signage
- Improve paths, picnic tables, access up slopes and into facilities for people using a wheel chair, mobility device or pram.

4. SUMMARY ACTIONS

4.1 The ovals

Proposed actions

1. Reconstruct both the ovals to provide much better drainage, soil profile and more suitable turf species.
2. Reinstate the correct ground shape for Oval No. 1 with an intention to meet a 50m radii, (subject to detail design) and reorient slightly when the ground is reconstructed to provide better for football. Reconstruct Oval No. 2 to its current footprint, pruning the tree canopy to assist with grass growth.
3. Install two additional open access cricket nets to the Oval No. 1 cricket nets and remove the nets at Oval 2 as they are shrouded in vegetation.
4. Move the current maintenance storage building (if required) to fit the two additional cricket nets to the current cricket nets. The exact location will to be determined as part of the oval upgrade.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

5. Renegotiate management arrangements with the cricket club and transfer the ground management back to Council, to reduce the burden on the club and provide a consistency in turf management practices across all Council grounds.
6. Reposition (if required, subject to detail design) the lighting poles and upgrade the lighting bulbs on Oval No. 1 to LED.
7. Review and manage the levels of use of the ground in winter, in line with the turf carrying capacity, to limit damage.
8. Provide for the replacement of the cricket sight screens.
9. When developing the detailed design for the Oval No.1 upgrade, consider utilising the existing water tank as part of the design. If deemed the water tank is not usable or unrequired, relocate the tank to another site.
10. Upgrade sports equipment cages to improve OHS and functionality and increase storage capacity.

4.2 Pavilions

Proposed actions

1. Extend the main pavilion on Oval No. 1 to the west, with additional change rooms and storage. Expand the viewing area and improve the safety railing to allow viewing.

2. Replace the existing support facility on Oval No. 2 in the current location to include accessible toilets, drinking station, storage, viewing and shelter.
3. Provide a small support facility with accessible toilets to serve the netball and public, change space, drinking station, storage and shelter to serve the netball courts and users of the bike park.
4. Provide a spectator shelter on the southeastern corner of Oval No.2 (to replace the removed cricket nets). This could be used for the ovals and the Gooliguch playground. Exact location will be subject to detailed design.

4.3 The netball courts

Proposed actions

1. Reconstruct the courts to provide two full size courts, including the installation of lights, fences and 1-2 basketball hoops on one court.
2. Stabilise the slope close the courts to prevent debris migrating onto the court.
3. Remove the timber bridge beside the netball courts, this is at the end of its life, and not cost effective to replace.
4. Upgrade the player shelters on the east and west side of the netball courts.

5. Support the netball club to grow their participation and access other courts in the area, where required.

4.4 Bike jumps

Proposed actions

1. Upgrade the bike jumps area to provide more and graded challenges, skill progression and interest. Develop and fund a regular maintenance program for the track.
2. Provide shade, tables and seats, associated landscaping and access routes to the bike track area.
3. Provide access to toilets and shelter for bike park users in conjunction with the netball courts.
4. Sign/advertise the bike track to the community to improve usage.

4.5 Trails and accessways

Proposed actions

1. Upgrade the perimeter trail independent of (but with connections from) other accessways.
2. Consider realigning sections of the path to minimise conflict with vehicles and balls. Paint pedestrian crossings where the perimeter path meets the Reserve entry and exit roads, and

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

provide a speed bump on the road before the crossing points.

3. Consider extending the perimeter path in the east of the reserve from the hall entry and along the tennis court boundary and verge of Yarra Road (subject to detail design).
4. Upgrade the paths with consideration to keeping with the natural qualities of the reserve.
5. Improve paths and the accessibility of these to people using mobility devices without significantly increasing the area of impervious services.
1. Improve the connection between the tennis courts and hall precinct, and the rest of the reserve.
2. Provide a more prominent pedestrian main entry into the reserve from the corner of Yarra Road, the shops and the bus stop.
3. Investigate safer access down the embankment- from the pavilion the field of play and then to the car park.
4. Paint a pedestrian crossing across the car park to connect the paths on each side.
5. Consider installing fitness equipment near the Community Hall. Consider implementation in conjunction with the path design.

4.6 Play equipment

Proposed actions

1. Develop the play spaces to be complementary, and ensure that each offers specific experiences targeting different age groups. play ground will remain as is. This excludes Gooligulch which was recently subjected to an upgrade.
2. Redesign the Hall surrounds and introduce a more environmental and historical focus in the design of picnic, fitness equipment and play opportunities.
3. Thin the vegetation on the corner of the Yarra Road to encourage use and promote views into and out of the area.
4. Introduce social and physical elements for children with a disability in each play space.

4.7 Wonga Park Hall

Proposed actions

1. Remove the senescing pines, old fencing and play equipment. Re-landscape the hall surrounds.
2. Provide a more prominent pedestrian entry to the reserve in this location and sign the whole reserve. Provide better connections via a path to other facilities on the reserve from this location.

3. Ensure a major path entry is integrated into the design of any new entry or car park and a connection made to the perimeter trail.
4. Redevelop the play space in this area to a space that encourages play and picnicking, has an environmental focus, serves older children and consider some exercise and skateable elements.

4.8 Tennis courts

Proposed actions

1. Upgrade the tennis lights to LED lighting.
2. Investigate cracking, debris and drainage issues on the courts in the south.
3. Resurface the tennis court in the north as planned.
4. Review car parking at tennis club as part of the investigations for the Wonga Park Traffic management plan. Remove pine trees and install wheel stops or barriers along the south fence line to protect pedestrians from vehicles.
5. Introduce water harvesting and water recycling for use on the En-tout-cas courts.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

4.9 Access, car parks and signs

Proposed actions

1. Investigate completing a traffic management plan for Wonga Park Reserve.
2. Improve the entrance points and ensure they are accessible to all people.
3. Remove unnecessary signage and install new signage to assist emergency vehicles, way-finding and information at selected locations.
4. Provide a major reserve sign at the corner of Yarra Rd and Launders Avenue and a way finding map at the main car park. Ensure pedestrian entries are all accessible to people using mobility devices.
5. Review bus access issues to Oval No. 1.
6. Mark a pedestrian crossing across the main car park for people moving between the main pavilion and Oval No. 2.
7. Upgrade signage around the Reserve and remove unnecessary and out of date "don't" signs
8. Consider providing a major Reserve sign and a way finding map at the main car park.

4.10 Biodiversity and vegetation

Proposed actions

1. Refine and implement the site specific management actions of the Draft Bushland Management Plan and align with Council management regimes.
2. Remove vegetation encroaching onto the ovals and netball and tennis courts. Thin weeds in areas where site lines are required for safety to support turf growth.
3. Remove the senescing Radiata pines in the tennis club car park and around the Hall, and replace with more suitable species.
4. Prepare a landscape design for the hall surrounds.
5. Address the slope, and plant the embankments above the tennis and netball courts to reduce debris on the courts.
6. Plant appropriate species on court boundaries, with root barriers to protect the integrity of playing surfaces and safety.
7. Revegetate the boundary east of tennis courts after removing garden species, in conjunction with pathways and signage works.
8. Develop a revegetation plan for approval prior to works.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

5. THE MASTER PLAN



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 1. Summary

ACTIONS

- 11 Ovals**

 - Reconstruct both the ovals to provide better drainage, soil profile and turf species
 - Correct the shape for Oval No 1 at 50m radii and reorient to provide better for football
 - Install additional 2 open access cricket nets to the Oval No. 1 and remove the nets at Oval 2. The location of the storage facility may need to change. The location will be determined as part of the oval upgrade
 - Transfer the ground back to Council
 - Convert lights on Oval No. 1 to LED
 - Manage the levels of use of the ground in winter, in line with the turf carrying capacity
 - Provide for the replacement of the cricket sight screens
 - Upgrade equipment cages to improve OHS and functionality and storage capacity
- 12 Pavilions**

 - Extend the pavilion on Oval No. 1 to the west, to provide additional change rooms, storage and social space
 - Expand the viewing area
 - Provide an accessible path from the pavilion to the cricket nets, perimeter path and onto the field of play
 - Support the support facility on Oval No. 2. Include accessible toilets, drinking station, storage, viewing and shelter
 - Provide a small support facility with accessible toilets to serve netball and public change space, drinking station, storage, and shelter to serve the netball courts and users of the bike park
- 13 Netball courts**

 - Reconstruct the courts in asphalt, with compliant fields of play, lighting, fencing and with additional space for basketball
 - Stabilise embankments around the courts, address encroaching vegetation and provide root barriers
 - Remove the timber bridge beside the netball courts
 - Upgrade the player shelters
- 14 Bike jumps**

 - Upgrade the bike jumps area to provide graded challenges
 - Develop and fund a regular maintenance program
 - Provide shade, tables and seats, landscaping, and a formalised access route
 - Sign/advertise the dirt bike jumps
- 15 Paths**

 - Extend the perimeter trail, including along Yarra Rd and court boundaries and connecting the Hall. Improve sections of the path, regrade, stabilise in a more suitable consolidated gravel surface
 - Improve accessibility of paths. Remove the mid posts. Clearly identify emergency access
 - Provide a more prominent pedestrian main entry on the corner of Yarra Road
 - Retain paths in keeping with the natural qualities of the Reserve
- 16 Play spaces**

 - Ensure play spaces offer specific experiences and target different age groups. Include opportunities for children with a disability
- 17 Hall**

 - Redesign the Hall surrounds, picnic and play facilities, landscape using natives and to reflect history. Remove senescent pines
 - Integrate a new path into the design of the new car park
- 18 Tennis courts**

 - Replace the courts lights with LED lights
 - Investigate cracking, debris, and drainage issues on the courts
 - Resurface the tennis court in the north as planned
 - Improve accessibility from the Hall through the courts to Old Yarra Road
 - Remove senescent pine trees and install barriers along the court fences to protect pedestrians
 - Introduce water harvesting and recycling for the En-tout-cas courts.
- 19 Dogs**

 - Require dog owners to keep their pet under effective control and pick up after them
 - Seek to keep dogs out of the bushland areas
- 20 Access**

 - Improve entrance points to the Reserve and upgrade gates. Provide clear pedestrian crossings across entries and the car park
 - Sign emergency access points and attach ambulance Victoria locks
 - Extend the emergency and maintenance access to netball courts and the bike jumps
 - Ensure pedestrian entries are all accessible to people using mobility devices
 - Investigate local traffic management improvements around the Reserve and provide for buses
 - Provide speed bump to entrance and exist of existing car park
- 21 Vegetation**

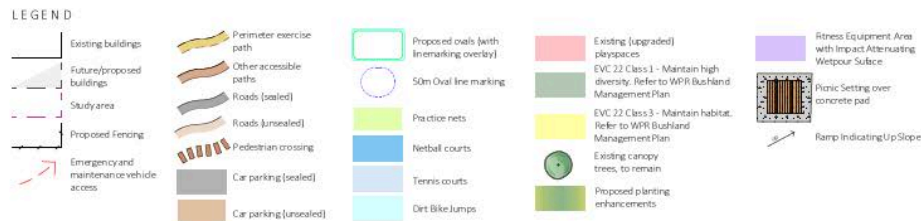
 - Implement the biodiversity management plan actions by zone including fencing, controlled burning, deer and vermin eradication, revegetation of midstorey species, seed collection, control of large woody weeds and monitoring
 - Develop a revegetation plan for approval prior to works
 - Thin, trim or remove vegetation that has encroached onto ovals, the netball and tennis courts, where site lines are required and to support turf growth
 - Remove senescent pines and replace with suitable native species
 - Plant appropriate species on embankments around the tennis netball courts and provide root barriers
 - Trim trees that encroach and shade the playing surfaces
 - Revegetate along the east of the tennis courts after removing garden species, with the perimeter path design
- 22 Signs**

 - Incrementally upgrade signage around the Reserve
 - Remove the old, unnecessary, and out of date "don't" signs
 - Provide a major Reserve sign at the corner of Yarra Rd and Launders Avenue and a way finding map at the main car park
- 23 Fitness equipment area**

 - Provide impact attenuating wetpour surface for fitness equipment area. Ensure play spaces offer fitness equipment that target at different age group and exercise requirement. Exact location to be confirmed with detailed design.
- 24 Water tank**

 - Consider utilising the existing water tank as part of the design during Oval 1 detail design upgrade. If deemed the water tank is not usable or required, relocate the water tank to another site
- 25 Spectator shelter**

 - Provide a spectator shelter. Exact location will be subject to detailed design



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume1. Summary

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Number and timing of works

Volume 2 provides an action list with priority time frames and probable costs. Actions are provided by facility type and issue, and classified in terms of high, medium and low.

However, grants may be available at different time for issue-specific works such as trails, climate response, or female-friendly support facilities. So, in reality, the availability of budget and other Council priorities will dictate when works can be implemented.

The condition of the ovals, netball courts and paths are priorities. These priorities address safety, functionality, and usability by the whole community.

Many biodiversity and vegetation related actions are ongoing from the previous management plan. In addition, the Council will logically address some actions simultaneously, such as the redevelopment of the oval or netball courts and addressing vegetation and slope stability actions listed separately.

The table following sets out the number of actions by facility type.

Table 1. Actions by facility type and priority

Action by facility type	High	Medium	Low
Ovals	5	3	1
Pavilions	1	1	1
Netball courts	6	0	0
Bike jumps	1	4	0
Perimeter path	2	4	0
Other paths	7	4	0
Play spaces	0	4	0
Wonga Park Hall	3	2	1
Tennis courts	4	2	0
Dog-off-leach-area	1	0	0
Access and parking	8	0	0
Biodiversity and Vegetation (From the Bushland Management Plan)	11	0	0
Biodiversity and Vegetation	5	2	0
Signage	2	1	0



Master Plan
Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan
Wurundjeri Country
3 Launders Avenue, Wonga Park VIC 3115 Australia

Logos for Jevons (LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS), leisure PLANNERS, and MANNINGHAM. Technical details: Job No: 213556, Issu: 24.11.22, Dwg No: MP01 of 3, Scale: 1:600 @A1. A north arrow and a scale bar (0, 6, 12, 18, 24, 30m) are also present.

ACTIONS

01 Ovals

- Reconstruct both the ovals to provide better drainage, soil profile and turf species
- Correct the shape for Oval No 1 at 50m radii and reorient to provide better for football
- Install additional 2 open access cricket nets to the Oval No. 1 and remove the nets at Oval 2. The location of the storage facility may need to change. The location will be determined as part of the oval upgrade
- Transfer the ground maintenance back to Council
- Convert lights on Oval No. 1 to LED
- Manage the levels of use of the ground in winter, in line with the turf carrying capacity
- Provide for the replacement of the cricket sight screens
- Upgrade equipment cages to improve OHS and functionality and storage capacity

02 Pavilions

- Extend the pavilion on Oval No. 1 to the west, to provide additional change rooms, storage and social space
- Expand the viewing area
- Provide an accessible path from the pavilion to the cricket nets, perimeter path and onto the field of play
- Upgrade the support facility on Oval No. 2. Include accessible toilets, drinking station, storage, viewing and shelter
- Provide a small support facility to service the netball courts which includes player / spectator toilets, change space, drinking station, storage, shelter and a separate public toilet to service park users

03 Netball courts

- Reconstruct the courts in asphalt, with compliant fields of play, lighting, fencing and with additional space for basketball
- Stabilise embankments around the courts, address encroaching vegetation and provide root barriers
- Remove the timber bridge beside the netball courts
- Upgrade the player shelters

04 Bike jumps

- Upgrade the bike jumps area to provide graded challenges
- Develop and fund a regular maintenance program
- Provide shade, tables and seats, landscaping, and a formalised access route
- Sign/advertise the dirt bike jumps

05 Paths

- Extend the perimeter trail, including along Yarra Rd and court boundaries and connecting the Hall. Improve sections of the path, regrade, stabilise in a more suitable consolidated gravel surface
- Improve accessibility of paths. Remove the mid posts. Clearly identify emergency access
- Provide a more prominent pedestrian main entry on the corner of Yarra Road
- Retain paths in keeping with the natural qualities of the Reserve

06 Play spaces

- Ensure play spaces offer specific experiences and target different age groups. Include opportunities for children with a disability

07 Hall

- Redesign the Hall surrounds, picnic and play facilities, landscape using natives and to reflect history. Remove senescing pines
- Integrate a new path into the design of the new car park

08 Tennis courts

- Replace the courts lights with LED lights
- Investigate cracking, debris, and drainage issues on the courts
- Resurface the tennis court in the north as planned
- Improve accessibility from the Hall through the courts to Old Yarra Road
- Remove senescing pine trees and install barriers along the court fences to protect pedestrians
- Introduce water harvesting and recycling for the En-tout-cas courts.

09 Dogs

- Require dog owners to keep their pet under effective control and pick up after them
- Seek to keep dogs out of the bushland areas

10 Access

- Improve entrance points to the Reserve and upgrade gates. Provide clear pedestrian crossings across entries and the car park
- Sign emergency access points and attach ambulance Victoria locks
- Extend the emergency and maintenance access to netball courts and the bike jumps
- Ensure pedestrian entries are all accessible to people using mobility devices
- Investigate local traffic management improvements around the Reserve and provide for buses
- Provide speed bump to entrance and exist of existing car park

11 Vegetation

- Implement the biodiversity management plan actions by zone including fencing, controlled burning, deer and vermin eradication, revegetation of midstorey species, seed collection, control of large woody weeds and monitoring
- Develop a revegetation plan for approval prior to works
- Thin, trim or remove vegetation that has encroached onto ovals, the netball and tennis courts, where site lines are required and to support turf growth
- Remove senescing pines and replace with suitable native species
- Plant appropriate species on embankments around the tennis netball courts and provide root barriers
- Trim trees that encroach and shade the playing surfaces
- Revegetate along the east of the tennis courts after removing garden species, with the perimeter path design

12 Signs

- Incrementally upgrade signage around the Reserve
- Remove the old, unnecessary, and out of date "don't" signs
- Provide a major Reserve sign at the corner of Yarra Rd and Launders Avenue and a way finding map at the main car park

13 Fitness equipment area

- Provide impact attenuating wetpour surface for fitness equipment area. Ensure play spaces offer fitness equipment that target at different age group and exercise requirement. Exact location to be confirmed with detailed design.

14 Water tank

- Consider utilising the existing water tank as part of the design during Oval 1 detail design upgrade. If deemed the water tank is not usable or required, relocate the water tank to another site

15 Spectator shelter

- Provide a spectator shelter. Exact location will be subject to detailed design

LEGEND

Existing buildings	Perimeter exercise path	Proposed ovals (with linemarking overlay)	Existing (upgraded) playspaces	Fitness Equipment Area with Impact Attenuating Wetpour Surface
Future/proposed buildings	Other accessible paths	50m Oval line marking	EVC 22 Class 1 - Maintain high diversity. Refer to WPR Bushland Management Plan	Picnic Setting over concrete pad
Study area	Roads (sealed)	Practice nets	EVC 22 Class 3 - Maintain habitat. Refer to WPR Bushland Management Plan	Ramp Indicating Up Slope
Proposed Fencing	Roads (unsealed)	Netball courts	Existing canopy trees, to remain	
Emergency and maintenance vehicle access	Pedestrian crossing	Tennis courts	Proposed planting enhancements	
	Car parking (sealed)	Dirt Bike Jumps		
	Car parking (unsealed)			

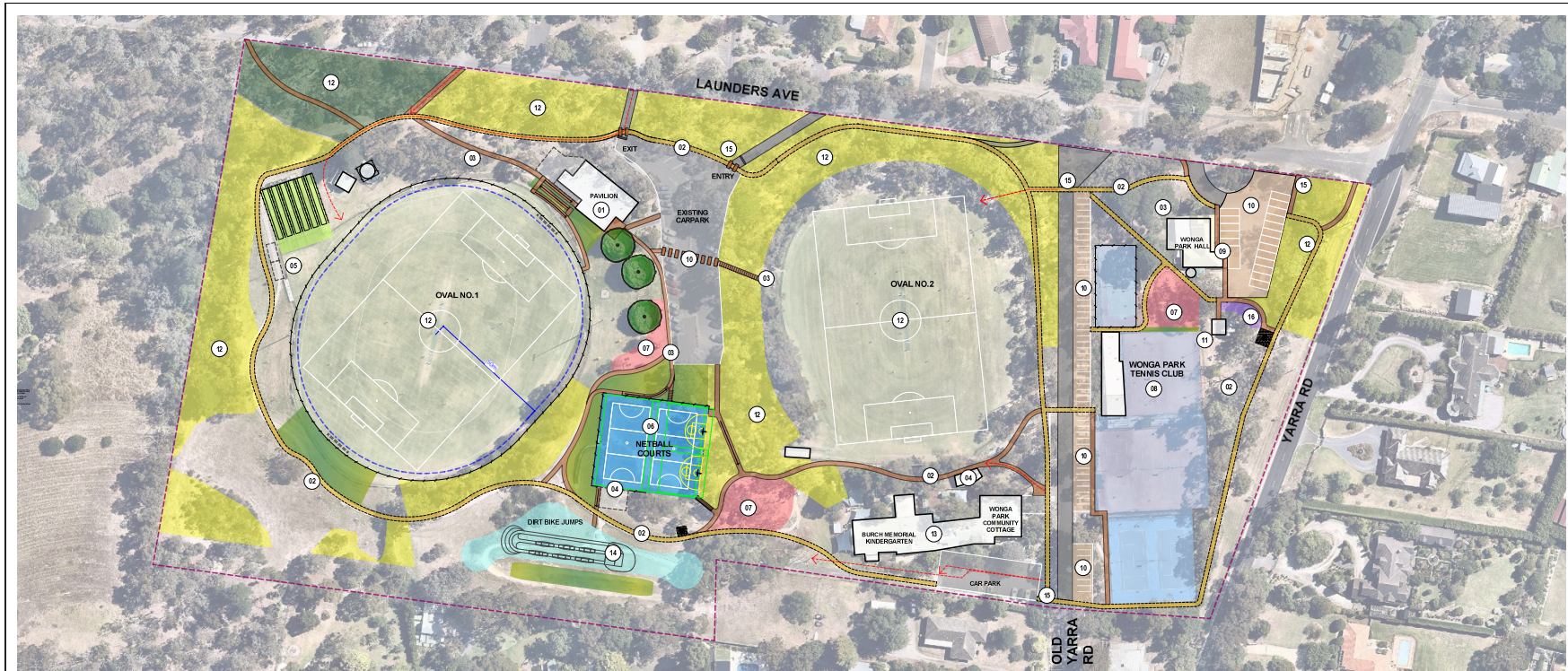
Master Plan - Actions & Legend

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan

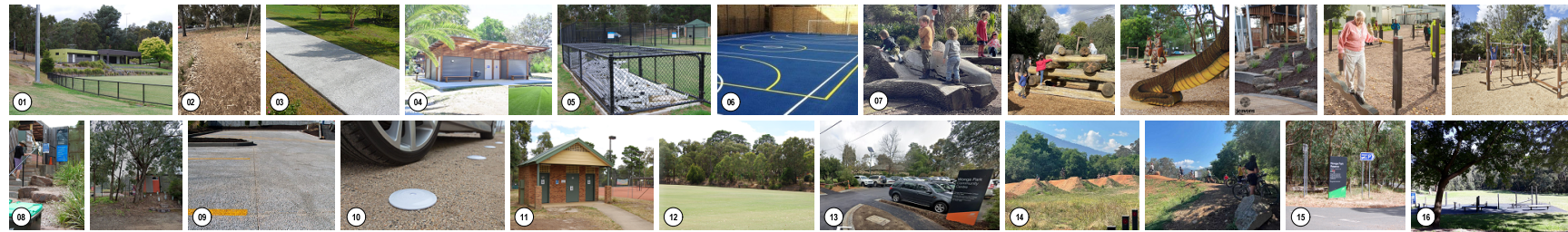
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Job No: 213556
Issu: 24.11.22
Dwg No: MP02 of 3
Scale: A3 Shown



PRECEDENT IMAGES



Master Plan - Precedent Images

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan

Wurundjeri Country
3 Launder's Avenue, Wonga Park VIC 3115 Australia



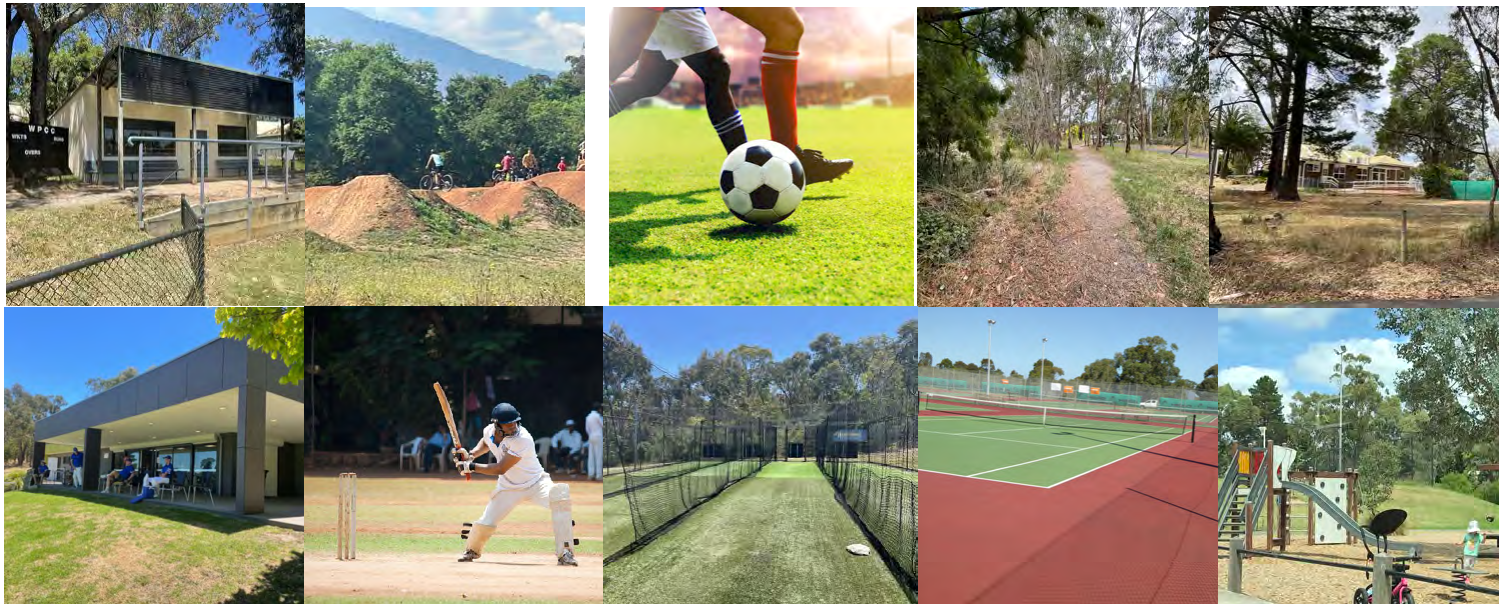
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Dwg No: MP03 of 3
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WONGA PARK RESERVE MASTER PLAN VOLUME 3. SITUATIONAL AND SITE ANALYSIS

April 2022



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

About this document

This document is the Volume 3. Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan, Situational and Site Analysis. The other documents prepared for this project are:

Volume 1: Summary, and

Volume 2: Issues and Opportunities

Volume 4: Consultation Findings

Acknowledgements

@leisure Planners would like to thank the following people for their input into the preparation of this plan:

1. Council staff, particularly Robert Morton and Ian Waugh, project manager, and all those who attended meetings and provided information
2. The Sports Club, Wonga Park Cricket Club, Wonga Park Netball Club, Wonga Wizards Football Club and Wonga Park Tennis Club
3. Local park and environmental groups, who provided their time for telephone interviews
4. The community groups and stakeholders interviewed for this project.

@leisure the land was traditionally occupied by and connected to a number of Aboriginal communities, most notably the Wurundjeri people.

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Rear 534 Mt Alexander Road Ascot Vale VIC 3032 Australia
+61 3 9326 1662 info@atleisure.com.au www.atleisure.com.au



2

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose

This master plan aims to establish the future strategic direction, infrastructure requirements and provision options to support Councils community health and wellbeing objectives.

Key tasks required in the brief included:

1. Review the current Wonga Park Reserve Management Plan 2008
2. Undertake engagement with communities, sports associations and peak bodies to identify current issues, trends and demand
3. Identify local, state and national sport and recreation industry trends
4. Identify current risks at the site
5. Develop strategies to protect and enhance the flora and fauna on the site
6. Develop strategies to improve the visibility, accessibility and connectivity of the park for local resident's use
7. Consider Manningham City Council policies and other strategic plans
8. Develop an issues and opportunities paper that identifies issues to be considered in the development of the new master plan and provide a list of strategic directions to be adopted
9. Develop a Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan 2022.

Methods

This master plan has been prepared following:

- A review of the previous management plan and a wide range of Council plans, policies, strategies and other documents
- A series of virtual meetings with staff, relevant to the key issues in the brief
- Several staff workshops
- An assessment of the projected demand for outdoor recreation activities and the demographic influences on demand for open space by locality.
- Site inspections and preparation of a site analysis and existing condition plan
- Preparation of an issues and opportunities paper
- Community and stakeholder engagement.
- Community engagement was conducted through the following:
 - Telephone interviews of clubs, sports associations, schools, peak bodies and providers
 - Telephone interviews with members of the local community
 - "Your Say" Manningham (YSM) web page which introduced the project and directed the community to make a comment and a communications strategy to promote visitation to the YSM page.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

What is a master plan?

A master plan is a blueprint for the future development.

A masterplan is an agreed direction by the landowner/manager and users about the best way to develop a site or a facility, based on the current demand and condition of facilities and context. It is not intended to be a commitment to fund development projects in the short term.

The intent is to be able to direct a complete package of improvements over time and develop components of that plan as and when funds become available, therefore a master plan shows the broad concept and areas for development, rather than specific design details. These packages of improvements are often expressed as recommendations or potential future projects that are expected to improve the community access and use of a venue or facility over a period of 10 years+.

As recommended actions they may not necessarily be delivered in the immediate or long term due to budget and other priorities or factors.



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

1.2. Policy and planning drivers

The table below summarises the documents that influence the development of sports facilities in the City of Manningham, and have been reviewed.

Table 1: Key plans and documents that influence the provision of sports facilities on Wonga Park Reserve

Level	Plans	
National	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport 2030 – National Sports Plan • Sport Australia Corporate Plan 2018-2022 • Australian Sports – The Pathway to Success (2010) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Future of Australian Sport (2013) • State of Australian Cities Report (2013)
State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Victorian Strategic Framework For Sport and Recreation 2017-2023 • Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victoria Infrastructure 2021 • Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2019-2022 • Built Environment Climate Adaption Action Plan 2022-2026
Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Melbourne East Regional Sport and Recreational Strategy • Eastern Regional Trails Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Region Soccer Strategy
Municipal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manningham Council Plan 2021-2025 • Manningham's Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy City Strategy 2017-2021
Corporate, Strategies and Planning Controls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset Management Structure 2012-2032 • Manningham Community Infrastructure Plan 2022-2041 • Public Toilet Plan 2021 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-2025 • Outdoor Sports Infrastructure 2020-2024
Management Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wonga Park Management Plan 2008 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Space Strategy Part 1 and 2 2014 • Manningham Biosites 2004 • Native Splendor 2009 • Manningham Green Wedge Infrastructure 2013 • Wonga Park Reserve Bushland Management Plan • Water Management Plan 2022

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

Policy Implications

Previous to this plan the main guiding document for the Reserve was the Wonga Park Management Plan 2008. The majority of the 2008 Management Plan actions have been completed. Those relevant actions not completed, have been largely carried forward into this plan.

The table in Appendix 1 outlines actions and priorities that were listed in the 2008 Management Plan.

Sport

The lead document that will guide the development of sports facilities on the Reserve is The Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Plan 2020.

The sports code requirements for soccer-football, cricket, tennis and netball peak bodies and those of Sport and Recreation Vic also underpin facility dimensions, support facility standards, and conditions of state government funding.

The key sports requirements are set out in Appendix 2. Additional principles that sport and Recreation would apply include universal design, all gender (female friendly) and multi-use.

The Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Plan 2020 identifies that a number of the facilities on the reserve are not compliant based on hierarchy. It is difficult, however, to meet all of the standards for example for support facilities, due to the location of trees and separation/distance between facilities due to topography.

In addition, some items, such as female /family change rooms, are not specified in the Council standards.

The "fields of play" for football are unlikely to meet standards also because football is played over the top of a cricket wicket. The basic requirements for community level cricket are also not likely to be met unless vegetation is removed.

Environment

The key guiding documents giving the management of bushland on the reserve is The Wonga Park Bushland Management Plan updated in 2022.

Further discussions about the management of trees adjacent to playing surfaces is required, and agreement with maintenance staff about the fine grain practices in different areas of the reserve not addressed by the zones in the Management Plan.

Planning and ownership

Planning matters in relation to the site, and especially approval for works will be guided by the Manningham Planning Scheme.

Planning permits will be required for major works because of Heritage, Environmental Significance and Significant Landscape overlays over different parts of the Reserve.

The area east of Yarra Road is owned by the crown, Therefore DELWP will need to be engaged in this process.

Council Plans

The objectives and actions proposed in this plan are in complete alignment with those articulated in the Manningham Council Plan 2021-2025, the Open Space Strategy 2014, the Healthy City Strategy 2017, and the Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2019.

The key directions of Council's Plan include:

- Enhancing parks, open spaces and streetscapes
- Improving paths and trails
- Implementing the Open Space Strategy and Master Plan actions to create and maintain accessible and well-connected areas for activity, recreation and relaxation.
- Delivering on a 10-year parks improvement program. Ensuring that all parks receive upgrades and renewals to maintain their quality and condition.
- Make improvements to open space facilities to increase safety and the use of the parks.
- Develop open spaces to facilitate activity, recreation, and relaxation.
- Improve access to active, leisure and recreation destinations across the municipality by embracing the 20-minute neighbourhood.
- Create accessible and well-connected areas that inspire activity, recreation and relaxation.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

While the nature, condition and size of the current facilities may impact on the resident club's ability to grow participation, in accordance with Council plans, the clubs on the site have very limited if any development programs on site for women or all abilities groups, and could develop closer relationships with schools to grow local participation.

Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy 2020

The Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy was developed to provide a system for Council to guide the level of subsidy (fees and charges) for the use of Council owned and managed community outdoor recreation facilities.

Council provides a hierarchy of facilities (Table 4 following) to provide a consistent approach to facility development and inform the capital contribution required from Council and user groups.

The following hierarchy will be used for planning purposes relating to reserves and open spaces as the basis for future facility classifications.

Table 4: Facility Classifications and Scope of Provision

	Description
Regional	Facilities that have a catchment greater than the Manningham community. Typically, these facilities cater for regional and state level competition
Municipal	Facilities that cater for mainly Manningham residents and that accommodate sports and recreation activities that generally have a lower participation rate. One facility is required across the municipality to cater for a relevant sport.
Local	Facilities that primarily cater for junior and low-level senior training and competition. These are typically a user groups secondary venue and can also be public access facilities.
School	Facilities that are not owned by Council however a Joint User's Agreement is in place.

Council sees this Policy as guiding the nature and standard of facilities at Wonga Park, even though the priority for providing them may be guided by demand.

See further details about Council's plans in Appendix 3.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

2. SITE ANALYSIS

2.1. The site context

Wonga Park Reserve is located at 3 Launders Avenue, Wonga Park, Victoria. Wonga Park is located on the northeast corner of the municipality. (See Figure 1.) Wonga Park Reserve is centrally located within Wonga Park.

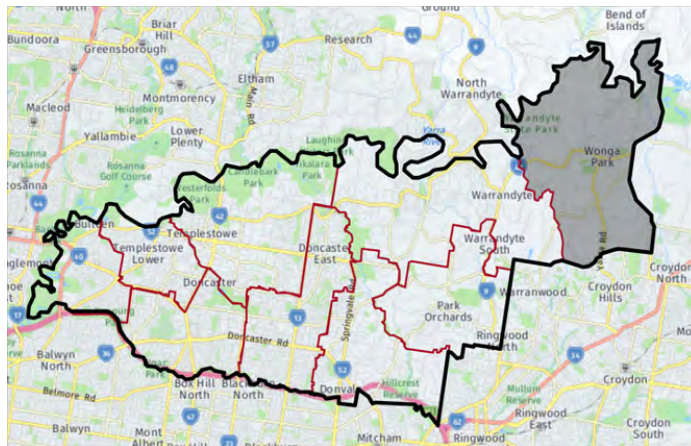


FIGURE 1: LOCATION OF WONGA PARK IN THE MANNINGHAM CITY COUNCIL BOUNDARIES IMAGE OBTAINED FROM PROFILE ID

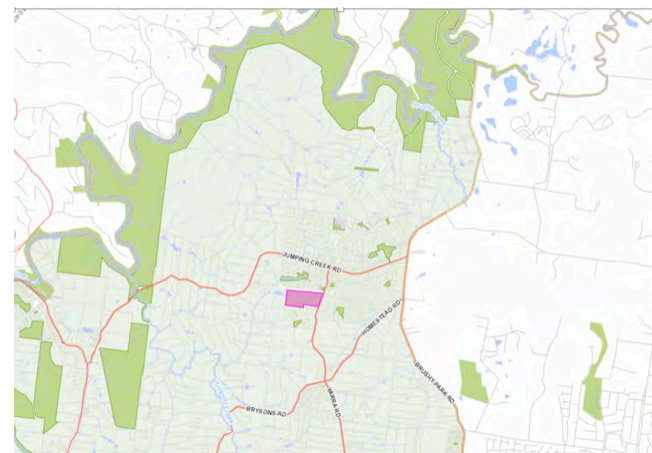
The reserve is the largest community recreation open space in Wonga Park. It is used by Wonga Park residents as a sporting precinct, an overflow for local schools sporting events and as an open space to enjoy leisure activities such as walking, jogging, bike riding ball games, play and kicking the football.

Wonga Park Reserve is 7.7 hectares in size, comprising four parcels of land under two land tenure types. A parcel west of Old Yarra Road (6.4 hectares) is owned by Council. The other three parcels are Crown Land (including the Fire Serves property) totalling 1.3 hectares (Figure 3).

This Reserve offers the only sports facilities in Wonga Park, (see image below) and has some areas of significant vegetation.

The site is sloped and undulating which provides some difficulties for the management sports facilities. The boundaries also have an awkward configuration in relation the adjoining property to the South.

The natural setting and trees are part of the character of Wonga Park important to residents, however the Reserve also provides open, flat areas with access to sunlight that are also highly valued by residents because of the bushy and undulating nature of the suburb.



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

Planning context

The extent of the reserve addressed by this plan is shown in the following image. The reserve is made up of four main parcels.



- Two parcels in the triangle between Old Yarra Road and Yarra Road. This is crown land, zoned for Public Uses and accommodating the tennis club and Hall.
- Two parcels west of Old Yarra Road, the oldest oval (Oval No.2) in the east and the area of land added to the reserve later now accommodating Oval No. 1. These two parcels are zoned for Public Park and Recreation and are owned by Council.

Council manages the Crown Land area as a 'Committee of Management' under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978. The Crown Land is reserved for a particular type of use. The three parcels of land are currently reserved for:

- Mechanics Institute
- Public Recreation
- Public Purposes (preschool centre)

Planning Zones

The zoning of an area establishes what land use is permitted for that area, whilst the overlays control that land use.

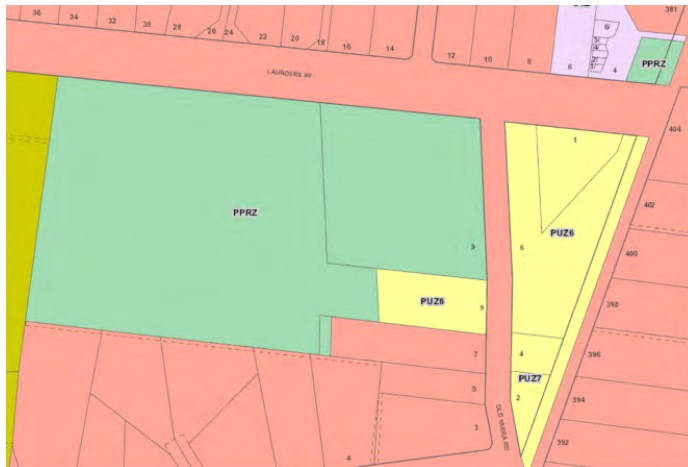
The following planning zones apply to, or around Wonga Park Reserve (refer Figure 3).

- **PPRZ** = Public Park and Recreation Zone
The purpose of this zone is to recognise areas for public recreation and open space protect and conserve areas of significance, where appropriate, and provide for commercial use where appropriate.
- **PUZ6** = Public Use Zone (Local Government)
The purpose of this zone is to recognise public land for public utility, community services and facilities. It also provides for associated uses that are consistent with the intent of the public land reservation or purpose.

Surrounding the reserve the residential area has two zonings:

- **LDRZ** = Low Density Residential Zone
The purpose of this zone is to provide for low density residential development. Lots must be at least 0.4 hectare in size. The LDRZ is the underlying zone in the area.
- **RCZ2** = Rural Conservation Zone
The purpose of this zone encourages development and use of the land consistent with sustainable land management and land capability practices, and which takes into account the conservation values and environmental sensitivity of the locality.

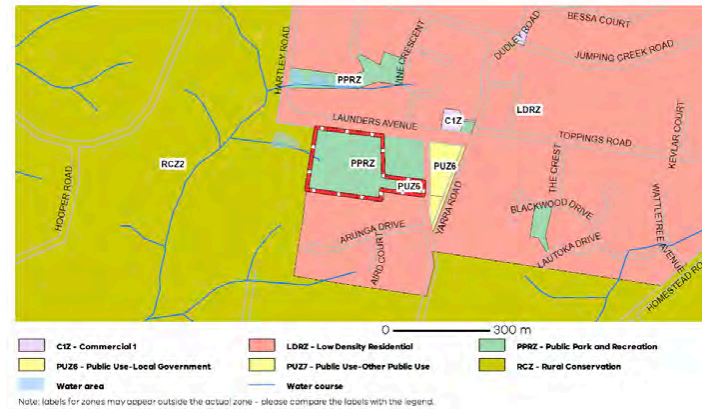
Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis



Legend

PPRZ	Public Park and Recreation Zone
PUZ 6	Public Use Zone Local Government
PUZ 7	Public Use Zone Other Public Use

FIGURE 3: PLAN OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING PROVISIONS THE SITE



Planning Overlays

A Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 2 and 3 (ESO2 and ESO3) a Significant Landscape Overlay, Schedule 1(SLO1) and a Heritage Overlay, Schedule HO99 and HO126 applies to the Reserve.

The ESO2 and ESO3 overlays identify the most intact and significant areas of indigenous vegetation in Manningham by outlining significant biosites.

The SLO1 identifies areas that have visual, landscape and environmental values. This overlay aims to keep vegetation and landscape to its natural form.

The Heritage Overlay applies to heritage place HO99 and HO126 Wonga Park Hall and Community Cottage.

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The provisions of the Heritage Overlay require a planning permit to, among other things;

- Subdivide land
- Demolish or remove a building
- Construct or carry out works
- Externally alter a building by structural work, rendering, sandblasting or in any other way
- Construct or display a sign,
- Carry out repairs and routine maintenance which change the appearance of a heritage place or which are not undertaken to the same details specifications and materials
- Remove destroy or lop vegetation (as the schedule identifies the heritage place as one where tree controls apply).

The image below shows the Planning overlays. The planning overlays can be illustrated in five zones in the reserve. These zones are identified in Figure 4. Descriptors of the overlays are provided in Table 7.



FIGURE 4: PLANNING OVERLAYS AT WONGA PARK RESERVE

Table 7: Wonga Park Reserve planning overlays

Zone	Overlay
Zone 1	Environment significance overlay (ESO2 and ESO3) Heritage overlay (HO126)
Zone 2	Environment significance overlay (ESO2 and ESO3)
Zone 3	Heritage overlay (HO99) Significant landscape overlay (SLO1)
Zone 4	Heritage overlay (HO99) Significant landscape overlay (SLO1)
Zone 5	Significant landscape overlay (SLO1)

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2.2. Reserve facilities

Wonga Park Reserve is classified as a district reserve (Open Space Strategy, 2014, Part 2) that provides a variety of services to the community.

The facilities on Wonga Park Reserve are:

- Two sporting ovals (Oval No.1 and Oval No.2)
- Main pavilion, located on Oval No. 1
- Four locked cricket nets
- Two unlocked cricket nets
- Small pavilion located on Oval No. 2
- Two netball courts (asphalt)
- Dirt bike jumps
- Eight tennis courts (1 concrete, 5 en-tout-cas and 2 hard courts).
- Three playgrounds; (one by the main pavilion, Gooligulch playground and one beside the community hall)
- Wonga Park Hall
- Wonga Park Community Centre, (Wonga Park Community Cottage and Burch Memorial Kindergarten) and
- Public toilets.



Figure 5. Location of the facilities at Wonga Park Reserve.

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2.3. The facilities in context for the reserve

Wonga Park Reserve does not have any other sporting fields, tennis clubs or a dirt bike track within a 5 km catchment area. All similar infrastructure is between 5.4 and 10 km away (Figure 6). This analysis suggests that the facilities in Wonga Park Reserve serves a large catchment area and provides opportunities for residents within a semi-rural environment to participate in organised sport within their local community.

The closest sporting infrastructure to Wonga Park is all located to the south of Wonga Park. The Reserve provides residents that live to the north opportunities to play sport at a location that is not too far from their residence.

2.4. Review of the site and facilities

A detailed site inspection was conducted by the team of recreation planners and landscape architects in February 2022.

Photographs for each facility were compiled along with site of notes of observation about the nature, use, condition and context of each. The details of this site analysis are provided in Appendix 3.

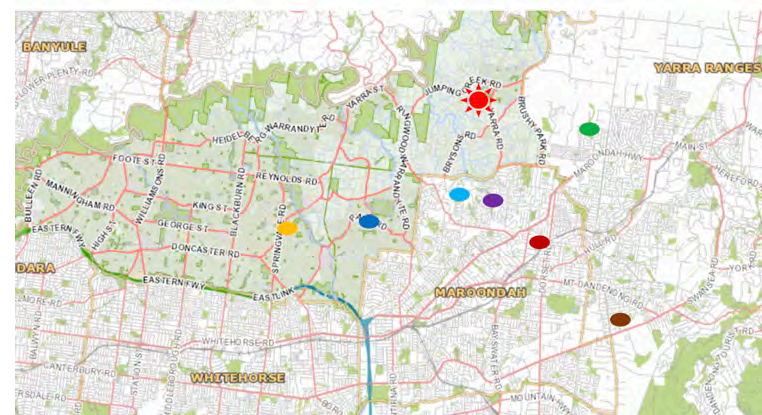


FIGURE 6: WONGA PARK RESERVE AND SURROUNDING SPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Wonga Park Reserve		
	Bike jumps	Croydon Hills BMX track 5.4km
	Cricket	Kimberley Reserve - Chirnside Park 6.1km
	Tennis cricket, football	Quambee Reserve - Ringwood North 6.7km
	Soccer- football	Silcock Reserve - Croydon 7.9km
	Football, cricket netball, tennis	Warrandyte Reserve- Warrandyte 7.9km
	Netball	Park Orchards Primary School – Park Orchards 10.2km
	BMX	Stintons Reserve BMX Track - Park Orchards 10.2
	Netball	Pinks Reserve Regional Netball Facility - Kilsyth 12.7km

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3. DEMAND FOR ACTIVITIES

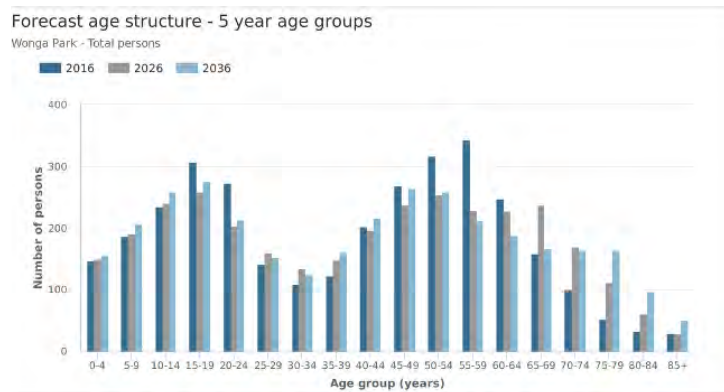
3.1. Demographic influences on demand

The key demographic factors that influence the demand for sport and recreation activities are population size, age, gender, income, education, cultural background, disability and location of residence and availability of facilities.

The 2022 population estimate for Wonga Park is 3,218 and is forecasted to grow to 3,332 by 2036. The population change between 2022-36 is projected to be 3.55%.

The following chart shows the projected population by 5-year age groups for 2026 and 2036, compared to 2016.

Table 5: Forecast age structure for Wonga Park in 5-year cohorts



In 2016 the largest age group of Wonga Park were residents aged between 50 to 59 years, this was closely followed by residents aged between 15-19 years. Table 5 identifies that there is a drop of residents aged between 25-40 years and again for residents from 60 year +. This suggests that the majority of Wonga Park residents are couples with dependents. Forecasting indicates that this trend will continue for the next 20 years.

Analysis of the resident age groups for Wonga Park in 2016 compared to City of Manningham shows that there are a greater proportion of people in the 10-24 and 45-64 age groups living in Wonga Park compared to the Manningham City Council. However, in the 25-39 and 70+ age groups there are significantly less people that live in Wonga Park compared to Manningham City Council.

The demographic profile of Wonga Park analysed against state participation rates suggests that there is a relatively high propensity for residents to play sport or recreate, due to:

Three of the four Wonga Park Reserve resident clubs (netball, cricket and football/soccer) have higher than average participation rates compared to AusPlay participation rates. The tennis club has a participation rate of 6.2%, just below the state average of 6.3%.

Wonga Park index of social disadvantage is 1,110. This indicates that Wonga Park has a low level of disadvantage, signifying that a high percentage of the residents have disposable income that could be used to participate in organised sporting pursuits.

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3.2. Key trends

The image below provides an overview of the key trends related to use of parks for sport and also residents for social, physical and environmental activity.

Key Park and Sport Trends: Accessibility, quality, diversity, informality equity, safety and sustainability

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dependence and 20 min neighbourhoods Distance or lack of walkability mean some communities may be totally dependent on a space to meet everyday play sport and recreation needs. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wheels Increased demand for bike facilities, wheeled toys and mobility devices.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing demand and understanding of importance of green space and sport and development on sites with no natural environment features – green and communal spaces 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The whole family needs to play together: all genders, ages and abilities included is sports, recreation and play
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to nature for restorative values, play, diversity, shade, sustainability and perception of quality 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher service and provision standards to drive equity, ensure parks and sports facilities are safe, fit for purpose, and for asset management and budgeting. • Increasing standards for support facilities, playing field size and female friendly facilities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate emergency: renewable energy, permeable and high albedo surfaces, recycle water 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion and universal design All play spaces, paths and facilities can be made inclusive of people with a disability not just regional, or "destination spaces," or special separate spaces.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less club sport, more social and individual sports access for community and social sports and programs important. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasingly manicured design promoted by developers in new development areas mean local parks have to consciously provide less structured environments with which to engage • Wellbeing: Physical activity, social connection and environmental lenses are needed in design.

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3.3. Use of the Reserve

Organised sport at Wonga Park Reserve

There are four established sporting clubs located at Wonga Park Reserve. These clubs include the Wonga Park Tennis Club, Wonga Park Cricket Club, The Wonga Park Wizards Soccer Club and the Wonga Park Netball Club.

All four clubs offer a range of sporting opportunities for the area providing well-recognised physical, social and mental health benefits for the participants. Wonga Park Reserve is one of the only locations in Wonga Park where such sporting activities can formally occur.

Additional benefits the clubs provide include opportunities for social contact and fostering of community development. The role of the sporting clubs is particularly important given the location of Wonga Park on the fringe of Manningham in a 'semi-rural' area, further from other established community facilities, activities, clubs and shopping centres.



Wonga Park Cricket Club

The Wonga Park Cricket club was established in 1910. There are no records of where the club played in the early days, but in 1913 their first oval was established on Old Yarra Road behind the Mechanics Institute Hall (Wonga Park Hall), where the tennis court is today. A few years later the club moved across the road to where Oval No. 2 is today. In the 1970s the club developed a new oval (Oval No.1) from a reclaimed tip, to cater for the growing needs to the club. This oval quickly became the preferred oval, and a pavilion was constructed. In 2004, some minor capital works improvements were made to the pavilion with major renovations being completed in 2011.

The Cricket club also uses a second smaller pavilion next to Oval No. 2. This pavilion was rebuilt in 2005 to replace the existing dilapidated building. This building contains a kitchenette and a small gathering/spectator area. A toilet was recently installed into the pavilion.

The Cricket Club uses Oval No. 1 and Oval No. 2 for competition and training in the summer season. Four locked cricket nets are adjacent to Oval No. 1 and two public access cricket nets are next to Oval No. 2.

The Wonga Park Cricket Club is an active and growing club with over 250 registered members representing the full range of age and skill groups. The club currently has six female members (four junior and two senior). These members play in mixed teams. The club and Cricket Victoria has acknowledged this an area that needs to be developed, but the lack of facilities i.e., change rooms has halted the advancement of these programs. On average in the summer season the cricket club use Oval No. 1 for 30 hours per week and Oval No. 2 for 27.5 hours per week. On average both the ovals are used for 63 hours per week (Table 6). This is below the 40 hours carrying capacity standard set by the Manningham City Council for summer.

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Table 6: Average hours the outdoor playing fields are used per week (Summer)

Oval No. 1	Oval No. 2	Av. hours of use per week
Total weekly usage	Total weekly usage	
30	31.5	30.75

The Cricket Club has a current lease for the main pavilion and access to the two sports ovals, and primarily uses these facilities during the summer season (September – February).

In September 1992 the Club transferred the title of land and surroundings of Oval No.2 to the Shire of Lilydale. This land coupled with the existing land owned by the Shire resulted in the Shire becoming proprietor of the title including both ovals, pavilions and surrounding land. In return a lease was developed with the provision and intent to give the club use of both ovals and pavilion until 2022. An arrangement was made regarding the maintenance of the ovals.

The Club maintain the ovals for a maintenance levy that is adjusted annually in accordance with GST and CPI movements. The annual levy is currently \$14,000. This is a unique arrangement as Council's City Parks Unit maintains all other ovals in the municipality.

In 1995, with the Council amalgamations, the Wonga Park Reserve title was handed over to the City of Manningham. In June 2001 the lease was renewed and replaced with two leases. One lease was created for use of the pavilion for a term of nine years (2010) and another for usage and maintenance of both ovals for a term of 22 years (2023). The lease document refers to the importance of the history of the title of land. It states, "special consideration should always be given in the future to the unique circumstances and history of the Wonga Park Cricket Club, in particular in any future lease negotiation and Council grant".

The Cricket Club shares use of the main pavilion with the Wonga Park Wizards Soccer Club and the Wonga Park Netball Club. The main pavilion is comprised of two connected change rooms and toilets, gender specific toilets, disability toilets, a small storage area, bar/kitchen/servery space, an umpires facilities and a meeting/gathering room for social events and spectators.



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Wonga Park Wizards Football Club

Wonga Park Wizards Football Club was established in 2008. The club is a community – based club that runs junior football clinics for five – seven years old, junior teams from U8 – U18 and have just started to field senior teams. The club leases the pavilions and two ovals from March – August (winter season).

The football/soccer club currently has 200 members. The club had reached its capacity of 300 members, however due to Covid 19 and condition of the ovals in winter the club has seen a significant drop in its membership numbers. The participation rate for football/soccer in Wonga Park is currently 6.2%, significantly higher than the Victorian average of 4.6%. Improvements to the fields to cater for winter conditions would assist the club to regain and maintain members in the years to come. The Clubs membership base is predominately male (70%). All the females are in the junior teams.

The Wonga Park Wizards train three nights a week, previously this has been on Oval No. 1 as there were no lights on Oval No. 2. Since the installation of the lights the club train on Oval No. 2 to try to preserve Oval No.1 for competition. This has changed the warring capacity of Oval No. 1 for this season. The club plays their games on a Sunday between 9.00am and 5.30pm. In winter the Council has a carrying capacity of 30 hours per week, currently the soccer-football club use Oval No.1 for 11.5 hours and Oval No. 2 for 27.5 hours per week.

Table 7: Average hours the outdoor playing fields are used per week (Winter)

Oval No. 1	Oval No. 2	Av. hours of use per week
Total weekly usage	Total weekly usage	
11.5	27.5	19.5



Photo from Wonga Park Wizards Facebook Page

Appendix 3 provides detailed site notes along with photos of the oval and associated facilities on the reserve.

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Wonga Park Netball Club

The Wonga Park Netball Club was established in 1979. Originally established as the Yarra Road Netball Club, the club practiced and played on one court at the Yarra Road Primary School. With the help and hard work of many dedicated players and parents over the years, the club has grown to 158 members. The netball club only trains at Wonga Park Reserve with competition held at a different venue. The club plays in the Lilydale and Yarra Valley Netball Association.

The netball club has a membership that has grown from 120 to 158 since 2007. The participation rate for netball in Wonga Park is currently 4.9%, significantly higher than the Victorian average of 3.2%. The club is dominated by junior players with 74% of its members being under the age of 15, all of these members are females. These statics indicate that netball is a popular sport played by females in the Wonga Park area and provides a program that needs to be supported by appropriate infrastructure.

The two netball courts at Wonga Park Reserve are classified as “local” (Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy 2020) courts, this means they only accommodate training with no other facilities offered other than storage and public toilets. These facilities are located over 80m from the courts, which has caused problems for the club with supervision and safety. The courts are made of asphalt and have been assessed as being non-compliant. The courts also have weed intrusion and debris that invades the courts, making them slippery and unsafe to play on.

The Wonga Park Netball Club use the courts five nights a week in the summer and three nights a week in the winter. On average over a 12 month period the netball club use the courts 22 hours per week (Table 8). They have access to the pavilion but do not use this excepts for the AGM.

Appendix 3 provides detailed site notes along with photos of the courts on the reserve.

Table 8: Average hours the netball courts are used per week

Total weekly usage (hours) - Summer	Total weekly usage (hours) - Winter	Average hours of use per week
20	25	22



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Wonga Park Tennis Club

Wonga Park Tennis Club is a thriving community club that was established in 1927. The club was originally established on Launderers Ave between the oval (Oval No. 2) and the Bickford Orchard. The club was relocated to its current position in the 1960s. The Club started with a small club house and two courts. Over the years the club has grown to include a larger clubhouse (refurbished in 2015) and eight courts (5 en-tout-cas, and three acrylic coated hard courts).

The Wonga Park Tennis Club is a very well-respected club in the municipality and has 305 members. Their memberships have dropped since 2007 (330) but based on the Victorian AusPlay data their participation rate is on par with the state average. Covid was a contributing factor to the clubs decrease in memberships.

The tennis club provides a range of services and programs, which include:

- After school coaching
- Saturday morning junior competition
- Saturday afternoon senior competition
- Weekday ladies competition
- Night tennis, and
- Social activities.

The service and programs are delivered over the eight courts, six days a week. On average the tennis courts are used 288 hours per week (Table 9), 67% of this time equates to the clubs coaching programs.

Table 9: Average hours the tennis courts are used per week

Total weekly usage (hours) - Summer	Total weekly usage (hours) - Winter	Average hours of use per week
289	287	288



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3.4. Recreation and play

Dirt bike jumps

A BMX track was constructed in the reserve in the mid 1980s. This was redeveloped into dirt jumps in 2004 as a result of community action and a successful working bee and barbecue day.

Over the years the jumps have not been maintained under a continuous maintenance program and therefore has become run down and subject to modification by local riders.

The surface is poor and the shapes of the jumps are worn.

The dirt bike jumps usage is not known but through the consultation process residents said that the jumps are used on a regularly basis by children and teenagers. The jumps were used a lot by families through the COVID-19 lockdowns. The jumps are one of few places in Manningham where young people can ride jumps in a dedicated facility .



Play spaces

There are three play spaces provided at the Wonga Park Reserve, the Gooligulch playground between the Wonga Park Community Centre and the netball courts, and two small scale play spaces, one adjacent to the main car park and pavilion and the other between the tennis courts and Wonga Park Hall. Gooligulch playground was installed in 1998 as a junior play space behind the Wonga Park Community Centre. This play space was based on the popular Graeme Base children’s book, “My Grandmother Lived in Gooligulch”. The play space has been popular, and many people are very attached to it. Due to its popularity, in 2021 the playground was refurbished, this included updated play equipment and the inclusion of a table and seating. The play space is unique however there is a limited range of play experiences and there are none accessible to children with a disability.

The play space near the main pavilion has climbing equipment and swings catering for children between the ages of 2-5. The area also has a BBQ and seating.

The play equipment between the Wonga Park Hall and the tennis courts are ageing and require replacement or removal. Elements of this play space have been removed primarily due to safety issues. This play space provides for the tennis courts. Consideration needs to be given to the whole reserve when considering replacement of play equipment, accessibility, more interaction with nature and a greater diversity of play experiences.



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Off-road trails and access paths

Off-road trails are used by more people and a greater range of the community than any other recreation facility type.

Walking is the most accessible form of physical activity. It enables people to come together socially or individually, improves health and helps to create a more sustainable environment. Most importantly, walking is an activity open to nearly everyone, regardless of age, socio-economic status or culture.

Walking plays an important role in people participating in their communities. This simple activity brings people out into their neighbourhoods while helping them be healthier and happier.

The existing trails are used by many residents on a daily basis. There is currently a perimeter path that goes around the outer edges of the reserve; however, the path is not continuous.

There is a series of secondary paths located around the reserve. These are a mixture of planned paths and paths that have been formed from consistent use. These paths are used as a short cut or serves as a pathway to main facilities such as the ovals, cricket nets, netball courts or the pavilion.

Way finding is confusing some users — in how to get from one facility to the next. The perimeter pathway functions as a multi-use pathway for walking (with or without a dog), jogging and bike riding.

Appendix 3 provides detailed site notes along with photos of paths on the reserve.



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3.5. Community services and facilities

There are a range of community service facilities that are located in Wonga Park Reserve. These include the Wonga Park Hall, Wonga Park Community Centre and the former pre-school site. Details of the history and programs of these facilities is summarised below.

Wonga Park Hall

The Wonga Park Hall and Mechanics' Institute was built in 1908, located in the northeast corner of the Wonga Park Reserve. This was the first hall that was developed in Wonga Park and served as a very important community meeting place. Initially a library was established in the hall, but over the years the hall diversified and became a central meeting place for community activities such as the youth club, film nights, balls, fairs, concerts, presentations, church services, badminton, and brownies. Most recently the hall was used as the Maternal and Child Health Service, this service has now moved and the space is currently vacant. The Wonga Park Hall has a heritage overlay.



Wonga Park Community Centre

The Community Centre was completed in December 2004. The major redevelopment and extension of the Wonga Park Community Cottage and the former Wongaroo Child Care Centre was a community development project involving comprehensive consultation.

The original 'cottage' building was constructed in 1950 as a family residence for the orchard that occupied the site. The former Shire of Lilydale bought the residence in 1978 for accommodation of the Wonga Park Community Cottage. The building was then home to a wide variety of leisure and community programs and organisations including:

- Arts and crafts
- Exercise groups
- Spinners and weavers
- Youth group
- Wonga Park Residents Association
- Walking group creche
- Free Range Egg Association, and
- Mothers' Group.

The new Wonga Park Community Centre integrates two community services into the one facility. These services include:

- Wonga Park Community Cottage;
- Burch Memorial Preschool;

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Wonga Park Community Cottage

The Cottage is located on the south of the Oval No. 2 and west of Old Yarra Road. It has a Heritage overlay over it — being an original farm dwelling.

The 'Cottage' delivers a range of arts, leisure and recreational activities for the community. A program of activities is developed each term outlining the range of activities available.

The cottage is similar to other 'Neighbourhood Houses' in the municipality. These not-for-profit organisations offer a diverse range of programs including: accredited courses; art/craft; vocational; English and adult literacy; health and well-being; children's activities; occasional childcare; and, self help and support groups that respond to local community needs.

A Co-ordinator and Assistant Co-ordinator are employed at the Cottage to deliver the programming and operation of the Centre on a day-to-day basis. A Committee of Management is responsible for the ongoing management of the Cottage as an incorporated body. The Committee is made up of interested people generally from the local community.

Classes are held during the day, evening and on some weekends.

Office Hours are generally 9:15am to 4:00pm Monday to Thursday and 9:15am to 12:15pm Friday (closed during school holidays).

Occasional Child Care

The Cottage also operates the 30-place Occasional Child Care Centre. Occasional care is available each weekday 9am-12 noon for participants attending classes at the Cottage and the general community.

The Centre has its own outdoor play space within the Community Centre grounds.

Burch Memorial Preschool

The Burch Memorial Kindergarten is located at the back of the Wonga Park Community Cottage. The preschool offers four programs over 2 rooms:

- Playgroup (Monday 1.15pm - 3.15pm and Tuesday 9.30am - 11.30am)
- Three year old kindergarten. Two groups, 7 hours per week (2 sessions per week)
- Four year old kindergarten. Two groups 15 hours per week (3 sessions per week)
- Afternoon activity group. Three session held on Tuesday (12pm-4.00pm), Wednesday (12.45pm - 4.15pm) and Thursday (12.45pm - 4.15pm). This program offers extended hours of care for 3-5 year old children

Former Pre-school (Kindergarten) site

The former pre-school building situated between the CFA and the open space area adjacent to the Tennis Courts, is vacant. The Burch Memorial Preschool that previously occupied the building, is now located within the Wonga Park Community Centre. The fire station now use this location for training and meetings.



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4. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

The Manningham Biosites - Sites of (Biological) Significance Review (2004) defines areas of Wonga Park Reserve as comprising part of the 'Freyne St' – a biosite of State significance for its biological values. Biosites are “Core Conservation Areas” for Manningham and represent those areas that support the majority of the municipality’s biodiversity.

The Review identifies that the remnant vegetation in the Reserve belongs to Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) 'Grassy Dry Forest'. This EVC is the common vegetation type typical of the mid-slopes and ridge-tops throughout Manningham. It has a conservation status of 'least concern' within the Highland – Southern Fall bioregion due to low levels of depletion and relatively high representation in conservation reserves within the Bioregion. The EVC is a generic list on the Grassy Dry Forest class within the Port Phillip and Westernport region.

In order to effectively monitor the management of vegetation at Wonga Park Reserve the 2008 Management Plan advised that a 'flora list' of the specific vegetation in Wonga Park Reserve be developed. The list should be developed by Council’s botanist and will include the level of information to effectively monitor the management of the vegetation. Furthermore, a monitoring process should include the gathering of some vegetation data such as 'photo points'. The grey shadow in the image following highlights the biosite significant areas. The following plan shows the key zones for managing biosites on the reserve.

Figure 6: Ecological Vegetation Classes



Zone areas (ha)

- Class 1 - WPR-1A (0.32ha)
- Class 3 - WPR-3A (0.75ha)
- WPR-3B (0.29ha)
- WPR-3C (0.33ha)
- WPR-3D (0.20ha)

Legend

- Class 1 – Maintain high diversity
- Class 3 – Maintain habitat

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The condition of the turf grass

The image below shows the condition of the ovals of time.

The condition of the ovals has been impacted on by poor drainage, soil profile, turf and the vegetation very close the fields of play. The two oval assessments in the last two years confirmed that the grounds need to be constructed.



Oval No. 2 Photo of the top oval showing the lack of grass cover and how it shapes with the tree cover.



Oval No. 2 has suffered from diseases throughout the years and the fact it is heavily sheltered from wind can be causing this along with other factors.



Drainage works



Drainage works

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5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Key Council plans

Manningham Council Plan 2021-2025

The Manningham Council Plan outlines the priorities and goals of the Manningham City Council between 2021 - 2025. The plan includes five goals each with a number of actions and directions shared between the key stakeholders.

The themes include:

1. Healthy community
2. Resilient environment
3. Well governed council
4. Vibrant and prosperous economy
5. Liveable places and spaces

Objectives within the plan that relate to Wonga Park Reserve, include:

- Enhancing parks, open spaces and streetscapes
- Improving paths and trails
- Implementing the Open Space Strategy and Master Plan actions to create and maintain accessible and well-connected areas for activity, recreation and relaxation.

- Delivering on a 10-year parks improvement program.
- Ensuring that all parks receive upgrades and renewals to maintain their quality and condition.
- Make improvements to open space facilities to increase safety and the use of the parks.
- Develop open spaces to facilitate activity, recreation, and relaxation.
- Improve access to active, leisure and recreation destinations across the municipality by embracing the 20-minute neighbourhood.
- Create accessible and well-connected areas that inspire activity, recreation and relaxation.
- Consult with the community

Manningham Health and Well Being Strategy 2021-2025

The Health and Well Being Strategy 2021 – 2025 focuses on the Council Plan 2021-2025 theme of Healthy community. Two goals and a number of priorities were identified. These include:

- A healthy, safe and resilient community
- Improved social and emotional wellbeing
- Increased healthy eating
- Increased active lifestyle
- Increased adaptation to the health impacts from climate change
- Reduced Injury and harm
- Prevention of violence

- A connected and inclusive community
- Increased connection and engagement in community life.

Healthy City Strategy 2017-2021

The Health City Strategy 2017-2021 is linked to the Manningham Council Plan 2021-2025 and has been developed to assist in the development of strategies to address issues that impact liveability, resilience, and wellbeing of the City of Manningham residents. The Health City Strategy has identified four focus areas and a series of priorities. These include:

1. Inclusive and harmonious	2. Healthy and well	3. Safe and Resilient	4. Connected and vibrant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An inclusive, diverse community. • Generation friendly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy mind • Healthy lifestyles • Quality service system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A safe community • A resilient community • A resilient community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative community • Sense of place • Involved community

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Manningham Open Space Strategy 2014

The Manningham Open Space Strategy sets a ten-year plan that sets priorities and guidelines for the protection, use and development of public open spaces in the Manningham City Council.

Wonga Park is located in a low-density residential area, with some the largest residential blocks in Manningham – this is generally an area that has larger residential properties, therefore there are less formalised open spaces.

In an area with limited public open spaces, areas such as Wonga Park Reserve are especially important to enable socialising, sporting and recreation facilities for the local community. “These areas should continue be updated and maintained with this in mind” (p. 35).

Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010-2025

The Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2010 – 2025 identified a long-term recreation strategy to increase physical activity in Manningham City Council.

The strategy considered three main areas, active living, active recreation and organised sport. The implications for Wonga Park are to:

- Increase participation in recreation in Manningham, and
- Provide flexible multi use and durable open spaces for recreation to meet the needs of the growing community.

Table 3: Recreation Strategy Strategic Direction

Vision			
A healthier, more active community that participates in a diverse range of recreational pursuits regardless of age, gender, ability and cultural background. Infrastructure, facilities, parks and programs will be inviting and accessible to the whole community who will enjoy improved health and wellbeing as a result.			
Objectives			
Increase participation in recreation in Manningham	Ensure the community has diverse recreational choices in Manningham.	Provide great places for people to recreate in Manningham.	Inspire people to participate in recreation in Manningham
Priority Areas			
Provide flexible, multi-use and durable spaces for recreation to meet the needs of a growing community	Collaborate with key partners and organisations.	Foster an environment of inclusion.	Build capacity for our community.

A mayor review of the Active for Life Recreation Strategy was undertaken in 2019, this has resulted in revised objectives and priorities.

Table 3 above outlines the vision, objectives and priority areas for this strategy.

While the nature and size of the current facilities may impact on the club’s ability to grow participation, the clubs on the site have very limited if any development programs for women or all abilities groups, and could develop closer relationships with school to grow local participation.

Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy 2020

The Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy was developed to provide a system for Council to guide the level of subsidy (fees and charges) for the use of Council owned and managed community outdoor recreation facilities.

Council provides a hierarchy of facilities (Table 4) to provide a consistent approach to facility development and inform the capital contribution required from Council and user groups.

The following hierarchy will be used for planning purposes relating to reserves and open spaces as the basis for future facility classifications.

The Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy has identified the infrastructure at Wonga Park Reserves fit under two classifications: district and local.

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District level:

- Wonga Park Reserve main pavilion, Wonga Park Reserve tennis Club.
- Sports Fields: Wonga Park Reserve ovals, Wonga Park Reserve tennis courts.

Local level:

- Pavilions: Wonga Park Reserve Oval No. 2 small pavilion.
- Sports Fields: Wonga Park Reserve netball courts.

These classifications which come with surface and facility standards.

The current facilities at Wonga Park do not all meet these standards.

Table 4: Facility Classifications and Scope of Provision-1-1-1

Classification	Description
Regional	Facilities that have a catchment greater than the Manningham community. Typically, these facilities cater for regional and state level competition
Municipal	Facilities that cater for mainly Manningham residents and that accommodate sports and recreation activities that generally have a lower participation rate. One facility is required across the municipality to cater for a relevant sport.
Local	Facilities that primarily cater for junior and low-level senior training and competition. These are typically a user groups secondary venue and can also be public access facilities.
School	Facilities that are not owned by Council however a Joint User's Agreement is in place.

Manningham Local Law (2013)

In relation to Open Space, Council's Local Law prescribes some restrictions on use. Manningham's General Law Part 2 – Use of public places aims to ensure that Council reserves are used in a safe and orderly manner and states that:

Restrictions on entry

Except with a permit, or except as otherwise authorised in writing, a person must not, on a reserve, ride or drive a horse or a motor vehicle, or other vehicle or any bicycle except that this sub-clause does not apply to:

- The riding of a bicycle in a manner that does not interfere with the enjoyment of the reserve by any other person;
- A designated roadway or bicycle path; or
- The riding of a horse where that has been permitted by Council.

The Wonga Park Management Plan 2008

The following table outlines actions and the status of each from the 2008 Management Plan.

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Table 1 Actions 2008 Management Plan

Recommendations	Priority	Status	Comments
Recreation and Sport			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the extension of the main pavilion in consultation with the Netball and Cricket Club to accommodate their needs to maximise participation and for the pavilion to remain as an intermediate standard facility, as outlined in the 'Pavilion Policy'. 	1	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address risk issues at the sports pavilion including installation of a protective barrier on terracing, and repair to sunken steps leading to the oval and handrails as appropriate. 	1	Incomplete	TBA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install boundary fencing around the upper oval to prevent access by horses or unauthorised vehicles. 	2	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resolve environmental issues from uncontrolled car parking next to the pavilion on the top oval by installing physical barriers to prevent car parking encroaching onto vegetation and for the area to be signed accordingly. 	1	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cricket Club to remove the shipping container from the Reserve. 	1	Complete	Club to complete
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To open discussions with the Wonga Park Cricket Club regarding the future maintenance of the oval. 	1	Ongoing	Operational
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a stepped pedestrian walkway between the main car park and the top oval. 	1	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a small retaining wall to provide a small, level space (approximately 2-3 meters wide and 5 – 10 meters long) for spectators to stand immediately north of where the steps meet the top oval and extending around towards the northern sight screen as far as practical. 	1	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop two synthetic tennis courts to the south of the existing tennis courts (north – south orientation) subject to the relevant statutory processes. 	1	Complete	\$263000, SRV \$50,000 Club \$50,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce "storage" bin for Wonga Park Tennis Club to dispose of en-tout-cas appropriately 	1	TBA	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The upgrade and replacement of existing en-tout-cas tennis courts should consider the replacement with surface that requires minimal use of the community's potable water supply such as a synthetic surface. Explore funding opportunities with Tennis Victoria. 	1	Incomplete	Operational

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Action plan from 2008 Management Plan-2-1

Recommendations	Priority	Status	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a retaining wall on the eastern side of the netball courts, including appropriate drainage, to prevent dirt and debris from washing onto the netball courts. 	1	Incomplete	Operational
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a drainage swale on the southern end (closest to the BMX track) away from the netball courts and top dress as required. 	1	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to finalise a lease agreement with the Wonga Park Cricket Club and the Wonga Park Netball Club for the shared use of the sports pavilion. 	1	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the opportunity to use one or both of the ovals at Wonga Park as 'overflow' venues and associated works for this to occur. 	1	Superseded	Fully occupied
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to monitor the height and use of existing jumps to maintain safety 	1	Ongoing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate reconstruction of the intermediate level jumps 	1	Incomplete	Operational
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain ongoing discussion with users regarding the design of the jumps to cater for all levels. 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace existing signage at the BMX dirt jump track with updated information. 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the Gooligulch play space in accordance with Council's maintenance program. 	1	Ongoing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once the Gooligulch equipment can no longer be appropriately and efficiently maintained it should be phased out and consideration be given to relocation of site and paths linking site with other Reserve facilities. 	3	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace the existing play equipment between the Wonga Park Community Hall and the tennis courts. 	2	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construct a circuit pedestrian path around the Reserve and for distance markers to be place along the path. 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the pedestrian policy, walking strategy and audit of routes address the pedestrian access to and around Wonga Park 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install "horse riding prohibited on oval" signs at the entrance to both sports ovals. 	1	Complete	

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Action plan from 2008 Management Plan-3-1

Recommendations	Priority	Status	Comments
Community Services and Facilities			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a community facility plan and for this to include consultation with all stakeholders including the Wonga Park community of 1972; today's community; groups working with young people (YMCA, church groups; relevant Council Units); and, all groups who have requested usage, including Park Players theatre group, CFA and private practitioners. 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate some funds from Infrastructure Asset Refurbishment Replacement Strategy (IARRS) to bring the former Burch Memorial Preschool building to a satisfactory standard when the use is determined. 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the 'child proof' fencing around the outside of the former Maternal and Child Health Service (Community Hall). 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer survey results to YMCA to address the identified need to provide for young people in Wonga Park. 	1	Incomplete	
Environmental			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a 'flora list' to assist with the effective monitoring and management of vegetation at Wonga Park Reserve. Furthermore, a monitoring process should include the gathering of some vegetation data such as 'photo points' (for at least Zone 1 and 2). 	1	Unknown	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake various environmental improvement and maintenance works in the Reserve as per the Environmental Plan to improve the biodiversity of vegetation including weed management, controlled burning, new mowing regime to sustain remnant grassy understorey, rabbit control, indigenous plantings, the retention of dead vegetation. 	1	Unknown	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rabbit control works continue at the Reserve including regular searches for rabbit holes and appropriate hold collapse and regular spot counts of rabbit numbers should also continue. 	1	Unknown	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council support local residents through education on rabbit control measures and how residents can assist with removing and preventing any new rabbit harbours. 	1	Unknown	
Building and Support Infrastructure			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a picnic and BBQ area, including bins, southeast of car park. 	2	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To investigate the construction of public toilets being attached to both sporting pavilions 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop traffic plan for main car park, next to bottom oval, to improve safety and circulation, traffic calming measures considering speed humps, landscaping, bollards etc 	1	Incomplete	

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Action plan from 2008 Management Plan-4-1

Recommendations	Priority	Status	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replace the fencing when required with the existing 'post and wire' style fence to retain the rustic and unique country feel to the Reserve (except for the 'post and rail' style fence marking the BMX track which should be retained to preserve the high visibility of this recreational area). 	1	Incomplete	Operational
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade the steps connecting the Goolgulch play space to the netball courts. 	1	Complete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade seating throughout the Reserve incorporating seating with backs and arm rails. 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install underground piping/drainage to carry the treated septic discharge from where it enters the Reserve (southern boundary) down the embankment into the drainage pit on the edge of the oval. 	1	Incomplete	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor the implementation of the Management Plan. 	1	Ongoing	Operational
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A major review of the Management Plan is carried out by Council 5 years after the implementation of the Capital Works recommended in this Management Plan. 	1	Incomplete	

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Appendix 2. Facility requirements from the peak bodies

Facility guidelines summary from Football Victoria

Natural turf playing surface	Required field size (length and width)	Run out: goal line and sideline	Associated structures to the field	Lighting Lux.	Other / Club room / spectators / social / Canteen	Toilet, Change rooms / referee	Gradient/ fall across playing surface /Orientation	Car parking / access
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Playing Surface must be even and flat with a complete coverage of grass. Either natural grass or FIFA approved artificial grass pitches may be used. For natural turf pitches, the height of the grass may not exceed 30mm for competition play Cricket pitches of any type will not be permitted in the Competitions, but they may be allowed under exceptional circumstances in grassroots competitions, All lines must be of the same width - <u>not</u> exceed 12cm. Line markings must not harm users or damage grasses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Length NPL - 100-105m x 60-68m Local and Community, Senior - 96-105m x 60-68m Junior - 90-105m x 50-68m Preferred 105 x 68m 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum buffer zone 3m to any structure/perimeter fence. 5m on Technical Side to allow for Team Benches. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covered players race, no less than 2.2m (high) x 2m(w), from change rooms to playing field. (NPL only) A pathway for players between the dressing rooms and the field of play is clearly visible and defined. Pitch perimeter fence must be constructed of substantial material (i.e. cyclone wire) at least 1m high. Goal posts must not exceed 12cm Two covered team benches or equivalent seating with adequate seating for 9 people on each bench. A technical area must be marked for each team on opposite side of the halfway line, on the same side of the field. Permanent and fixed scoreboard. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NPL and NPL 2 - 200 lux for competition. 100 lux for practice match and training. All other competitions 100 lux minimum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preferably, the pavilion is to be located on the western or south/western side of the pitch, with covered spectator areas between the building and the pitch. Where multiple pitches are proposed (refer to functional relationship diagram under Section 4.0), the pavilion may be located between the two pitches and running in a north-south direction, with the main pitch preferably to the east of the pavilion Multipurpose/social room - site dependent Kitchen Kiosk – site dependent A fully functional Public Address (PA) system must be provided Covered viewing area NPL 500 people seated (300sqm). Preferred tiered seating. Community senior 80-100sqm (approx. standing room for up to 200 people Junior 25-50sqm Media viewing and Broadcast/filming – NPL only 15sqm each 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change rooms NPL Min 4 change per pitch (min 35sqm each). Community senior and junior 2 x 25sqm. Officials 20sqm. Player amenities – NPL 4no. @ 25sqm (min. 3 pans, 3 showers in each) Community senior and junior Player amenities Officials NPL 12sqm (Dedicated toilet and shower required - 2 pans, 2 showers) Community senior and junior Dedicated amenities not required. Can be shared use with public DWC. Public Toilet blocks. NPL 45sqm. Community 20sqm. Public disabled 7sqm (no more than 100m from ground). First aid room. NPL 10sqm. Senior – no minimum. Junior - Screened off area, no dedicated area required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max. gradient 1% of the pitch. Ideally playing pitches are to be orientated to be within 10 to 15 degrees of the north-south axis in order to reduce glare associated with players looking directly into the sun 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close proximity with pavilion and include drop off point and ambulance access. DDA compliant size. Lighting all hours

Source: Football Facilities Building Development Guide. Football Victoria

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Community Cricket Facility Guidelines

Pitch size	Required field size	Run out:	Associated structures to the field	Lighting Lux.	Club room / spectators / social	Toilet Change rooms	Gradient/ /Orientation	Car parking / access
<p>Synthetic pitch - The dimensions of a synthetic cricket pitch should be in the range of 25.0m to 28.0m long and 2.4m to 2.8m wide</p> <p>The dimensions of a turf pitch are 20.12m long (from stump to stump), plus a minimum of 1.22m behind the stumps to accommodate the return crease and bowler approach area. The width of a turf pitch is 3.05m wide.</p>	<p>Open Age (Community Club)</p> <p>Minimum 50m Recommended 60m from centre of pitch</p>	<p>Where multiple playing fields are provided within the one playing area, a minimum 2m buffer between boundaries is recommended</p>	<p>Ground fencing</p> <p>For a Club (home) or Club (satellite) cricket ground a cyclone mesh wire fence at either 900mm, 1050mm or 1200mm around the playing field is desirable.</p> <p>A minimum 60m² space is recommended for a Club (home) turf cricket pitch ground and 80m² for a Premier/Regional level facility. A 30m² curator storage facility is desirable at a Club (satellite) ground, if it's a turf pitch venue.</p> <p>Ensure the scoreboard is placed in a location that provides optimal visibility for spectators and players and if electronic (LED) consider the impacts of afternoon sun glare on its readability.</p>	<p>International, national – Centre square Av 750 lux. Outfield 500 lux.</p> <p>Regional, local - Centre square Av 500 lux. Outfield 300 lux.</p> <p>Training - Centre square Av 300 lux. Outfield 200 lux.</p>	<p>Social community or multipurpose room</p> <p>Premier/Regional 150sqm</p> <p>Club - home 100-150sqm</p> <p>Club – satellite 80sqm</p> <p>Kitchen and kiosk incl. store Premier/Regional 33sqm</p> <p>Club - home 23-33sqm</p> <p>Club – satellite 20sqm</p> <p>Admin – all levels - 15sqm</p>	<p>Change rooms Premier/Regional</p> <p>30-45sqm x 2</p> <p>Club - home 20-30sqm x 2</p> <p>Club – satellite 20-30sqm x 2</p> <p>Amenities 25sqm x 2</p> <p>Club - home 20-25sqm x 2</p> <p>Club – satellite 15-20sqm x 2</p> <p>Umpires Room inc. shower toilet</p> <p>All levels – 15sqm</p>	<p>Ideally, cricket playing fields should fall in all directions from the centre pitch area, but failing this, they should have a single-phase slope of 1% in any convenient direction.</p> <p>The slope of a turf pitch should not exceed 1% and follow the slope pattern of the oval.</p> <p>It is recommended that cricket grounds and pitches are orientated in a north-south direction to minimise the effect of a setting sun on players, with a suggested optimum orientation of 10-15 degrees east of north.</p> <p>Cricket training nets should have a north-south orientation, or a maximum of 30 degrees east or west of north</p>	<p>Change rooms Premier/Regional</p> <p>50 spaces minimum</p> <p>Club - home</p> <p>40 spaces minimum</p> <p>Club – satellite</p> <p>30 spaces minimum</p>

Source: Community Cricket Facilities Guidelines. Guidance Note 9. Support Infrastructure. September 2015

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Netball Facility Guides (Summary) – Netball Facility Hierarchy and standards (Local Level)

STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

ITEM	LOCAL
Number of courts	1-3 courts
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified games and programs Junior participation and skill development Training and Competition Community use Regional Victorian Netball League
Court specifications	Compliant courts
Surface type	Acrylic, asphalt (outdoor), sprung timber (indoor)
Multi-lined	Yes
Goal posts	3.05m height 60mm-100mm diameter NetSetGO adjusted to 2.4m height
Goal post padding	3m high to full length and diameter of post. 2.4m length for NetSetGO
Lights	Indoor Lux: 300 training, 500 competition Outdoor Lux: 100 training, 200 competition
Fencing around courts	If required

COURT AREAS

ITEM	LOCAL
Team bench	2 team benches per court to accommodate min. of 10 people each. Recommend 6m length bench or tiered seating with 2 x 3m length benches, plus space for a wheelchair/standing area required (0.915m width min.)
Team shelter (outdoor only)	For outdoor courts only: 2 shelters per court Prefer 4.5m length x 2m depth (assumes tiered seating and includes space for a wheelchair/standing area min. 0.915m width x 1.525m* depth area).
Officials bench	1 bench per court to accommodate min. of 2 people. Recommend min. 1.2m length bench plus 0.915m for a wheelchair/standing area.
Officials shelter (outdoor only)	For outdoor courts only: 1 shelter per court Prefer min. 2.5m length x 1.6m depth (includes space for seating plus a wheelchair/standing area min. 0.915m width x 1.525m* depth area).
Player amenities	Min 2 areas, min 14m ² each area Unisex facility – min 1 shower, 2WCs and 2HBs in each area

SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE & AMENITIES

ITEM	LOCAL
Player change rooms	Min 2 rooms, min 20m ² each room The 20m ² floor area is a minimum size and based on 14 players using a room at the one time.
First aid room	1 room, min 10m ²
Umpires changerooms and amenities	Min 3 unisex rooms. Min 2 changerooms: min 5m ² each (1WC, 1HB in each) Min 1 changeroom: min 5m ² each (1 shower)
Umpire duty room	1 room, min 10m ²
Public toilets in pavilion/stadium	Guide: 2 rooms, min 12m ² each room Min 2WCs, 2HBs in each room
Accessible toilet/shower/ baby change area	1 area – unisex, min 8m ² 1WC, 1HB, 1 shower, 1 baby change table
Spectator shelter (outdoor courts only)	Min 20m ² per court
Spectator seating	Bench seating or suitable spaces to accommodate approx. 30 – 50 people per court.





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PAVILION & CAR PARKING

ITEM	LOCAL
Administration office	Min 1 office, min 12m ²
Tournament office	-
Canteen/kiosk/kitchen	Min 1 area, min 14m ²
Multipurpose/social/function room	Min 25m ² Kitchenette/bar
Storage	Indoor and/or outdoor – min 20m ²
Media room	-
Car parking	Type and number of spaces to be determined by a traffic/parking assessment. Pick up/drop off point provided within the car parking area. Bus facilities required. Accessible parking spaces to be provided.

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Appendix 3. Site analysis photos and observations

Pavilions			
		<p>Main Pavilion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main sporting pavilion is located on the northeast of the main ground. It is some distance from the grounds, yet elevated and with good views of the main ground. Typically, the best orientation for a pavilion is on the northwest of a ground to minimise the issues of sun glare for scorers and spectators. • In its current position it cannot serve the netball courts and the oval number two – because of distance to these fields of play. • There is a need for support facilities to serve each of these facilities however there is no central location that will work for all facilities due to the levels, distance between facilities and location of significant vegetation which cannot be cleared. • The main pavilion does not have a female friendly change facility. This is not helping the clubs encourage female participants. It does not have adequate storage to service two sports codes. • There is an umpire's room and small store. • The pavilion is a small model but has good sized social area. • The pavilion aesthetically is nice set into the slope and the colour of the building blend in with the colour of the grass and the golden elms. • The slope to the west of the pavilion has not been treated or planted and it has a relatively poor unvegetated slope. 	
			

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Pavilions



- The main pavilion has one open change room area divisible by two
- The showers in the room and the accessible toilet were full of equipment and chairs etc., suggesting a shortage of storage. The pavilion doesn't appear to have a cleaner's store where brooms etc., are stored. These are currently stored in showers/toilets.
- There is space to the west of the pavilion where additional change facilities could be provided. The slope is quite steep and eroded.
- The netball store is at the rear of the pavilion. If netball players need to go to the toilets, they need to be accompanied which takes volunteers out of the game.
- The main pavilion is some 80m from the netball courts.
- In summer it appears that the social space is adequate for the range of activities currently supported at the ground including finals with the ability of spreading out onto the terrace.
- For the winter codes the area of social space is considered small.

Small Pavilion

- The small pavilion adjacent to the oval number two is located on the southeast side of the oval and it has relatively poor viewing of the oval because of the position of the site screen and major mature trees surrounding the oval.
- The facility has recently had a toilet provided however it is overall functionally obsolete and may be best replaced with a small satellite pavilion with better viewing capability of the ground and functionality for the sports it has only one toilet and no formal change rooms exist in the pavilion and

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Pavilions



offers very limited storage for football and cricket. This toilet is mainly used for storage.

- The only clear viewing area around the oval is where the current practice wickets are these two open wickets provide an important option for people to practice outside of formal cricket games however, they are in shade their position is not compliant with desirable codes and their condition is relatively poor. There is in adequate space around the existing pavilion to replace it with a code compliant new pavilion.
- One option would be to provide a small replacement satellite pavilion- which will need be smaller than the community level pavilion, due to limited space between trees, and provide a good viewing area for spectators and the teams, with several toilets and a shower.
- With the provision of a satellite pavilion adjacent to Oval No. 2 there would still be a migration of players down to main pavilion after the game for end of play social activities.

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Oval No. 1



- The oval is an irregular shape. With a flat area off the northwest side. The pitch runs east off north and the tenth off the oval along this axis is 120m and approx. 103 m wide
- The oval is couch grass and appears in reasonable condition when observed in summer.
- The soils appear to be cracking clay and the reported drainage problem may be as the water can't get away and sits on top of the clay. There are some large drainage grills evident in the south of the reserve either boundary.
- There are 4 light towers with training lights.
- The oval is used by the school groups as overflow for their sporting events.
- The oval was being used by a couple and a dog when visited
- The oval is fenced. A black wire chainmesh and pipe rail fence is positioned around the perimeter with signage facing inward.
- There is some evidence of rabbit activity just outside the oval boundary fence.

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Oval No. 1



Oval No. 2



- The oval has a slope through the middle of the cricket pitch. The pitch runs north-south. The turf is not uniformly dense and is being robbed by the overshadowing and root invasion of trees which have encroached. The soils appear to be cracking clay and the reported drainage problem may be due to the water can't get away and sits on top of the clay. There are 4 light towers with training lights that have just been installed. The oval is used by the school groups for their sporting events.
- The oval is partly fenced. A chainmesh and pipe rail fence is positioned around the perimeter.
- The sight screens are old and in poor condition. Typically, they would be on the best ground, but the field is dark.

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Cricket nets



Oval No. 1 cricket nets - Locked

- There is a four-lane practice synthetic grass practice wicket with solid black wire mesh fencing all around.
- These practice nets are locked and not open for public use.
- The synthetic grass against the natural grass of the oval on that side and the board fence joins the practice wire fence of the wickets are open to the oval on the east. The roof is partly netted; the inner lane nets are retractable.



Oval No. 2 cricket nets - Unlocked

- The two practise nets on **Oval No. 2** run directly off the oval.
- There is a break in the vegetation here and clear viewing onto the oval.
- The nets on **Oval No. 2** are in relatively poor condition and are slippery however they are open for public use.

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Sight screens



- Sight screens are typically only provided on high level cricket grounds, and when the background may be dark or distracting. However, they are often moveable, so they don't restrict reviewing etc.,
- The Oval No. 2 has permanent site screens which are timber and painted white. They are not moveable. The one adjacent to the pavilion is in fairly poor quality and obstructs viewing from the pavilion.
- If they are to be removed the club should be asked if it wishes them to be replaced or located on the other ground.

Netball courts



- The netball courts are oriented north south.
- There are 2 courts side by side situated between the two ovals on the south side. They are asphalt and look in only a reasonable condition.
- The edges are starting to deteriorate from weed invasion. They don't have an acrylic coating so would be rough for falls.
- There is a lot of leaf litter and debris that comes down the slope onto the courts photo.
- Courts have lights (non-compliant) and are fenced with black wire fencing. The run outs are narrow.
- There is a clutter bridge that links to the courts. The bridge access is from a sealed path. The asphalt at this point is deteriorating. The bridge was part of the original Gooligulch play space.
- Vegetation is creeping through the fence in some spots.
- Courts are eighty metres from the pavilion which means at night children can't go alone and it

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Netball courts



- requires an adult to go with them. That is not sustainable or safe.
- The court fence is only on two sides. There are bollards on the other two.
- The close proximity of vegetation means there will also be leaf litter on the courts.
- There are two older style bus shelters play boxes on the court sides
- Debris migrates down the adjacent slope, onto the courts.
- There is a basketball ring on one side which is great to provide social recreation opportunities for residents although it's not clear whether or not people are aware of this court.
- There are stairs from the courts to the playgrounds above, however there are several desire lines down the slope - one on either side of the steps. Suggesting the steps do not reflect the main direction people are travelling.
- There is a sealed path directly from the car park to the netball courts.

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External storage



- There is a major storage shed, storage cage for goals and stand with goal begin the shed with a roller door.
- This storage shed is a long way from the pavilion. This storage shed is for all the maintenance equipment.
- The on-ground storage cage is difficult to access.
- The main storage is seasonal, so the clubs need to move all their equipment out at the end of the season.

Water



- There is a purple and back pipe running around the north-west side. It is not clear most memorable moments whether this is recycled water from the pavilion.
- The lane tank is adjacent to the storage pavilion. It is enclosed with a fence with barbed wired on the top.
- Staff indicate that the tanks were provided during the drought, but we're not connected into anywhere they were filled by tankers.
- There are plans to relocate these to another ground.

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Dirt bike jumps



- There are dirt bike jumps on the eastern boundary of the reserve.
- Some use is evident.
- The surface has screenings on it, most likely to address drainage. Some of the small jumps are overgrown. The jumps have been cannibalised, with holes apparent, and the lips are worn.
- There is not a lot of scope for skill development with graded challenges etc.
- The bike jumps track consists of several runs of tabletop jumps and a berm return.
- There surrounds are rough unirrigated turf.
- There is no signage, shade, and limited boundary screen planting etc.
- There is no emergency marker.
- There is a single water fountain.



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Tennis club

Tennis courts

- The club has eight courts - a good mix of surfaces suitable for older social surfaces and ITF surfaces - hard court, as well as en-tout-cas.
- The court nearest to the hall is their oldest hard court and it needs to be resurfaced.
- Some surplus en-tout-cas material has been dumped outside of the tennis courts into the Reserve. This issue was identified in the Management Plan (2008), however it may not be current.
- The opportunity to use this court for netball training or other community uses such as basketball could be explored in the next occupancy agreement arrangement, instead of building additional courts in the reserve.
- The hard courts positioned in both the north and the South would be suitable for other activities and also for wheelchair tennis the accessibility from the southern courts to the pavilion is difficult and from the pavilion to the road is difficult.

Tennis pavilion

- The pavilion is nicely positioned, modest even though not on the north side of courts. The closure is locked except for when the courts are being used.
- The pavilion has been extended in recent years. It has a nice relationship with the adjoining courts.
- The pavilion is not accessible from the Old Yarra Road and possibly not from the hall side as the paths between the courts are quite narrow.

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Tennis club



- The clubhouse is not directly accessible from Old Yarra Rd where the car park is located it is relatively steep.
- There may be an opportunity to create an access path from the Hall between the top two courts down to the car park.

Boundaries

- The whole club site is in a heritage overlay area.
- The east edge of the tennis courts has a number of indigenous mature trees, but the area is mown and is weed infested in places.
- There is no sign on the Tennis Club adjacent to Yarra Road advertising its presence.
- There appears to be adequate space to continue the perimeter trail south from the hall along Yarra Road and back to the Old Yarra Road, south of the courts.
- If the vegetation encroaching on the ovals needs to be removed this would be an area which could offset any removed trees.

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Wonga Park Hall



- The Wonga Park Hall was built in 1908. It is a heritage listed building and therefore it has a heritage overlay. The heritage significance relates to The Wonga Park Hall and Mechanics' Institute "reflecting the development of Wonga Park from the Eight Hour Pioneer Settlement through to the present time".
 - In the past the hall was used for many different community events but today it is vacant and only used for hall hire.
 - The hall has an old fence that surrounds the eastern side of the Hall.
 - There are some items of play equipment in the vicinity of the Hall some which are quite old such as the miracle spinner and others which have been installed more recently, they do not appear to be designed in a coherent way that offers an attractive place for play.
 - The hall has two ramps to enter the hall, one at the front and the other at the eastern entrance.
 - The hall has accessible car parks close to the top hard court.
 - This area has the best views from the reserve looking at east however these are obscured by the separate toilet block.
 - This area is also one where some additional revegetation and reinstatement of the understory could occur.
-
- The Hall has several large sensing Pines at the rear and one palm tree.
 - The car park is unsealed and has worn into the landscape it is also unappealing and dusty and should be contained unsealed or with permeable surfaces with designated car parks and pedestrian entry to launders Ave.

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Car parking, buses, and access



Car parks

- Carparks on the reserve include the following:
- The main car park is a sealed circular parking space with marked parking options as you move through. This space allows for around 50 cars. There is one accessible parking space.
- The tennis court car parking is directly off Old Yarra Rd. The tennis courts have no off-road car park. The parking is not sealed and there are no designated parking spaces. There are several large Pines in this area.
- There is a small pull-off car park on the north of Oval No. 2 opposite the tennis courts.
- There is an unsealed car park associated with the hall. The car parks are not defined and the surfaces around the hall generally are poor. There is a proposal to seal this car park to serve the gym and the shop redevelopment opposite the hall.
- The Burch Memorial Kindergarten and the Community Cottage are served by a sealed car park which would appear to also serve users of the Gooligulch play space.
- Launders Avenue can be used for parking at busy times (i.e., when club sport is being played). Residents have stated that their driveways can be blocked, and the road curbs can become very boggy in winter.

Buses

- Buses often park on park on Old Yarra Road. This area adjacent to the tennis courts is easier for busses to access than the main car park, which has a large number of overhanging branches. If there are other cars in the car park the bus drivers find it very difficult to turn around.

Access

- The reserve has a separate entrance and exit, both of these are from Launders Avenue.
- The shared path that comes down to the cricket nets is also a maintenance and emergency vehicle access serving the oval.
- Old Yarra Road showing the limited verge, and tennis car park to the north.

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Car parking, buses, and access



- Even though Launderers Avenue is wide, there is a very narrow shoulder.
- It is difficult to park along the road without impacting on residents, and difficult to walk on the eastern side.
- There is considerable vegetation in the road reserve.

BBQ area and play spaces



BBQ area

- There is one two burner gas BBQ in the reserve.
- The BBQ maintenance staff said its rarely used -especially in the last week. He only has had to dust.
- The facility was later observed being used by a man and his wife and one child on the playground. He was cooking on the BBQ. But wasn't using the BBQ plate. He said they often come down during lunch time. The child was playing in the mulch.
- There are three beautiful golden elms in the vicinity.
- There are several picnic tables which can be used by people with disabilities although the access to these is across mulch the slope.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

BBQ area and play spaces



Play spaces

- There are three play spaces on the reserve: East of the main pavilion and Oval No. 1, near the Wonga Park Hall, and the Gooligulch play space adjacent to the dirt bike jumps and the Wonga Park Community Centre.
- East of the main pavilion and Oval No. 1
- There is a small playground overlooking Oval No. 1 in from the main car park. This is a junior combination unit, with slide, climbing rungs, climbing wall and two swings one strap and one toddler seat, and a spring toy. There are roman rings and a horizontal ladder. There is also an underdeck shop but is not accessible to children using a mobility device as the soft fall is loose mulch.
- Typically, the best position for a play space servicing sport is in the field of view for someone watching the game. It is too far west for this although the trees are beautiful there.
- This area apparently attracts people to the Oval No.1 edge and several people have fallen down this slope.
- Near the Wonga Park Hall
- The play space near the Wonga Park Hall is an older style play space that is poorly located and designed.
- The play space is tucked away behind the Wonga Park Hall and the tennis courts, if you did not know they were there you would not use them.
- This play space is used by members of the tennis club particularly on a Saturday morning.

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BBQ area and play spaces



- Gooligulch play space
- The Gooligulch play space has recently been upgraded. It contained the main play structure/ house with a slide, multiple swings sets, with murals, with toddler seats, and extra swing set with strap swings, several platforms e.g. Jonson's Gap and Bandiwallop East, and several spring rockers.
- There is a relatively limited range of play experiences in the play space – e.g., multiple swings and rockers, but no rotating items, or those suitable for people with a disability.
- This play space has high local cultural significance and is probably the most used area of the reserve.

Public toilet block



- The public toilet block is located in the behind the Wonga Park Hall, close to the playground.
- The block contains two all gender accessible toilets. Which is beneficial for the reserve however, the toilets are located in an area that does not see much use and is a long way from the main activity areas of Wonga Park Reserve.
- Schools do not use these toilets when they are using the ovals as it takes too long to take the children there and back.
- The toilets are located in an area that provides great views to the east.
- At the end of the toilet's useful life, it would be desirable to relocate these or integrate them into a building envelope.
- There are several scattered picnic tables in this vicinity the area around the toilets is UN irrigated and the grass relatively rough.

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Public toilet block



Fences and gates



- A lot of the reserve is fenced using agricultural style treated pine and wire for pig mesh in some instances - consistency with biodiversity protection.
- Several fenced entries to the reserve have a central post, and narrow gap between the posts. These may have been designed to stop motor bikes or horses. These restrict access by people with prams and wheelchairs see event oval perimeter boundary fence has a central pole.
- Access down to the top oval from old Yarra Road is through a fenced biodiversity area.
- There is a pipe rail fence along the car park.
- Oval No. 1 is fenced along its boundary in black wire mesh fencing and rails top and bottom.
- Post and wire fencing with steel droppers separate the path and the main road in some instances.
- The tennis courts have multiple fences throughout. Many of these are locked, limiting access to the courts.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

Fences and gates



Accessibility



- The fence openings with the central poles provide a major barrier for people using wheelchair, mobility device or pram. If the post was to dissuade use by motor bikes or horses, and this is no longer common, then these should be removed.
- The access between ovals are stairs that are not accessible for people using mobility devices or wheelchairs. Other sports users say these are slippery and difficult anyway.
- The slope down beside the cricket nets and up to the netball court may need to be regraded and a firm surface put down as these are slippery and steep.
- There is an accessible car space in the main car park and two in association with the Wonga Park Hall. The spaces at the hall are not very prominent.
- There is a picnic table in association with the playground at the main car park. It can accommodate someone using a wheelchair.

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Accessibility



- The tennis courts are not accessible to people other than members.
 - The space between courts will limit access for people using chairs. The lower court in the east would be accessible for a person in a wheelchair. However, the access may not be compliant. The new hard courts are suitable for wheelchair tennis.
 - The path across the slope is causing loose material to migrate on the courts and water to pour onto the court.
 - Access to the pavilion on Oval No. 2 has a post in the middle of the path. The alternative access via the gate is not sealed and not an accessible path of travel.
 - Access to Oval No.1. from the pavilion is via narrow stairs.
 - Access to the tennis pavilion from Old Yarra Road has stairs. It may be possible to take a path from the north of the pavilion across the slope and down to the west end car park on Old Yarra Road.
 - The path around Oval No. 2 has multiple seats along the path boundary.
 - It is important to note that an accessible path of travel does not have to be a concrete or other form of sealed path. It can be compacted natural materials even mulch as has been used in Royal Park in Parkville. The existing path through the northwest of the reserve that is unsealed, is currently accessible.
-
- The area in front of the pavilion down to the edge boundary of the Oval is currently stairs and is very narrow.
 - A goat track has been worn around the oval. Where possible this should be widened and make it safer for people to access and where possible in the new pavilion works create a compliant accessible path of travel down to the Oval.

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Trees and vegetation



- There are pockets of trees which appear to be remnant and some planting in those locations.
- There also quite a few native pines and exotic trees in a couple of key locations, including in front of the car park associated with the ovals, and behind the hall. The golden elms provide good canopy shade. The area is quite compacted underneath the canopy.
- The trees between the car park and Oval No. 2, and along the tennis court boundary in the east have limited or no understories and these do not seem to be in the biodiversity plan to revegetate.
- There are some large mature trees also the reserve edge on Yarra Road below the tennis club. They don't represent a unified theme along the reserve edge. There is a lot of weed e.g., ivy along the that eastern tennis fence line. The Yarra Rd verge is quite open and grassed. It could be replanted, and a path provided along that side.
- The area is invaded by weed species such as ivy on the embankment below the tennis court fence. There is no native understorey.
- Wonga Park Reserve has the areas of managed biodiversity zones (see map).
- There are pockets of what appears to be indigenous vegetation along the western edge of the reserve. There is evidence of this being planted especially at the southern end of Oval No. 1 and trees in a pocket of indigenous vegetation on the western corner of the reserve adjacent to the car park entry.
- The reserve abuts private property behind the dirt bike jumps. There are no trees or boundary planting in this vicinity. Some screening of private uses would be beneficial.
- There are some large trees on the Oval No. 2 boundary. The tree near the pavilion obscures play. The vegetation on the east of the oval has encroached the field of play.
- There would be some benefit of the trees directly on the corner of Yarra Road and Launderers Ave being thinned so the reserve is more prominent passers-by. Further, a large sign at that point identifying all the facilities in the Reserve would be beneficial

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

Trees and vegetation



- The biodiversity zones.
- Ovals have vegetation part way round each and provide screening of the ovals from the main roads and other activities.
- South and west of the oval there are scattered shrubs and clumps of vegetation with mowed grass around them. Some occasional planting of trees is evident in this area.
- To the east of the pavilion there is some low native vegetation and at least one large tree planted on the embankment.
- This vegetation is planted and is starting to encroach on the playing field.
- There is a number of Pine trees on the reserve many of which are showing signs of senescing and some have velvet top fungus.
- There are several senescing pines adjacent to the Hall and a palm tree.
- There are also pines in the tennis car park and to the south of the Oval No. 2.

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Trees and vegetation



- Three golden elms overlook the play space and specific the Oval No.1. They provide significant shade.
- There is a cluster of trees on the southeast wing on Oval No. 1. These are planted and are
- The Biodiversity Management Plan identifies these trees as significant and to be protected.



- Pine trees at the south of Oval No. 1 and on the Launderers Avenue verge.
- If the pines were removed additional native or indigenous vegetation with an understorey could be reinstated.



- Trees have started to encroach onto Oval 2.
- The aerial photo clearly shows that the grounds surface is impacted by roots and overshadowing from these trees.
- In addition, there are large trees around the small pavilion on Oval number 2 which will mean it will be difficult to expand the footprint to meet current standards.
- Trees overhang the cricket Nets on Oval No. 2. and these are slippery.

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Trail and paths



- The roads surrounding the Reserve don't have wide verges or footpaths and a number of people were observed walking with dogs on the road or in the green verge.
- On Old Yarra Road a shared trail with timber fence has been constructed for a short distance adjacent to the Fire Station. This is not continuous because of trees in the verge (from just after the community centre). There are a number of conflicts here: car parking at the tennis clubs, people walking on the road with dogs, garbage bins and a school bus – all trying to share the road.
- The path along Old Yarra Road discontinues after the entry to community cottage. West of the cottage there is no path on either side of the road.
- There is quite a lot of pedestrian activity along this road- children catching a school bus as well as people walking dogs etc., and tennis cars backing out.
- The path can't be extended along the south side of Old Yarra Rd unless several trees were removed.
- There is a narrow unformed path around the oval and netball courts and winds up with playground and the main car park.
- If the Oval is reconstructed this path around the boundary could be formalised left unsealed but provide access from the pavilion down to the cricket n**** meets

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Trail and paths		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The unsealed path runs close Oval No 1. boundary in the south and at that point it has no shelter from trees. The slope up, also is not well vegetated. • Some specimen trees could be planted either side and the trail moved slightly further away from the fence where is some risk of ball escape. However, because Wonga Park is heavily treed, residents value the open area in the south of Oval No. 1. and identify that Kangaroos graze in this area. • Council has added screenings as a surface which make it unsuitable for frail and older people, especially on slopes. The surface is loose and on the steep parts near the netball courts and down past the nets get very slippery. These two areas of the path may need to be sealed. • The surface is loose, and the path needs regrading and widening in parts.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are areas of the path that work through the trees, and then open sunny areas that view kangaroos that graze on the southern slope. • The trail runs around most of the southern section of the reserve. it is relatively unformed although the typical soil conditions look like they are relatively heavy clay so provide a relatively good surface for a trail. Retaining the path as unsealed suits the character of the reserve and walking and jogging. • There is vehicle access from the main car park running southwest to the storage shed and the practice net around the oval. From the nets onward it is for pedestrian use only. •

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Trail and paths



- There is a path or flat standing area that extends across the pavilion and west as part of some terracing the TSGs are lifting at the bottom of the storage and may create a trip hazard. This area is a worn slop and not accessible for someone with a pram or wheelchair.



- There is no clear accessible paths from the pavilion around the oval to the shed and cricket nets - but there is a desirable line/ goat track in this vicinity.
- The narrow path from the pavilion that extend west appears to have planting along it which has not survived.
- The surface of the path along the Oval No. 1. is loose.

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Trail and paths







- The unsealed circuit path continues around the southeast of Oval No. 2 oval and past the small pavilion to the Old Yarra Road - and the tennis courts and Launderers Avenue to create a circuit of the reserve.

Signs



- There are some old signs left as well as the new ones. The existing older signs are routed timber signs in the bush.
- Variety of signage there is a relatively new sign on the eastern roadway and then signs from the east to get to the football and netball car park which are clear and a further one along is provided.
- The sign to the hall is not very prominent i.e., from Yarra Road.
- There are many "don't" signs in some locations i.e., on the Oval No. 1. There is a plastic sign saying no dog droppings horses or motorbikes and then above in a metal sign there is no horses' motorbikes golf practice or cars on this reserve
- There are recycled plastic signs at the entry to the reserve. They have circles depressed into the plastic with white signs. Several have no signs in the depressed areas. It is not clear if these are missing or not. Many of the images have faded and are not clear. Most signs are

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis

Signs		
		<p>“have dogs on lease”, “pick up after your dog” and “no horse riding or motorbike riding”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launders Avenue has a shared path all along the road. There is no shoulder but the road reserve is very wide. After that the verge is narrow and vegetated. • When observed there were garbage bins out on the road as well and a school bus, and cars parking for tennis as well as a man walking his dog on the road. • There are two blue signs indicating direction to the football and netball car parking. • There is a bus stop on Yarra Road close to the hall.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are new signs at the entry to the main car park and also adjacent to the community cottage. • The main reserve sign however would be better placed on the corner of Yarra Road and Launders Ave. • At the moment you need to turn into Launders Avenue before the sign at the hall is visible and then it is a small sign without information about the whole reserve.
Memorial		

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Signs



- There is a rock with a memorial and two flag poles as a memorial to the crickets who have passed away.
- There are embank won where a new pavilion is proposed on the embank on the northeast side of Oval No. 1.

WONGA PARK RESERVE MASTER PLAN

VOLUME 2. ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

April 2022



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

About this document

This document is the Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan, Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities.

The other documents prepared for this project are:

Volume 1: Summary

Volume 3. Situational and Site Analysis.

Volume 4: Consultation Findings

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What is a master plan?

A master plan is a blueprint for the future development, an agreed direction by Council and users about the best way to develop a site, over the medium term. A master plan is not intended to be a commitment to fund development projects in the short term.

Actions in this plan will be progressed if and when funds become available, and may depend on other priorities and grant programs available.



Rear 534 Mt Alexander Road Ascot Vale VIC 3032 Australia
+61 3 9326 1662 info@atleisure.com.au www.atleisure.com.au



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

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Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

1. INTRODUCTION

The following pages set out the key issues and opportunities arising from the situational, site and demand analysis related to Wonga Park Reserve.

Existing conditions are summarised on the plan in Appendix 1.

Volume 1: Situational and Site Analysis images and commentary about specific facilities on the reserve, background information and a summary of information from the stakeholder engagement.

1.1. The Reserve

The Wonga Park Reserve is a sports reserve with significant areas of native vegetation, mainly around the perimeter.

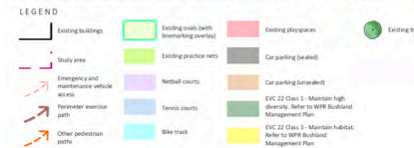
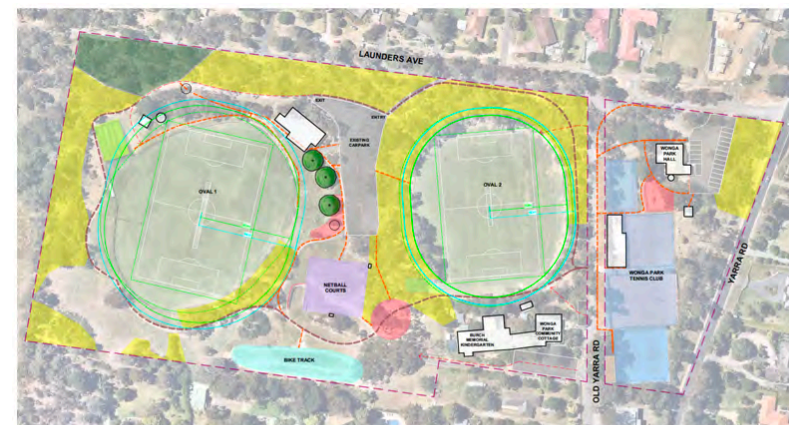
The Reserve accommodates some separate sports and recreation facilities. These include:

- Two ovals used by cricket and soccer-football;
- Oval No. 1 on the west side of the Reserve, which is the larger oval with the major pavilion and associated enclosed cricket nets. This oval is also known as the lower oval.
- Oval No. 2 on Old Yarra Road, which is the smaller oval to the east, has a small support facility, site screens, and two public practice cricket nets. This oval is known as the upper oval.
- Play space and BBQ.
- The Tennis Club, with three hardcourt tennis courts and five en-tout-cas courts.
- The Wonga Park Hall, associated play equipment area and the public toilets.
- The Gooligulch playground (Not included in the scope of this master plan).

- A small dirt bike jump area.
- Two netball courts with a half-court basketball court.
- A perimeter trail

Please see site plan image following.

Also situated on the Reserve is the Wonga Park Hall, the Community Cottage, and the Burch Memorial Kindergarten. These are not addressed specifically in this plan.

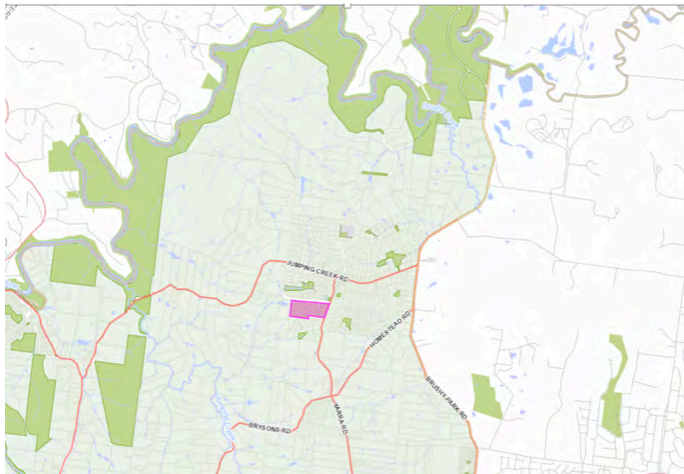


Wonga Park Reserve: Site Plan

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1.2. Context

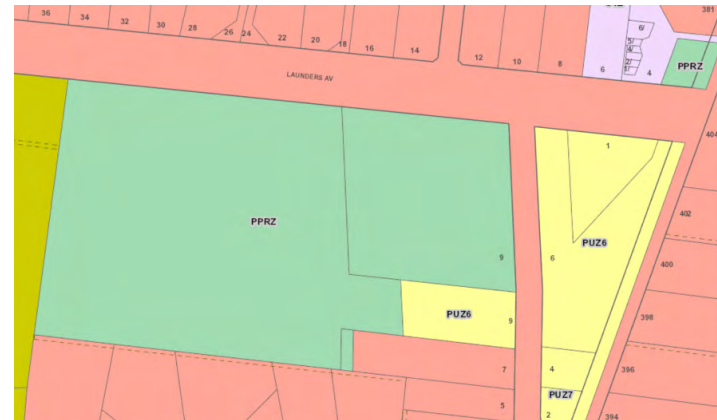
The Reserve is considered by the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020) to be a local Reserve which provide social/family recreation activities for residents of Wonga Park with local facilities for netball, district sporting facilities for cricket, soccer-football and tennis, and play spaces, a dirt bike jumps area and walking paths.



This Reserve offers the only sports facilities in Wonga Park, (see image above) and some areas of significant vegetation.

The site is sloped and undulating which provides some difficulties for the management of sports facilities. The boundaries also have an awkward configuration in relation the adjoining property to the south.

The natural setting and trees are part of the character of Wonga Park and are important to residents, however the Reserve also provides open, flat areas with access to sunlight that are also highly valued by residents because of the bushy and undulating nature of the suburb.



Wonga Park Reserve Planning Zones

Most of the Reserve is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone. See image above. There is heritage, environmental significant and significant landscape overlays over the land. See image below.

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Wonga Park Reserve Planning Overlays

The reserve has a Environmental Significance overlay The heritage overlay HO99 acknowledges the local significance of the Hall (Mechanics Institute) and the Wonga Park Reserve, as “a space long-dedicated to community recreation, is part of its significance.”

1.3. Master Plan objectives

Following a review of site facilities and features, and the community, club, staff and stakeholder engagement, the following objectives for change are proposed.

1. Improve infrastructure to enhance user experience, fit for purpose code compliance and accessibility to users of all ages and abilities.
2. Provide a better balance between needing code compliant, safe and functional sports facilities that can be cost effectually managed, and protecting native and indigenous vegetation and biodiversity values on the Reserve and facilitating the provision of trails, parking, fencing and support facilities.
3. Manage the peaks and levels of sporting use on the Reserve to reduce the impact on playing surfaces, need for car spaces, biodiversity values and residential amenity.
4. Retain and enhance the functionality of the Reserve as a social and active recreation space for residents and users of all ages and abilities.

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1.4. Key risks

The key risks related to the conditions and use of the Wonga Park Reserve as ascertained from site analysis and stakeholder engagement, are as follows.

1. Falling limbs from the senescing pines, given the proximity to the tennis courts and those located in the car park.
2. There is no crossing marked across the car park, from where the path runs down from Oval No. 2 to the main pavilion.
3. The poor condition of the fields of play; the surface of netball courts and the ovals in winter, that may lead to player injuries.
4. The design of paths that travel down slopes, in particular the path/vehicle access down passed the cricket nets, the path down the slope from the netball courts to the south of Oval No. 1 and the stairs from Oval No. 2 to the car park.
5. Potential falls down the batter in front of the play/picnic area at the east of the main pavilion, and at the front of the pavilion.
6. The dirt bike jumps are not being regularly maintained.
7. There is a conflict between pedestrians and vehicles along Old Yarra Road.
8. If all playing surfaces are not in good condition, code compliant and lit, then there is a risk of participation declining.
9. Potential vegetation encroaching on playing surfaces that leads to slipping, poor turf quality and playing field dimensions being compromised.
10. The lack of female/family friendly, and accessible facilities as well as programs, will limit potential participation by some user groups.

2. THE OVALS AND ASSOCIATED PRACTICE NETS

2.1. The key issues

- The Reserve is a sports reserve, and a State significant biosite that provides many active recreation opportunities. It is the only sports reserve in Wonga Park. The ovals are used for regional cricket competitions including finals, as well as local sports including soccer-football.
- Over the years there have been some encroachments by the planting of vegetation on the boundaries of the fields of play that make them smaller than preferred playing field dimensions, affect the surface quality, growth of turf, safety of oval surfaces and restrict viewing, and functionality of the fields for district and some regional competitions such as cricket finals.
- Councils *Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (December 2020)*, and *Active for Life Recreation Strategy 2019*, clearly articulates the aim of increasing the capacity of existing, and maximising the capacity of new facilities, to create more participation opportunities for a growing population. The clubs that use the grass playing fields do not provide for female participation in the same way, as males. However, it is acknowledged that there are constraints to sporting use because of the separate ovals, site topography, and the extent of vegetation.
- Inadequate drainage, high levels of use and vegetation encroachment has resulted in poor surface quality and condition, making them unsustainable for winter sport.

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- See video highlighting the condition of Oval No. 1 in winter.
https://apac01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2F7AAzIZOTJ_Y&data=04%7C01%7C%7C7c0edbbac643476982da08d9588cac76%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637638184134711891%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Iik1haWwILCjXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=gqG%2BoqiiH%2FAhIxnhesdej77eIAR5MTUhtJKq3ghBXlo%3D&reserved=0
- The size and shape of Oval No. 1 has been somewhat compromised by works including the placement of the cricket nets and water tanks, (on the southwest side, and the planting of vegetation along the south east wing). There is a path also very close to the oval boundary.
- Oval No. 2 boundaries are very short and have been encroached by the growth of the trees on the west, several affective turf growth. The oval does not meet the Cricket Australia minimum field dimensions ¹.
- Due to the ovals being separated, and the surrounding vegetation it is not possible to place the soccer-football field of play to the side of the cricket wicket. There is no other location to play senior soccer-football other than over the cricket wicket, on both ovals.
- The practice cricket nets on Oval No. 1 are relatively new and have an adjacent storage shed and vehicle access. They are locked so not available for community use. The cricket practice nets for Oval No 2 are in poor condition. They are also in shade from vegetation that makes them slippery. The centre cricket wicket and sight screens also need to be replaced.
- Oval use is greater in winter than is sustainable for the condition of the grass playing fields. On a Sunday morning for example, there may be as many as 84 players on the ovals in a one hour period. Local schools now utilise the Reserve more often due too limited outdoor space on campus.
- There is a water tank on the boundary of Oval No. 1. The tank is not currently operational. The amount of water that could be harvested and stored would not significantly contribute to a significant saving in water for irrigation and would require substantial capital investments.
- Council has a lease arrangement with the Cricket Club that included payment to the club to maintain the grounds, one of which was formerly owned by the club. This is an overly complicated arrangement that no longer provides significant benefits to Council or the club , nor a consistency in turf practices across all grounds in Manningham. It is recommended that Council take take over the maintenance program. Preliminary investigations have indicated that this can be undertaken directly by Council for the same cost as the fee paid to the cricket club, i.e. financial impact is cost neutral.



¹ Cricket Australia guidelines state that for open age community club cricket the field dimensions need to be a minimum of 50m (Cricket Australia, 2015)

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2.2. Options

- The removal of the practice nets on Oval No. 2.
There is adequate space adjacent to the practice nets on Oval No. 1 for additional nets which could replace those on Oval No. 2 and be open for public use.
- The relocation of the practice nets on Oval No. 2 could provide a more open (without trees) and a better location for support facilities with an unimpeded view of the ground, and closer access to the netball facilities.
- Rescheduling of use could reduce peaks – such as the large number of players in one hour (84 players on the field at 9-10 am) on a Sunday in winter and reduce conflicts in use of the pavilion and demand for car parking.
- If the grounds were reconstructed then at the same time it would be cost effective to address the following:
 - The poor soil profile, poor drainage, and the replacement of Kikuyu turf species with the preferred couch
 - The size and configuration of the grounds
 - Provide a better profile for soccer-football
 - The overgrown vegetation from the perimeter affecting turf growth
 - More permanent pipe work
 - Enhanced irrigation
 - Valves in the new seat design (that acts as a cover).
- One oval of a larger dimension will meet the needs of soccer-football better and provide a 60m radii for cricket. The minimum standard by Cricket Australia (2012) for community level cricket grounds is 50m radii, and the recommended size is 60m. However, Council advise that the vegetation on the southeast wing of the oval is significant and cannot be removed.

2.3. Suggested directions

1. Reconstruct both the ovals to provide much better drainage, soil profile and more suitable turf species.
2. Correct ground shape for Oval No. 1 with an intention to meet a 50m radii, however actual orientation of the oval is indicative and will be subject to detail design. Reorient the oval/wicket when the ground is reconstructed to provide a better footprint for football. Reconstruct Oval No. 2 to its current footprint, pruning the tree canopy to reduce overhang and assist with turf growth.
3. Install two additional open access cricket nets to Oval No. 1 cricket nets. The current storage facility may need to move to allow extra space. The exact position will be determined as part of the oval upgrade. Remove the cricket nets from Oval No. 2.
4. Reposition (if required subject to detail design) the lighting poles and upgrade the lighting bulbs on Oval No. 1 to LED.
5. Install a spectator shelter on the southeastern corner of Oval N.2 (where the cricket nets have been removed). Exact position will be subject to detailed design.
6. Renegotiate the management arrangements with the cricket club and transfer the ground maintenance and associated building back to Council, to reduce the burden on the club and provide a consistency in turf management practices across all Council grounds.
7. Review the levels of use of the ground in winter, in line with the turf carrying capacity, to limit damage.
8. Provide for the replacement of the cricket sight screens.
9. When developing the detailed design for the Oval No. 1 upgrade, consider utilising the existing water tank as part of the design. If deemed the water tank is not usable or required, relocate the tank to another site.

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10. Upgrade sports equipment cages to improve OHS, functionality and increase storage capacity.

3. THE PAVILIONS

3.1. The key issues

3.1.1 Main pavilion on Oval No. 1

- The main pavilion on Oval No. 1 does not have adequate change space to accommodate the required number of players for soccer-football and especially those suitable for females. Storage is also a problem in the main pavilion. One change room, block of toilets and the accessible toilet were filled with equipment and therefore were unusable when inspected. The soccer-football club say the social space is too small.
- This pavilion was constructed in 2014 and Council considers it still functional however the pavilion does not fit into the current Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy Standards.
- The main pavilion is located on the northeast of Oval No. 1. A more westerly orientation would be preferable, in line with sports code requirements. However, the relationship of the pavilion to the ground for spectators and club officiating in the summer season is considered very good by users.
- The front of the pavilion has steps that are very slippery, with players wearing football boots often slipping. The safety railing is located at a height that obstructs the view of the fields when sitting.
- The support facilities, toilets and storage for the netball courts are located in the main pavilion which is located some 80 m away from the courts. Netball

² A support facility could include a gender neutral accessible toilet, shelter, viewing and drink station/hot water and some storage.

Victoria Facility Policy states that supporting facilities need to be within 50m of the netball courts. Young children playing netball need to be accompanied to toilets. This issue has major resource implications for the club.

- The storage space for the netball club is located at the back of the pavilion, this is an isolated spot. In winter when it is dark the netball coaches feel unsafe when putting away their equipment.
- The Sports Club's proposal to create one significantly larger pavilion on the embankment on the southeast wing of the main ground is predicated on the ability and need to expand the netball courts to 4 in the existing location.

3.1.2 Existing small pavilion on Oval No. 2

- The small support facility on Oval No. 2 is functionally obsolete and has poor viewing of the ground due to trees and the placement of the sight screen. It is located on the southeast rather than the preferred northwest.
- The small support facility² on Oval. No. 2 has little use by the players. When Oval No. 2 is being used for cricket, players typically park at the main car park as they migrate down to the main pavilion after the game.

3.2.3 Additional issues

- There are no toilets, shelter, shade or drinking water provided at the netball courts. The Gooligulch play space and bike jumps are also not serviced by such facilities.
- Council has recently declared a Climate Emergency which may present opportunities to include water harvesting and solar energy options in any future pavilion upgrades.

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3.2. Options

1. The Wonga Park Sports Club have proposed a more centrally located main pavilion on the slope west of the netball courts on the east wing of the oval, to serve both Oval No. 1 and netball. The current pavilion was upgraded in 2014, is not at the end of its functional life and hence does not require replacement. The Wonga Park Sports Club relocation would require major earthworks, and not improve its orientation for viewing of the ovals or courts. A more cost-effective option may be to extend the existing main pavilion to provide additional change rooms and storage.
2. Any upgrade or redevelopment of the main pavilion would be required to meet the provision standards contained in Councils Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020). Currently, the main pavilion and small pavilion on Oval No. 2, do not meet the Council policy standards. The main areas of concern are storage, social space and change rooms. The policy standards v's the main pavilion measurements for these spaces are detailed in Table 1. The calculations for change rooms below assume two sets of 2x 45m² change rooms are required. In total the main pavilion requires an approximate additional space of 148m².

Table 1: District pavilion guidelines v's Wonga Park Reserve main pavilion

Facility space	Policy guidelines	Current measurements	Approx. extra space required
Storage	20m ² per tenant	46m ²	14m ²
Social Space	100m ²	88m ²	12m ²
Change rooms 3 change rooms	2 x 45m ²	58m ² 3 change rooms	122m ²

3. Remove the open access cricket nets on Oval No. 2 and replace them with a small support facility that is not required to conform to the current Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020). A support facility could be include a gender neutral accessible toilet, shelter, viewing and drink station/hot water and some storage.
4. Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020), and Netball Victoria strategic direction classifies the netball courts as "local" level under the facility hierarchy. Therefore, provision of a full pavilion is not a requirement of the policy for local courts.
5. A more cost-effective and sustainable option to service netball, in keeping with Council's current sports infrastructure policy, would be to provide a support facility in the vicinity of netball that provides single change and toilets, shelter and storage for a small number of spectators. This small support facility would be located to serve the netball courts could support the users of the dirt bike jumps and the Gooligulch play space.

3.3. Suggested directions

1. Extend the main pavilion on Oval No. 1, by approximately 148m² to the west, for additional change rooms and storage. Improve the surface and levels of the viewing area in front of this pavilion and access from the pavilion west to the cricket nets. Additional areas to be considered in the design phase include the location and facilities in the canteen, an office area and bar.
2. Replace the existing support facility on Oval No. 2 at the current location. This is to include accessible toilets, (Manningham Toilet Plan 2021), drinking station, storage, viewing and shelter.
3. Provide a small support facility to provide an accessible toilets (Manningham Toilet Plan 2021), drinking station, storage and shelter to serve the netball courts and users of the bike park.

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4. THE NETBALL COURTS

4.1. The key issues

- The netball courts received a very poor result from a Netball Victoria Facility Audit (inside EDGE, 2021). The audit scored the courts at 18%. The court length, line-marking, runoff and lighting were not compliant. The court surface has been invaded by vegetation and is rough asphalt. The two shelters provided are damaged, rusty and unusable. A design has been prepared to upgrade lights to a compliant training standard.
- The netball courts are subject to considerable debris and run-off from the adjacent embankment. The invasion of weeds and surrounding vegetation is also a significant problem. Access down the slopes, especially by bikes, needs to be managed and vegetation re-established to prevent loose materials from migrating onto the courts, significantly increasing maintenance costs.
- There is a need for support facilities. The current toilets facilities are too far for children to walk alone to; therefore, additional volunteers are required.
- The Wonga Park Sports Club proposal expands the current two netball courts to four. However, the proposed courts would then be provided east west orientation and expand over the current dirt bike jumps. In addition, the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020) classifies the netball courts as local level (1-3 courts). The courts usage and location does not support the addition of another court. As the ovals support club competition, there does not appear to be a reason why, if competition can be played on two courts, that competition especially social and junior competition cannot be played here.
- A basketball ring and 3-point line are position on the southeast sideline of netball court No. 2. The ring is set at a junior level, height. The backboard is also very worn.

- The netball club runs and junior and senior netball programs from the courts. There are no development programs provided such as Net Set Go, walking netball or mixed netball, and they are not used on all available days.

4.2. Options

- Resurfacing the existing courts is not an option as the current footprint is too small and a tree has invaded the surface. Root barriers and treatment of the adjacent slope and access will be necessary to maintain the integrity of the surface.
- It is recommended the netball courts are constructed with an acrylic surface, however, the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020) states a local level courts has an asphalt surface.
- One court could be line marked for basketball, or Council could provide additional width to the courts and a basketball hoop on the side as in the current configuration.
- Should netball grow participation, use of other courts in the vicinity could be negotiated. The Wonga Park Primary School has two courts, including one undercover court. These may be available for netball training if there is excess demand. One tennis hardcourt could accommodate netball and basketball activities if Council renegotiated the current tennis lease agreement. However, there is no appetite by the tennis club to change the current tennis arrangements.
- The site could not accommodate (nor does it warrant) either moving the main pavilion or supplying an entire pavilion in the vicinity of the courts. However, a small gender-neutral and accessible toilet court-side could service the Gooligulch play and dirt bike jumps. With an accessible toilet, there is some space for a person to change their attire if necessary. This support facility could have a shelter extended from the toilet footprint, a drink standing and seating, and an off-the-shelf modular facility.

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4.3. Suggested directions

1. Reconstruct the courts to provide two full size compliant fields of play, with additional space for 1-2 basketball hoops. Remove the tree stump and supply root barriers around the court and trim any other vegetation. Construct the court in asphalt.
2. Construct a fence around the netball courts. Ensure the fence can withstand use of courts for casual usage such as a game of Futsal.
3. Stabilise and restrict access down the embankments close the netball courts to prevent dirt and debris migration onto the court.
4. Install lighting on the netball courts to 100lux as per Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy.
5. Construct support facilities that include a small gender neutral and accessible toilet (Manningham Public Toilet Plan, 2021) to serve the netball and public, change space, seating, shelter, storage, bins and drinking station court side, that could also service the Gooligulch play space, schools using the reserve and dirt bike jumps.
6. Remove the wooden bridge beside the netball courts, this is outdated and is not well used.
7. Upgrade shelters to be located on the east and west side of the netball courts.
8. Support the netball club to grow their participation and access other courts in the area, where required e.g., Wonga Park Primary School.



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5. BIKE JUMPS

5.1. The key issues

- The dirt bike jumps are the only authorised social/non-club dirt jumps area in the municipality.
- The jumps are not well maintained. It has excavations across the site, the lips of jumps are worn and there is a lot of loose blue metal on the surface – that is not suitable for bike jumps.
- The jumps don't provide a wide range of challenges and there are no opportunities for skill advancement. Residents have requested that the jumps service riders of varying proficiencies, including more advanced riders. A high percentage of respondents to the community survey (53%) (Sport Development Plan, 2022) support Council developing and promoting the jumps with input from the community.
- There appears to be a high demand for a social/non-club dirt bike jumps in this location. It complements the other facilities on the site to provide for social/family recreation for Wonga Park.
- The dirt bike jumps are located at the back of the reserve and are not well promoted or prominent. The Sport Development Plan (2022) identified that 29% of respondents did not know of these jumps.
- The area does not have shelter or support facilities to promote social gathering, or high amenity value. The reserve boundary is relatively poorly screened and landscaped in that location.

5.2. Options

- The Wonga Park Sports Club proposed the development of four netball courts on this space, which removed the dirt bike jumps.
- There may be other bike facilities that could address a wider range of age groups such as a pump track or skill areas, or even a single-track route around the southwest of the reserve.
- Access routes for bikes may need to be designed and monitored around this space, to prevent erosion of desire lines down embankments, that affect playing surfaces, and damage to vegetation.

5.3. Suggested directions

1. Upgrade the bike jumps area in conjunction with local riders to provide more and graded challenges, skill progression and interest.
2. Develop and fund a regular maintenance program for the jumps.
3. Provide shade, tables and seats, associated landscaping and access routes to the dirt bike jumps area.
4. Provide access to toilets and shelter for bike park users in conjunction with the netball courts.
5. Sign/advertise the dirt bike jumps to the community to improve usage.

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6. PATHS

Perimeter exercise path

6.1. The key issues

- The perimeter exercise path is highly valued and well used by residents. Its unsealed nature is consistent with a natural environment theme and the reserve's character. It travels through bushland and open areas of the reserve within viewing distance of sporting activities with opportunities to view wildlife.
- Some improvements can be made to enhance durability, accessibility for mobility devices, and safety. Improvements could include: more stable surfaces on slopes, way finding, removing the centre post on entries, and making the trail distinguishable from other access paths. It is important these improvements are made without diminishing the character and appeal of the trail.
- In some sections the path service maintenance and emergency vehicle access. The condition of the path, the slope and use in several areas (for example down to the cricket nets and southeast of the netball courts) warrant reconstruction and potentially sealing.
- The southwest corner of the perimeter path comes very close to the Oval No.1 boundary, which is short on that side. In the cricket season there could be wayward balls over or under the fence that could hit path users.

6.2. Options

- This trail could be extended and formalised through the area of the reserve east of Old Yarra Road, with a more defined entry at the corner to encourage use. The area along Yarra Road from the hall to the most southerly tennis court has some large trees with grass and weedy understory. This area could be cleaned up to extend the perimeter path as an exercise circuit.
- There are a number of access ways and paths across the reserve. Retaining the perimeter paths as an exercise circuit as independent as possible from these access ways would promote its use for walking and jogging, and reduce potential conflicts with other users.
- Some minor realignments in sections of the trail would reduce potential conflicts between path users, vehicles and sports participants.
- To be suitable for wheelchair use, accessible paths of travel can be unsealed and include mulch and other natural surfaces depending on the slope. Several lengths of path could travel across rather than directly down the slope to increase usability, safety and prevent erosion.
- Council typically seals shared paths with concrete, as this is a cost effective and durable surface, however the path is used for walking and jogging and travels through some areas important for their biodiversity, character and recreational experience. For these reasons it would be desirable for the path surface remained unsealed.

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6.3. Suggested directions-perimeter trail

1. Seek to provide the perimeter trail independent of (but with connections from) the other access ways on the reserve.
2. Improve sections of the perimeter path to provide a stable surface which doesn't easily erode, for walking and jogging and wheelchair use. Improve navigation without excessive signage.
3. Retain the natural feel of the trail surrounds and an alignment that travels through a diversity of settings along the route, including bushland and open areas and with views of the sports activity.
4. Regrade and potentially resurface the section of the trail that runs down from the main pavilion to the cricket nets on Oval No. 1 and up the slope to the netball courts from the south of Oval No. 1.
5. Consider realigning sections of the path to minimise conflict with vehicles and balls.
6. Consider extending the perimeter path in the east of the reserve from the Hall entry and along the tennis court boundary and verge of Yarra Road and revegetate around the trail.
7. Consider installing fitness equipment near the Community Hall. Consider implementation in conjunction with the path design.



Other pedestrian paths

6.4. The key issues

- Secondary paths provide access between the playing fields and facilities and access along roadways and oval boundaries. There is a mixture of path surfaces including some sealed asphalt paths, stepped loose gravel paths and worn desire lines created by consistent pedestrian and or bicycle use.
- The path along the south side of Old Yarra Road is not continuous. It stops at some large trees in the road verge just east of the Community Cottage. This road is narrow is highly used by pedestrians including with dogs and has parking including bus parking along it.
- The gravel path with steps from the car park to Oval No. 2 is steep, has poorly designed steps, a loose surface and is slippery in the wet. Users consider this unsafe.
- The steps from the netball courts to the Gooligulch playground have tracks on either side of the steps that suggest people do not use the steps or that bicycles are using this embankment.
- There is a desire line but no formalised path around Oval No.1 from the main pavilion to the practice nets. This track is narrow, uneven, has tree roots and rocks in the tread way, and is a trip hazard.
- The Wonga Park Hall is isolated from the rest of the reserve. The Tennis Club's fenced enclosure exacerbates this isolation. There is no prominent pedestrian main entry into the reserve from the corner of Yarra Road, from the shops and bus stop.

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- Several critical paths are not accessible to people with prams or mobility devices as they have a centre pole at the entry. In some cases, the paths are located directly down the slope, so they are not accessible to all, and erosion and wash affect the playing surfaces.
- There is no direct path from the reserve's entry passed the hall and Oval No. 2.
- In some locations (e.g., access to the two hard court tennis courts in the south of the tennis complex), wash from paths has affected drainage and delivered debris to the courts. The design needs to address this issue.
- Users report that people have tumbled down the embankment on the eastern side of Oval No.1, near the play and picnic zone, when seeking to get to the boundary for viewing.



6.5. Options

- The siting of paths where people want to walk and across the slope so they can be made accessible will mean they are less likely to erode or be slippery and more likely to be used. In addition, fewer desire lines are likely to form if paths are safe and go where people want to walk, and bikes are restricted from going down these slopes.
- It is desirable to create a public route from the hall between the tennis courts to other reserve areas. This route would make a better connection to the courts and other facilities from the hall and enable the hall car park as an overflow at peak use times. In addition, the path along the north of the tennis pavilion and the most northerly hard court could be regraded across the slope to Old Yarra Road to create an accessible route.
- Council has declared a Climate Emergency and should minimise the area of impervious and low albedo surfaces for paths and car parking.

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6.6. Suggested directions-other pedestrian paths

1. Improve paths and the accessibility of these to people using mobility devices without significantly increasing the area of impervious services.
2. Identify clearly; the emergency access points to sports fields of play and the dirt bike jumps.
3. Improve the connection between the tennis courts and hall precinct, and the rest of the reserve.
4. Formalise a path around Oval No. 1 from the pavilion to the practice nets.
5. Regrade some path sections to reduce the potential for erosion and wash onto playing surfaces.
6. Provide a more prominent pedestrian main entry into the Reserve from the corner of Yarra Road, the shops and the bus stop.
7. Redesign the access from the car park to Oval No. 2, the track between Oval No. 2. and the netball courts to improve safety and accessibility.
8. Paint a pedestrian crossing across the car park to connect the paths on each side.
9. Remove the central posts on pedestrian access points to the reserve to allow access for people using a mobility device or pram.
10. Monitor the use of paths on the Reserve by bicycles, to ascertain any conflicts or wear developing down slopes.
11. Investigate safer access down the embankment to Oval No.1, on the eastern side near the play and picnic zone.
12. Retain most paths with unsealed, porous surfaces as much as possible, in keeping with the natural qualities of the reserve.



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7. PLAY EQUIPMENT

7.1. The key issues

- There is not one large central play space in the reserve with a diversity of opportunities rather the reserve offers three small play spaces. There are also small play spaces at the local school and in other small reserves in Wonga Park.
- The play spaces on the Reserve do not cater for a wide range of ages or abilities, or activities.
- The Gooligulch Play Space has recently been upgraded. It is designed around the Graeme Base story of a Grandma who rides kangaroos, has emus to tea, flies in a pelican's beak and has a wombat as a best friend in the mythical town of Gooligulch. This space holds considerable local significance. The Gooligulch Play Space is not included in the scope of this master plan.
- The play equipment at the Hall is poorly located and designed.
- There is no provision for accessible play opportunities in the reserve.
- There is a basketball ring and 3-point line drawn on the netball court. Its presence may not be obvious to other than local users.
- There are no facilities for wheeled toys, skates, or skateboards in Wonga Park Reserve.



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7.2. Options

- Council officers suggested the opportunity to consolidate the number of play spaces in Wonga Park to provide fewer, but better-quality spaces with greater play value and a diversity of opportunities for all ages and abilities.
- The play space adjacent to main car park and the Gooligulch play space should remain and could be improved to cater for a wider range of experiences and users. Each could target different age groups and be distinct in some way.
- There are several options for the Hall surrounds. These include making the area more focused on older children as it is an area that could attract school children and those visiting the shops/proposed gym. Alternatively the area could be redesigned to have a more environmental theme without traditional play equipment and include history elements such as apple trees reflecting the previous orchard land use.



7.3. Suggested directions

1. If all play spaces are retained, develop the three play spaces to be complementary, and each offer specific experiences targeting different age groups.
2. Redesign the surrounds the hall following the removal of the pine trees and introduce a more environmental and historical focus in the design of picnic and play opportunities, with native flowering plants and apples, reflecting the history of the area. Consider the opportunity for a small skate-able element. The area should be reimagined subject to detailed design to determine what can fit.
3. Thin the vegetation on the corner of the Yarra Road to encourage use and promote views into and out of the area.
4. Introduce social and physical elements for children with a disability in each play space.



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8. THE WONGA PARK HALL

8.1. The key issues

- The Wonga Park Hall and Mechanics' Institute is of local heritage significance, "reflecting the development of Wonga Park from the Eight Hour Pioneer Settlement through to the present time. Its setting within the Wonga Park Reserve, a space long-dedicated to community recreation, is part of its significance."³
- The hall was previously used as a maternal health centre and provided for playgroups and meetings. It now has very limited usage, and its function appears to duplicate that of the Community Cottage. The condition of the kitchen and facilities generally do not encourage use from the sports clubs. There is a heritage overlay over this area of the Reserve.
- The hall is located on potentially the most prominent area of the Reserve at the junction of Launders Avenue and Yarra Road. The bus stop and shops are adjacent, and a number of school children are present in this area. The Reserve and Hall are poorly signed from corner and the building is obscured from the road.
- The surrounds of the hall are visually unattractive with an unsealed car park, and no formal landscaped area, no major pedestrian entry, a large standalone toilet block and scattered play equipment. Some compactions of tree root zones may occur due to the encroachment of the car parking area. There is an old childcare fence around the rear of the hall, this does not serve any purpose and encloses an area that could be opened to the public.

³ Heritage Overlay HO99 Manningham Planning Scheme.

- The large pines near the hall are a characteristic, cultural planting, however they have velvet top fungus and have been dropping limbs, and impact on the amenity and further planting in this area. These are senescing and will need to be removed. There is a palm tree in the vicinity and both planted and indigenous vegetation with high habitat values, around the hall.
- The hall is poorly connected to the rest of the Reserve.
- The stand alone toilet is located in a poor position that obscures beautiful views from the Reserve.
- A sealed car park has been proposed for the hall with designated car parks. It is to be used as overflow for the shops over the road. Using the Reserve for commercial car parking does not seem in keeping with the Reserve function and the heritage overlay.
- Council's preference is not to seal car parks on the Reserve.
- Desirably a major pedestrian entry should be incorporated into any design of roadways or entries.

8.2. Options

- Adding a formalised pedestrian entry to the Reserve in this location, with some thinning of vegetation on the corner, and providing the main sign would make the Reserve more prominent and draw people in.
- The hall could partially address the demand for some social function space on the Reserve for club use. However, the kitchen facilities would need to be upgraded.
- The formal play equipment could either be removed from this location or more suitable facilities for older children's use, provided with planting reflecting the site's heritage significance. Picnic facilities and a small skate area could be considered.

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- Removing the senescing pines would enable more appropriate planting and landscaping of the hall surrounds, including native flowering plants (as planted on Launders Avenue) and apple trees to represent the former orchard land use.
- If the hall car park is upgraded it could be signed as overflow car parking for peak sports use times.

8.3. Suggested directions

1. Remove the senescing pines and the old fencing and play equipment around the hall. Re-landscape the hall surrounds to including native flowering plants. Consider introducing some plant material to reflect the previous land use of the area, for example apple trees.
2. Provide a more prominent pedestrian entry to the Reserve in this location and sign the whole Reserve. Provide better connections via a path to other facilities on the Reserve from this location.
3. Ensure a major path entry is integrated into the design of any new entry or car park and a connection made to the perimeter trail.
4. Redevelop the play space in this area to a space that encourages play and picnicking, has an environmental focus, serves older children and considers some skate-able elements.



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9. TENNIS COURTS

9.1. The key issues

- The tennis club appears a very strong club and offers a range of competitions, coaching, social tennis and development programs and school sport. It is leased to the club and there are no free access courts or hit up walls.
- The tennis club is divided from the rest of the Reserve by Old Yarra Road, and its fenced enclosure providing a physical disconnection from activities on the rest of the Reserve.
- This area of the Reserve has a heritage overlay (HO99) over it.
- The tennis club offers en-tout-cas, and cushioned hard-court surfaces which are a good mix of ITF surfaces for player development. En-tout-cas also suits older players as it is more impact absorbing.
- Two additional hard courts were provided in the 2010, however there is a drainage issue, debris flowing from the path construction and cracking being experienced. There are some issues with the overhang of trees on the courts.
- Current lighting is outdated. Lights are very costly to update when a globe blows out. More energy efficient and cost-effective LED lights are required.
- The courts are served by unsealed car parks directly off Old Yarra Road. There are several pine trees in this car park that are dropping branches. There are no barriers between the tennis court fence and the car spaces or the spectator seating along the fence line.
- The courts also front Yarra Road but are elevated above street level and they are neither prominent nor well signed from the road.

9.2. Options

- There is high demand for hard court activity on the reserve such as social basketball, and possible netball if participation grows. Negotiating some access to the most northerly tennis court for other activities could be considered when the next lease is agreed.
- Access is restricted through the club from the hall to the Old Yarra Road. Routes to address this include the between the most northerly court and the club house or through the courts along the south side of the club house. The latter is more difficult because of the slope down to the road.

9.3. Suggested directions

1. Replace the tennis courts lights with LED lighting.
2. Investigate cracking, debris and drainage issues on the two hard courts in the south.
3. Resurface the tennis court in the north as planned.
4. Review car parking at tennis club as part of the investigations for the traffic management plan. Remove the senescing pine trees and install wheel stops or barriers along the fence line to protect pedestrians from vehicles.
5. Introduce water harvesting and water recycling for use on the en-tout-cas courts. (Water Management Plan, 2008)

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10. OFF-LEASH DOG EXERCISE

10.1. The key issues

- Dog walkers tend to use the perimeter path or the ovals to exercise their dogs.
- There is some concern about owners not picking up after their dogs.
- Kangaroos regularly graze at the south of the Oval No. 1 in the open grassed area.

10.2. Options/suggested directions

1. Ensure the signage of the Reserve requires dog owners to keep their pet under effective control and pick up after them.



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11. ACCESS AND CAR PARKING

11.1. The key issues

- Bus parking and access to the ovals is considered difficult. Buses have difficulty in entering the Reserve due to low hanging trees. If the car park is full, it is very difficult for a bus to turn around. Therefore, they often park in Old Yarra Road and school children have to cross the road to get to the bus.
- Old Yarra Road is narrow, and it is used for on-street car parking, pedestrians walking, school bus parking and children accessing the Reserve. When walkers, tennis car parking, buses, school children and garbage bins are in the roadway there is considerable potential conflict.
- At peak sports times such as Sunday mornings users have been observed parked inappropriately in Launders Avenue and across resident's driveways, etc., While the road Reserve is very wide, most is vegetated. The road pavement is narrow, as are the shoulders.
- There are accessible car spaces in the main car park and two sealed spaces in association with the hall.
- There are three maintenance/emergency vehicle entrances into the Reserve, these are not well signed and can be hard to find. Gates to the entrance points are old and hard to move.
- The entrance gates are padlocked this could be a hindrance to emergency vehicle access.
- There may be some benefit in installing an emergency marker at the bike jumps.

11.2. Options

- One option raised by the community to enhance connectivity between the tennis/hall areas and the rest of the reserve and to minimise conflict between vehicles and pedestrians is to close Old Yarra Road to through traffic. The Fire station would not support a road closure, as it would constrain the movement of fire trucks.
- Better collective scheduling of use of the oval and courts could reduce peaks and pressure on car parking.
- Options for bus parking and turn around on the whole Reserve, and car parking and pedestrian safety in Old Yarra Road will need to be investigated further by Council.



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11.3. Suggested directions

1. Develop a traffic management plan for Wonga Park Reserve. Investigate local traffic management improvements to Old Yarra Road to provide a continuous pedestrian path along the road, safer access to the tennis car parking and entry into the courts and provide adequately for buses to drop of school children in the Reserve.
2. Improve the entrance points to the Reserve and upgrade gates.
3. Install select signage to assist emergency vehicles find the entrance points and attach ambulance Victoria locks.
4. Extend the emergency and maintenance vehicle path at the back of the Wonga Park Community Cottage car park to get closer to the netball courts and the dirt bike jumps.
5. Ensure pedestrian entries are all accessible to people using mobility devices.
6. Consider trimming trees to avoid damage and allow buses to enter and turn around at Oval No. 1.
7. Mark a pedestrian crossing across the main car park for people moving between the main pavilion and Oval No. 2 and at the entry and exit roads from the carpark. Add speed humps before these to slow drivers down.



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12. BIODIVERSITY AND VEGETATION

12.1. The key issues

- The 1962 aerial photos shows limited vegetation on the site, and only one oval (No. 2) surrounded by orchards. By 1974 the tennis courts and second oval (Oval No.1) and the practice wickets had been constructed.



Wonga Park Reserve 1974

- Large areas of vegetation on the reserve has grown, except along the roadways and a narrow band of vegetation along the main car park.
- The Bushland Management Plan for the park shows one zone (Maintain high diversity and other "Maintain Habitat" zones). See following image. One zone (3E) is planted.



Zone areas (ha)	Legend
Class 1: WPR-1A (0.32ha)	■ Class 1 – Maintain high diversity
Class 3: WPR-3A (0.79ha)	■ Class 3 – Maintain habitat
WPR-3B (0.29ha)	
WPR-3C (0.33ha)	
WPR-3D (0.20ha)	

Bushland Management Plan Wonga Park Reserve Zones

- Council's maintenance area has a more fine grained plan showing areas of the highest quality vegetation that is embellished and managed as resources allow. Mowing regimes have been altered to allow regeneration, in some areas and in others exotic grasses and weed species are prominent under mature trees.

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- Vegetation has been planted, regenerated and grown around on the perimeter of the fields of play to the point where some areas are now contributing to poor quality turf, undersized fields of play, and risks to players of injury, as well as high costs of removing debris from netball and tennis courts.
- Vegetation also impedes sight lines across the reserve from the support facilities, and impacts on the safe use of the practice nets on Oval No. 2.
- On the netball courts weeds on the edges have penetrated the asphalt and tree growth through the court and fence is impacting on the safety of courts use.
- Wonga Park residents highly value their bushy and rural surrounds and does not favour further sealing of tracks, car parks and removal of vegetation on the reserve, etc., However they also rely on the reserve for flat area open areas for active recreation and areas along the perimeter path that are sunny and open to the sky. They do not wish to see the area south of the oval along the perimeter path to be planted with trees, or the grassland where kangaroos currently graze.
- Most of the site now has an environmental significance overlay over it (Mapshare, 2022). There is a heritage overlay HO99 over the Reserve between Old Yarra Road and Yarra Road. The statement of significance highlights that the sporting uses "long-dedicated to community recreation, is part of its significance."The vegetation should be managed to maintain this significance.
- There are pockets of senescing Radiata pines on the reserve. There are several along Old Yarra Road in the tennis car park that have dropped limbs and are too close to the tennis courts. The pines have been inspected by Council's arborist. Those near the hall have velvet top fungus and limit other more suitable vegetation to be planted. There are also several on the Launderers Avenue boundary in the south, however they do not provide a conflict with reserve use at the present time.
- There are three young golden elms adjacent to the pavilion and car park at Oval No.1. They provide significant canopy and shade and they do not appear to be restricted by power lines for other competing structures. Their root zones may need to be protected from compaction associated with picnic and spectator viewing.
- There are a number of areas on reserve with significant weeds, or that are mown grass under large indigenous trees. These could be improved aesthetically and for biodiversity, and to enhance functional and landscape amenity for reserve users, through landscaping and replanting. For example:
 - The embankment on the north side of the tennis courts see images following)
 - The area along the back of the tennis courts abutting Yarra Road, and adjacent the hall
 - The area around and at the back of the hall and down to Old Yarra Rd
 - The boundary fences abutting private yards in the southeast
 - The area around the bike jumps and extending west. See images.

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- The following map shows areas where, as a priority vegetation needs to be trimmed removed or thinned because of the impact on playing surfaces (orange) and other areas where additional understorey or planting could be conducted (green).



Map showing areas of vegetation to be reduced and enhanced

- There may be an opportunity to introduce a small area of fruit trees – for example in conjunction with the hall or in the Gooligulch play space that reflect the former land use on the Reserve.
- There are some steep banks on the reserve that would be beneficial to regrade and plant more heavily to reduce runoff and debris running down the slope, i.e., on the netball courts.



Images Yarra Road frontage abutting the tennis club boundary

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12.2. Suggested directions

A. From the Draft Bushland Management Plan:

1. Upgrade the rabbit proof fence around class 1 vegetation zone to a more robust, taller design to reduce damage and maintenance
2. Collect seed from uncommon species in class 1 zone and propagate to protect genetic diversity (e.g. *Olearia myrsinoides*)
3. Maintain current cover of Yarra Burgan (*Kunzea leptospermoides*) throughout, and monitor for over-dominance over time
4. Consider burning class 1 zone if ground storey vegetation becomes too dense/ if single species begin to become mono-dominant (e.g. *Rytidosperma pallidum*)
5. Transition eastern strip of WPR-3A into class 2 vegetation by highly managing ground storey weeds
6. Consider a deer eradication/ exclusion program within western drainage line area if detrimental to revegetation efforts and soil disturbance.
7. The plan only has suggested revegetation actions for Zone 3 C. These are: Continue revegetation of midstorey species to replace control CaLP and High Threat weeds.
8. Control large patches of woody weeds by cut and painting –removing from site and ground storey weeds to reduce competition.
9. Revegetate area with shrubs appropriate to reference EVC (Creekline Herb-rich Woodland).
10. Ensure plants are staked and guarded to reduce herbivory as they establish and implement a monitoring program to track survivorship.
11. Develop a revegetation plan for approval prior to works.

B. Other directions

12. Remove vegetation that has encroached onto both ovals, the netball courts and the tennis courts. Thin weeds in areas where site lines are required for safety and light and to support turf growth on the ovals. (i.e., on the corner of Yarra Road, and between the two ovals)
13. Remove the of senescing *Radiata* pines on the Reserve, especially those in the tennis club car park and around the hall, and replace with more suitable species.
14. Prepare a landscape design for the hall surrounds following the pine tree removal, to include more flowering species. Consider including some apple trees on the Reserve in recognition of the previous use as an orchard.
15. Address the slope and planting on the embankments above the tennis courts, and netball courts in conjunction with court reconstruction and support facility works.
16. Ensure appropriate species are planted on court boundaries, include root barriers for example to protect the integrity of playing surfaces and reduce leaf litter for safety.
17. Trim trees that encroach the playing surfaces.
18. Undertake revegetation on the east of the tennis courts after removing ivy and garden species, and in conjunction with reserve perimeter improvements including pathways and signage.

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13. SIGNAGE

13.1. The key issues

- There are some new reserve signs erected at the corner of Launderers Avenue and Old Yarra Rd and a similar designed sign located at the Community Cottage. A number of old signs remain, including some that are not very legible. The blue directional signs to the car park are very effective. The tennis club does not have a prominent Tennis Australia branded name sign on its frontage to Yarra Road. This would be desirable.
- There is no major reserve sign on Yarra Road to promote the reserve, and the activities it provides, especially tennis. The hall sign is not obvious until turning into the driveway.
- The Reserve does not have an overall sign with an away finding map illustrating facilities across the whole reserve, including the perimeter pathway, for users that are not locals.
- There are a number of don't signs for example golf, horse riding and motorbikes that may no longer be current. These could be removed.

13.2. Options

- The Sports Club raised the concerns about people unfamiliar with the Reserve who may play sport there, and the presence of snakes. On selected paths such as between the two ovals signage could be erected to make users aware of snake's presence. Council advises that signs indicating the presence of snakes are unnecessary because they are so widespread.
- The Reserve has some very significant areas of vegetation. Some Council's sign this vegetation to recommend its protection and care by users.



13.3. Suggested directions

1. Incrementally upgrade signage to remove unnecessary and old signs
2. Remove the unwanted or out of date "don't signs"
3. Consider providing a major Reserve sign at the corner of Yarra Rd and Launderers Avenue and a way finding map at the main car park that show the location of all the facilities on the Reserve, including the perimeter exercise trail.

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14. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The following table shows actions, time frame for implementation and an opinion of probable cost for each action.

Action	Priorities			Indicative cost \$¹
	High	Medium	Low	
<i>Ovals</i>				
1. Reconstruct both the ovals to provide much better drainage, soil profile and more suitable turf species.	•			1,267,000***
2. Reinstate the correct ground shape for Oval No. 1 with an intention to meet a 50m radii, however actual orientation of the oval is indicative and will be subject to detail design. Reorient then oval slightly when the ground is reconstructed to provide better for football. Including estimate for infrastructure relocation.	•			300,000***
3. Install two additional open access cricket net to the Oval No. 1 cricket nets and remove the nets at Oval No. 2. as they are shrouded in vegetation. Reposition current storage building as required	•			300,000 nets* 70,000 prefab (300,000 like for like)
4. Renegotiate management arrangements with the cricket club and transfer the ground and building management back to Council, to reduce the burden on the club and provide a consistency in turf management practices across all Council grounds.		•		Cost Neutral
5. Reposition (if required, subject to detail design) the lighting poles and upgrade the lighting bulbs on Oval No. 1 to LED.				42,400**
6. Review and manage the levels of use of the ground in winter, in line with the turf carrying capacity, to limit damage.		•		N/A
7. Provide for the replacement of the cricket sight screens.			•	If required
8. Relocate the water tank to another site as it is not practical for oval management.	•			Not costed
9. Upgrade sports equipment cages to improve OHS and functionality and increase storage capacity.	•			Not costed

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Action	Priorities			Indicative cost \$¹
	High	Medium	Low	
10. Install and spectator shelter on the southeastern corner of Oval No.2.		•		15,000 *
<i>Pavilions</i>				
11. Extend the pavilion on Oval No. 1 to the west, to provide additional change rooms, storage and social space (in accordance with the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy). Expand the viewing area and improve the safety railing to allow viewing.		•		885,000*
12. Replace the existing support facility on Oval No. 2 to include accessible toilets, drinking station, storage, viewing and shelter, at the current location.			•	500,000*
13. Provide a small support facility with accessible toilets, drinking station, storage and shelter to serve the netball courts and users of the bike park.	•			500,000*
<i>Netball Courts</i>				
14. Reconstruct the courts in asphalt, to provide two full size compliant fields of play, with additional space for one or two basketball hoops. Remove the tree stump and supply root barriers around the court and trim any other vegetation.	•			95,000
15. Stabilise and restrict access down the embankments close the netball courts to prevent dirt and debris migrating onto the courts.	•			38,975****
16. Install netball lighting to 100lux as per Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy	•			Price included in 13
17. Remove the timber bridge beside the netball courts, this is at the end of its life, and not cost effective to replace.	•			7,000 °
18. Upgrade the player shelters on the east and west side of the netball courts.	•			10,000
19. Support the netball club to grow their participation and access other courts in the area, where required. e.g. Wonga Park Primary School.	•			N/A
<i>Bike Jumps</i>				
20. Upgrade the bike jumps area in conjunction with local riders to provide more and graded challenges, skill progression and interest.		•		58,000 °
21. Develop and fund a regular maintenance program for the jumps.		•		N/A

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Action	Priorities			Indicative cost \$¹
	High	Medium	Low	
22. Provide shade, tables and seats, associated landscaping and a formalised access route to the bike jumps area.		•		37,400 ****
23. Provide access to toilets and shelter for bike park users in conjunction with the netball courts.	•			N/A
24. Sign and advertise the dirt bike jumps to the community, to improve usage.		•		1,000 ****
<i>Perimeter Path</i>				
25. Seek to provide an extended perimeter trail, independent of (but with connections from) the other accessways on the reserve.		•		122,125 ****
26. Protect the natural feel of the trail surrounds and an alignment that travels through a diversity of settings along the route, including bushland and open areas and with views of the sports activity.		•		5,000 °
27. Regrade and potentially resurface the trail that goes up the slope to the netball courts from the south of Oval No. 1.	•			38,500 ****
28. Consider realigning sections of the path to minimise conflict with vehicles and balls. Paint a pedestrian crossing where the perimeter path meets the Reserve entry and exit roads, and provide a speed bump on the road before the crossing points.	•			18,000 ****
29. Extend the perimeter path in the east of the reserve from the Hall entry and along tennis court boundary and verge of Yarra Road and revegetate around the trail.		•		28,750 ****
30. Investigate suitable locations for fitness equipment in locations around the Reserve. Consider implementation in conjunction with the path design.		•		N/A
<i>Other Paths</i>				
31. Improve paths and the accessibility of these to people using mobility devices without significantly increasing the area of impervious services. Clearly identify the emergency access points to sports fields of play and the bike jumps.	•			15,000 ****
32. Identify clearly; the emergency access points to sports fields of play and the dirt bike jumps.	•			Price Included in 31
33. Improve the connection between the tennis courts and Hall precinct, and the rest of the reserve.		•		25,000 ****
34. Regrade some path sections to reduce the potential for erosion and wash onto playing surfaces.		•		Price Included in 27

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Action	Priorities			Indicative cost \$¹
	High	Medium	Low	
35. Provide a more prominent pedestrian main entry into the reserve from the corner of Yarra Road, the shops and the bus stop.		•		7,500 ****
36. Redesign the access from the tennis courts onto Old Yarra Road, the car park to Oval No. 2., the track between Oval No. 2 and the netball courts to improve safety and accessibility.	•			262,925 ****
37. Paint a pedestrian crossing across the car park to connect the paths.	•			1,000 ****
38. Remove the central posts on pedestrian access points to the reserve to allow access for people using a mobility device or pram.	•			5,000 °
39. Monitor the use of paths on the Reserve by bicycles and motor bikes to ascertain any conflicts or wear developing down slopes, for example.		•		N/A
40. Investigate safer access down the embankment- from the pavilion the field of play and then to the car park.	•			5,000 ****
41. Retain most paths with unsealed, porous surfaces, in keeping with the natural qualities of the reserve.	•			N/A
<i>Play Spaces</i>				
42. Ensure the play spaces are designed to be complementary, each offering specific experiences targeting different age groups, and including opportunities for children with a disability.		•		Price Included in 43, 44 and 45
43. Redesign the surrounds the Hall following the removal of the pine trees and introduce a more environmental and historical focus in the design of picnic and play opportunities, with native flowering plants and apples, reflecting the history of the area. Consider the opportunity for fitness equipment, skateable elements in the play elements as appropriate.		•		361,7500 (including fitness equipment and soft fall****)
44. Thin the vegetation on the corner of the Yarra Road to encourage use and promote views into and out of the area.		•		5,000 ****
45. Introduce social and physical elements for children with a disability in each play space.		•		18,000 ****
<i>Wonga Park Hall</i>				
46. Remove the senescing pines and the old fencing and play equipment around the Hall. Re landscape the Hall surrounds to including native flowering plants. Consider introducing some plant material to reflect the previous land use of the area, for example apple trees.			•	Partial Price Included in 43 \$8,000 °
47. Provide a more prominent pedestrian entry to the Reserve in this location and sign the whole Reserve. Provide better connections via a path to other facilities on the Reserve from this location.		•		Price Included in 35

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Action	Priorities			Indicative cost \$¹
	High	Medium	Low	
48. If the car park is to be upgraded, consider providing an unsealed or high albedo and porous surface. Ensure a major path entry is integrated into the design of any new entry or car park and a connection made to the perimeter trail.	•			140,625 ***
49. Ensure a major path entry is integrated into the design of any new entry or car park and a connection made to the perimeter trail.	•			96.250 ****
50. Ensure a major path entry is integrated into the design of any new entry or car park and a connection made to the perimeter trail.	•			96.250 ****
51. Redevelop the play space in this area to a space that encourages play and picnicking, has an environmental focus, serves older children and consider some fitness equipment and skateable elements.		•		Price Included in 43
<i>Tennis Courts</i>				
52. Replace the tennis courts lights with LED lighting.	•			57,000**
53. Investigate cracking, debris and drainage issues on the two hard courts in the south.	•			5,000 ****
54. Resurface the tennis court in the north as planned.	•			N/A
55. Improve accessibility through the courts on the north side of the club house to Old Yarra Road, from the Wonga Park Hall.		•		3,250 ****
56. Review car parking at tennis club as part of the investigations for the traffic management plan. Remove the senescing pine trees and install wheel stops or barriers along the fence line to protect pedestrians from vehicles.		•		N/A
57. Introduce water harvesting and water recycling for use on the En-tout-cas courts.	•			N/A
<i>Dogs</i>				
58. Ensure the signage of the Reserve requires dog owners to keep their pet under effective control and pick up after them. Seek to keep dogs out of the bushland areas.	•			1,000 ****

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

Action	Priorities			Indicative cost \$¹
	High	Medium	Low	
<i>Access and Parking</i>				
59. Improve the entrance points to the Reserve and upgrade gates. Provide clear pedestrian crossings across vehicle accesses and the car park.	•			8000 ****
60. Install signage to assist emergency vehicles find the entrance points and attach ambulance Victoria locks.	•			1,000 ****
61. Extend the emergency and maintenance vehicle path at the back of the Wonga Park Community Cottage car park to get closer to the netball courts and the dirt bike jumps.	•			92,950 ****
62. Extend the emergency and maintenance vehicle path at the back of the Wonga Park Community Cottage car park to get closer to the netball courts and the dirt bike jumps.	•			92,950 ****
63. Ensure that pedestrian entrances are all accessible to people using mobility devices	•			N/A
64. Investigate local traffic management improvements around the Reserve, to Old Yarra Road, to provide a continuous pedestrian path along the road, safer access to the tennis car parking and entry into the courts, and provide adequately for buses to drop of school children in the Reserve.	•			N/A
65. Consider trimming trees to allow buses to enter safely and turn around at Oval No. 1.	•			8,000 ****
66. Mark pedestrian crossings across the main car park for people moving between the main pavilion and Oval No. 2 and at the entry and exit roads from the carpark. Add speed humps before these to slow drivers down.	•			Partial of the Price are included in 37 \$2,000
<i>Biodiversity and Vegetation (From the Bushland Management Plan)</i>				
67. Upgrade the rabbit proof fence around class 1 vegetation zone to a more robust, taller design to reduce damage and maintenance.	•			36,750 ***
68. Collect seed from uncommon species in class 1 zone and propagate to protect genetic diversity (e.g. Olearia myrsinoides).	•			294,950 ****
69. Maintain current cover of Yarra Burgan (Kunzea leptospermoides) throughout, and monitor for over-dominance over time.	•			5,000 °
70. Consider burning class 1 zone if ground storey vegetation becomes too dense/ if single species begin to become mono-dominant (e.g. Rytidosperma pallidum).	•			5,000 °

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

Action	Priorities			Indicative cost \$¹
	High	Medium	Low	
71. Transition eastern strip of WPR-3A into class 2 vegetation by highly managing ground storey weeds.	•			5,000 °
72. Consider a deer eradication/ exclusion program within western drainage line area if detrimental to revegetation efforts and soil disturbance.	•			N/A
73. Continue revegetation of midstorey species to replace control CaLP and High Threat weeds for Zone 3 C	•			5000 °
74. Control large patches of woody weeds—removing from site and ground storey weeds to reduce competition.	•			5000 °
75. Revegetate areas with shrubs appropriate to reference EVC (Creekline Herb-rich Woodland).	•			681,250 °
76. Ensure plants are staked and guarded to reduce herbivory as they establish and implement a monitoring program to track survivorship.	•			5000 °
77. Develop a revegetation plan for approval prior to works.	•			N/A
<i>Biodiversity and Vegetation</i>				
78. Thin, trim or remove vegetation that has encroached onto both ovals, the netball courts and the tennis courts. Thin weeds in areas where site lines are required for safety and light and to support turf growth on the ovals (ie., on the corner of Yarra Road, and between the two ovals).	•			\$5000 °
79. Remove the senescing Radiata pines on the Reserve, especially those in the tennis club car park and around the Hall and replace with more suitable native species.	•			Price included in 43
80. Prepare a landscape design for the Hall surrounds following the pine tree removal, to include more flowering species. Consider including some apple trees on the Reserve in recognition of the previous use as an orchard.		•		Partial of the Price are included in 43 \$500,500 ****
81. Address the slope and planting on the embankments above the tennis and netball courts in conjunction with court reconstruction and support facility works.	•			Price Included in 14 and 76
82. Ensure appropriate species are planted on court boundaries. Provide root barriers to protect the integrity of playing surfaces, and reduce leaf litter for safety.	•			Price Included in 76
83. Trim trees that encroach and shade the playing surfaces.	•			5000 °

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

Action	Priorities			Indicative cost \$ ¹
	High	Medium	Low	
84. Undertake revegetation on the east of the tennis courts after removing ivy and garden species, and in conjunction with reserve perimeter improvements and the perimeter pathway design.		•		10,000 ****
<i>Signage</i>				
85. Incrementally upgrade signage around the reserve		•		1000 ****
86. Remove the old , unnecessary and out of date “don’t” signs.	•			5000 ****
87. Consider providing a major Reserve sign at the corner of Yarra Rd and Launders Avenue and a way finding map at the main car park that show the location of all the facilities on the Reserve, including the perimeter trail.	•			1000 ****

Cost key

*	Previous similar projects
**	Direct quote from supplier
***	Costs are rough estimates based on SPORTENG costings
+	Netball Victoria
****	Jeavons Landscape Architects Opinion of Probable Cost
O	Jeavons Landscape Architects – Demolition and earthworks are shown as provisional sum only
*O	Jeavons Landscape Architects – Maintenance as shown as provisional sum only

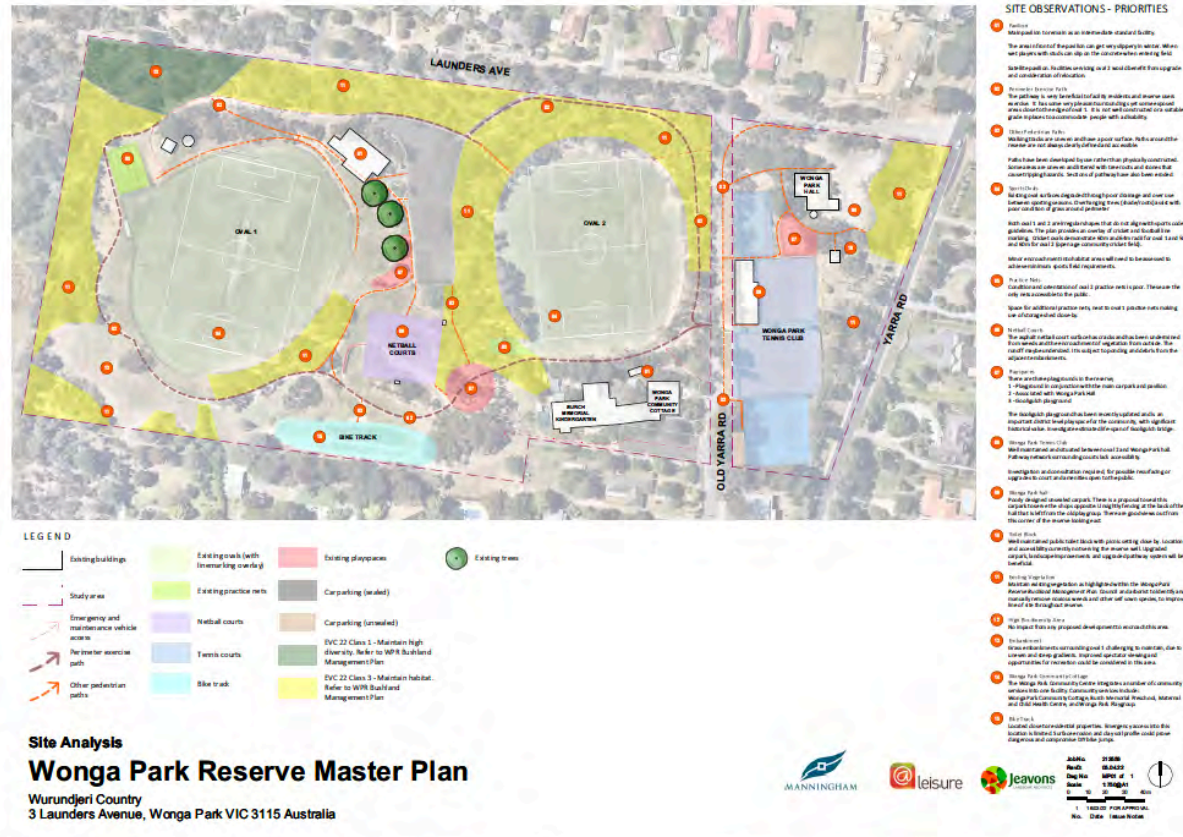
¹ Estimate of probable cost Disclaimer:

1. Until detail design has been undertaken these costs cannot be refined and therefore can only be used as a guide.
2. This is an opinion of probable cost only and not a quote. It has been prepared as a guide for planning and should not be used for tender purposes.
3. The amounts shown for demolition and earthworks are shown as provisional sums only. These amounts are subject to variation depending on unknown underground waste that may be required to be removed from the works site and the subsequent landfill and prescribed waste levies charged by Environmental Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) for disposal to landfill.
4. The prices are supply and install prices.
5. Due to COVID – 19 and other factors the construction costs are likely to rise.
6. These probable costs do not include detailed design authority fees and permit costs.
7. The costings for the pavilion and support facilities exclude the extension of facilities.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

14. APPENDICES

Appendix 1. Existing conditions plan



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

Appendix 2. Wonga Park Master Plan



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities

ACTIONS

11

Ovals

- Reconstruct both the ovals to provide better drainage, soil profile and turf species
- Correct the shape for Oval No.1 at 50m radii and reorient to provide better for football
- Install additional 2 open access cricket nets to the Oval No. 1 and remove the nets at Oval 2. The location of the storage facility may need to change. The location will be determined as part of the oval upgrade
- Transfer the ground maintenance back to Council
- Convert lights on Oval No. 1 to LED
- Manage the levels of use of the ground in winter, in line with the turf carrying capacity
- Provide for the replacement of the cricket lights screens
- Upgrade equipment cages to improve OHS and functionality and storage capacity

12

Pavilions

- Extend the pavilion on Oval No. 1 to the west, to provide additional change rooms, storage and social space
- Expand the viewing area
- Provide an accessible path from the pavilion to the cricket nets, perimeter path and onto the field of play
- Upgrade the support facility on Oval No. 2. Include accessible toilets, drinking station, storage, viewing and shelter
- Provide a small support facility to service the netball courts which includes player/ spectator toilets, change space, drinking station, storage, shelter and a separate public toilet to service park users

13

Netball courts

- Reconstruct the courts in asphalt, with compliant fields of play, lighting, fencing and with additional space for basketball
- Stabilise embankments around the courts, address encroaching vegetation and provide root barriers
- Remove the timber bridge behind the netball courts
- Upgrade the player shelters

14

Bike jumps

- Upgrade the bike jumps area to provide graded challenges
- Develop and fund a regular maintenance program
- Provide shade, tables and seats, landscaping, and a formalised access path
- Sign and waymark the dirt bike jumps

15

Paths

- Extend the perimeter trail, including along Yarra Rd and court boundaries and connecting the Hall. Improve sections of the path, upgrade, stabilise in a more suitable consolidated gravel surface
- Improve accessibility of paths. Remove the mid paths. Clearly identify emergency access
- Provide a more prominent pedestrian main entry on the corner of Yarra Road
- Retain paths in keeping with the natural qualities of the Reserve

16

Play spaces

- Ensure play spaces offer specific experiences and target different age groups. Include opportunities for children with a disability

17

Hall

- Redesign the Hall surrounds, picnic and play facilities, landscape (using native and to reflect history. Remove existing plants
- Integrate a new path into the design of the new car park

18

Tennis courts

- Replace the courts lights with LED lights
- Investigate cracking, debris, and drainage issues of the courts
- Resurface the tennis court in the north as planned
- Improve accessibility from the Hall through the courts to Old Yarra Road
- Remove existing pine trees and install barriers along the court fences to protect pedestrians
- Introduce water harvesting and recycling for the on-site car courts

19

Dogs

- Require dog owners to keep their pet under effective control and pick up after them
- Seek to keep dog out of the bushland areas

20

Access

- Improve entrance points to the Reserve and upgrade gates. Provide clear pedestrian crossings across entries and the car park
- Sign emergency access points and attach ambulance Victoria flags
- Extend the emergency and maintenance access to netball courts and the bike jumps
- Ensure pedestrian entries are all accessible to people using mobility devices
- Investigate local traffic management improvements around the Reserve and provide fire lanes
- Provide speed bumps to entrance and exit of existing car park

21

Vegetation

- Implement the biodiversity management plan actions by zone including fencing, controlled burning, deer and vermin eradication, revegetation of mid-story species, seed collection, control of large woody weeds and monitoring
- Develop a revegetation plan for approval prior to works
- Thin, trim or remove vegetation that has encroached onto ovals, the netball and tennis courts, where site lines are required and to support turf growth
- Remove existing pines and replace with suitable native species
- Plant appropriate species on embankments around the tennis netball courts and provide root barriers
- Trim trees that encroach and shade the playing surfaces
- Revegetate along the east of the tennis courts after removing garden mounds, with the perimeter path design

22

Signs

- Incrementally upgrade signage around the Reserve
- Remove the old, unnecessary, and out of date "don't" signs
- Provide a major Reserve sign at the corner of Yarra Rd and Launders Avenue and a way finding map at the main car park

23

Fitness equipment area

- Provide impact attenuating wetpour surface for fitness equipment area. Ensure play spaces offer fitness equipment that target at different age group and user size requirement. Exact location to be confirmed with detailed design

24

Water tank

- Consider using the existing water tank as part of the design during Oval 1 detail design upgrade. If deemed the water tank is not viable or required, locate the water tanks elsewhere

25

Spectator shelter

- Provide spectator shelter. Exact location will be subject to detailed design

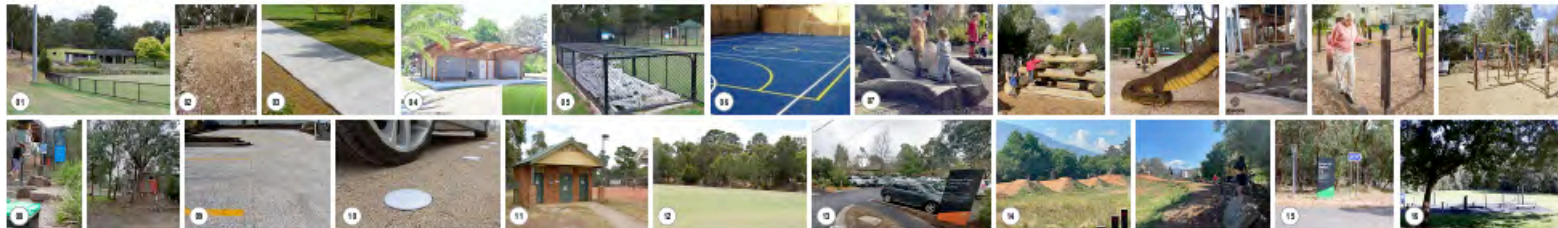
LEGEND

Existing bushland	Paths	Reserve Land (with remaining vegetation)	Existing (open) stadium	Fitness Equipment Area with impact attenuating wetpour surface
Embankment/soil stabilisation	Other accessible paths	Side Oval (to be removed)	SVC 22 Oval 1 - Minimum high density stake to WPA Bushland Management Plan	Risk 2 (if given) over-embankment
Study area	Paths (existing)	Recreation	SVC 22 Oval 2 - Minimum medium density stake to WPA Bushland Management Plan	Non-embankment (to be removed)
Proposed fencing	Paths (proposed)	Netball courts	Existing canopy trees to remain	
Embankment/soil stabilisation (to be removed)	Paths (proposed)	Tennis courts	Proposed parking or other improvements	
Embankment/soil stabilisation (to be removed)	Car parking (existing)	Other ovals		
	Car parking (proposed)	Dis-bushland		

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 2. Issues and Opportunities



PRECEDENT IMAGES



WONGA PARK RESERVE MASTER PLAN

VOLUME 4. CONSULTATION FINDINGS

October 2022



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

About this document

This document is Volume 4. Consultation findings; Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan

The other documents prepared for this document are:

- Volume 1: Summary; Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan
- Volume 2: Issues and Opportunities
- Volume 3: Situational and Site Analysis

The views expressed in the consultation section of this document are those provided by the community and stakeholders. They do not necessarily reflect the views held by @leisure or Council.

Acknowledgements

@leisure would like to acknowledge the support and assistance provided by:

- Robert Morton, Project Manager
- Staff of the City of Manningham
- Sports Club Representatives
- Other Council Staff
- Sports Clubs and Peak Body Representatives
- Jeavons Landscape Architects, who prepared the drawings.

@leisure and Manningham Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

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Rear 534 Mt Alexander Road Ascot Vale, VIC 3032 Australia
+61 3 9326 1662 info@atleisure.com.au www.atleisure.com.au



2

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

1. CONSULTATION METHODS

1.1 Overview

The consultation process was undertaken in two phases

1. To inform the master plan, and
2. To receive comments on the draft plan exhibited by Council.

The consultation was designed to gain insight into the community's thoughts on existing conditions and improvements to ensure the plan represents the community's needs for the next 10 years.

Stakeholders such as user groups, peak sporting bodies and staff from different areas of Council were engaged in the consultation process.

Feedback from the community and stakeholders was sought in multiple ways, including:

- Telephone interviews of clubs, sports associations, schools, peak bodies and providers
- Telephone interviews with members of the local community
- Internal stakeholders' workshop
- Several workshops with the Wonga Park Sports Club and members
- Request to comment on Yoursay Manningham (YSM) page, and a communications strategy to promote visitation to the YSM page
- Two onsite face to face, three-hour drop in sessions open to the broader community and to capture casual users
- Stakeholder submissions.

The following table shows the number of respondents to requests for comment, by consultation method.

Table 1. Engagement methods

Engagement method	Calls/ emails	Completed
Initial round of master plan consultation		
Sports Club workshop		1(10)
Telephone interview with state sports associations	4	4
Telephone interview with sports clubs	5	5
Telephone interviews with community stakeholders	3	3
Council workshop		2 (8 & 11)
Telephone conversation with Council staff	8	7
Telephone interview with schools	2	2
Telephone interview with residents	5	3
YSM page		26
Draft master plan consultation		
Wonga Park Sports Club Workshop		1 (14)
Onsite drop-in sessions (2)		118
YSM page		29
Stakeholder submissions		7

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

Some 35 individuals representing the Council, state sporting associations, sporting clubs, local stakeholders, residents and schools were interviewed or were involved in a workshop about Wonga Park Reserve in the first phase of engagement.

For a full list of those involved see Appendix 1.

The consultation was designed to gain insight into how the clubs and user groups use Wonga Park Reserve, what they like about the venue, what they would like improved and understand their future needs and aspirations for the site. A summary of the findings is below.

The Wonga Park Sports Club provided a comprehensive proposal to Council for the upgrading of the Reserve. This included a sports engineering assessment of the ovals, and an architectural master plan of the grounds with a new major pavilion.

This proposal is provided on the following page.

1. 2 Sports Club master plan proposal

The key elements of the Sports Clubs proposal are provided in the table below.

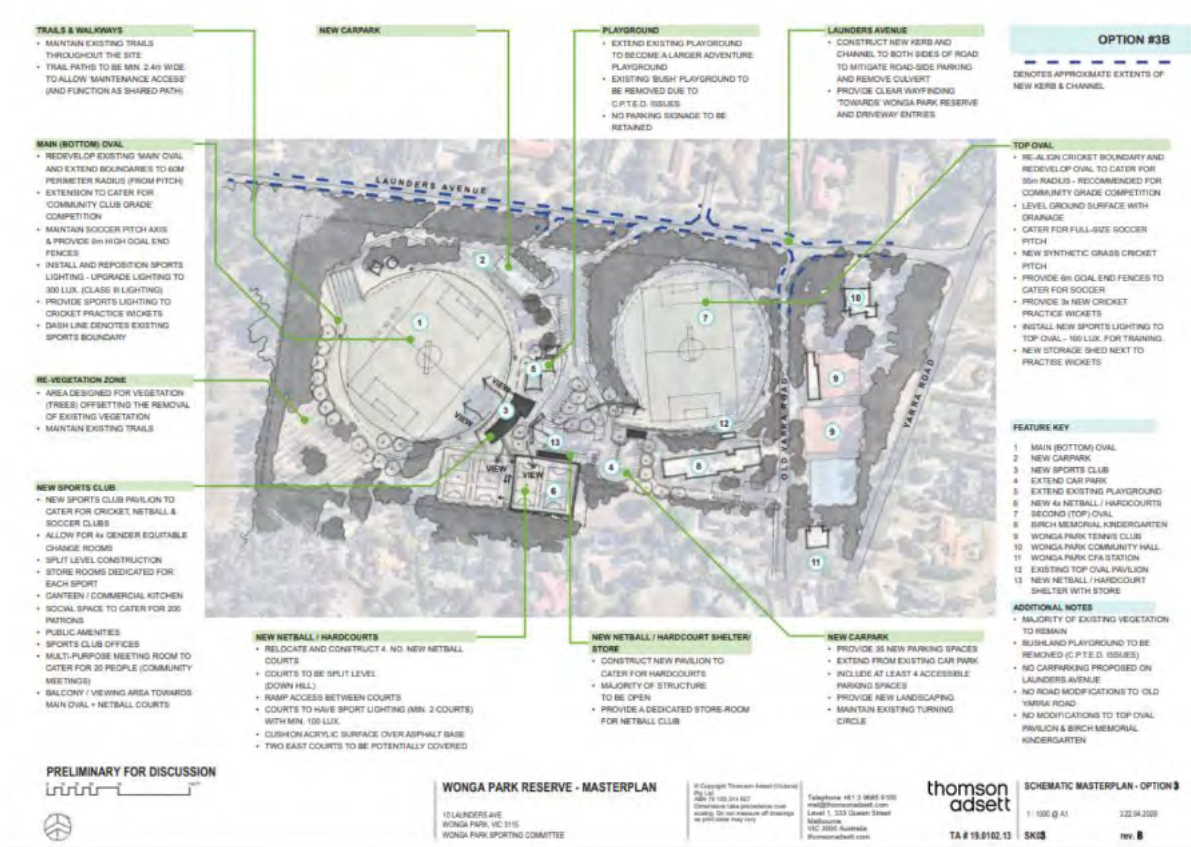
Table 2. Key elements of the Sports Club's proposal

<p>Main oval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand boundaries Drainage and reticulation Upgrade lighting Cricket net lighting <p>Second oval</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand and level Drainage and reticulation Sports-field lighting Synthetic cricket wicket New practice wickets <p>Car-parking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New car park to service netball and second oval New car park in old pavilion location 	<p>Netball courts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-locate and expand 4 courts on 2 levels Cushioned acrylic over asphalt Viewing pavilion and storage <p>New sports pavilion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cricket, football, netball Female friendly Multi-purpose Viewing Office and storage <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand playground Trails and re-vegetation
--	---

The image on the following page presents the master plans as proposed by the Sports Club. Development priorities identified in the proposal were:

- The main pitch upgrade
- Netball court upgrade
- Secondary pitch upgrade
- New pavilion
- Car park upgrade.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings



Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

2. SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER VIEWS INFORMING THE MASTER PLAN

2.1 Overview of the main issues

The following are key community and stakeholder views about Wonga Park Reserve, expressed during phase one of the community engagement process.

- The residents expressed how Wonga Park Reserve is a valued sporting and open space precinct in Wonga Park. There is a need to consider the native and indigenous vegetation when considering upgrades for the reserve
- Better quality facilities, seating, shelter and play spaces at open spaces would encourage more residents to use local parks
- The ovals need to be reconstructed to provide a better profile, drainage and turf
- The main pavilion does not have adequate change space to accommodate multi-gender usage
- There is limited storage space. Toilet facilities are used for storage, rendering them unusable. Cricket and soccer/football need to store equipment off site on the off season. Netball storage is over 80 m from the courts and is located behind the main pavilion, they have expressed concerns about safety, particularly in winter when it is dark
- The small pavilion is inadequate in size and usability
- Netball courts are old and are not in great condition. The courts and lighting are non-compliant with netball guidelines. The courts have weed invasion and there is a need for support facilities such as shade, shelter and drinking fountains
- Opportunities for social sports activities in parks would be highly valued
- The play spaces are valued in the reserve, children often move from one to the other to gain different experiences
- The walking tracks around the reserve are in bad condition and there are parts that can flood in the winter
- Parking can be an issue on the weekends particularly on a Sunday between 9am — 10am in winter. Residents state that cars can be parked in front of their driveways, and they are unable to leave their property
- The Sporting Club suggested that Old Yarra Road could be closed and additional parking could be put along the street to assist with the parking problems. The council did not believe that the closing of this road would assist with parking as the street is too narrow and there would not be room for a turning spot for those that have entered not knowing it is a one-way street. The CFA requested that the street is not closed as they need this road to enter and exit the station
- Residents are concerned about the snakes that live in the undergrowth near the ovals suggesting that this is a danger to visiting sports teams that are not used to rural environments

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

- There are differing opinions of the usage and value of the dirt bike jumps. The Sports Club feel that it is not used much and could be located elsewhere. Other residents say that it is well used and provides younger riders with valuable riding skills. All are in agreeance that the track is not well maintained and additional tracks, an ongoing maintenance program and promotion will improve the use of the track
- Wonga Park Primary School and Yarra Road Primary School use the reserve as an overflow for their inter-school sports. Wonga Park Primary also use the school to run their junior athletics programs and cross-country events
- Busses have problems with entering the reserve carpark, when they get in there if there are cars in there it can be difficult to move through the carpark, so they often park on Old Yarra Road
- The netball courts are considered a local facility, Council is not looking to change this
- The netball courts have non-compliant lights, poor court drainage, and no shelter. The club has the right amount of storage according to the local level facility policies
- The Sports Club have suggested moving the main pavilion to the east, the new location is looking straight into the sun
- The dirt bike jumps were used a lot through COVID-19, there is currently some consultation being undertaken to understand demand, anticipate keeping these jumps
- The Gooligulch play space is really liked within the community, this recently been updated and needs to be kept
- Parking is a big issue at the reserve especially on Lauanders Avenue, parking for the tennis courts not well defined
- A plan needs to be developed for the paths around the reserve as currently the paths are prone to flooding, are slippery and tree roots are a problem

2.2 Summary of the Council recreation team workshop

The workshop was conducted online with representatives of the Council recreation team. A summary of council's expectations and issues raised includes:

- Ensuring the level of engagement about asset planning captures the whole reserve especially around usage
- It is important to achieve a balance between sport, the community and the environment in this plan
- Residents use the reserve for many different activities, these all need to be considered in the master plan
- The ovals are not in good condition, the ground size is small, we anticipate the ovals are overused, and maintenance is not appropriate.

2.3 Summary of Council environmental team workshop

The workshop was conducted online with representatives of the Council environment team. A summary of the issues raised includes:

- Wonga Park Reserve has significant biodiversity sites, these need to be considered in the master plan. There is a new Manningham site biodiversity significance plan currently being developed, this will include Wonga Park Reserve
- There are clear policies about park and bushland maintenance but there are not any recommendations for paths, but there needs to be considerations from an environmental perspective

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

- Conflicts between sport and trees. Sport is not considered a good reason to remove trees
- Car parking needs to be looked at, refer to the Green wedge infrastructure to guide this
- There is not much vegetation around the main pavilion, so preference should be given to an expansion at the current location rather than moving the pavilion. Moving the pavilion would require significant earth works
- Council to investigate pine trees for velvet fungus
- The dirt bike jumps need to be developed and made safer, the surface may not be appropriate, it was used extensively in COVID-19
- The playgrounds are used a lot, many children roam from one to the other. The Gooligulch playground has social heritage value and generational memory with the park
- Council would welcome addition of native vegetation to the reserve.
- Paths need to be improved to allow wheelchair and pram accessibility

2.4 Comment from Council's Yoursay Manningham prior to the draft plan

The YSM page had 103 visitors between 28/1/2022 and 7/04/2022. From these visitors there were 22 contributors making 26 comments.

The comments made on the YSM page have been themed into categories to assist in understanding their comments (Appendix 2)

The main concerns that came from the online community consultation process was the issue of parking, with 30% of the contributors contributing to this theme. Comments around parking were focused on the lack of parking that was available when organised sport was being played particularly in winter, however it was also noted that this was a very temporary issue. Comments made specifically about Launders Avenue identified that there was an issue of parking in the street, but this was only for a short period of time and there was a general consensus that there does not need to be any changes to Launders Avenue.

The condition of the ovals was also an issue that was raised on the YSM. The main concerns raised were over safety of the cricket pitch and the condition of the oval. There was a general consensus that these areas needed to be improved on the oval.

Table 3. Wonga Park Reserve “Have your say” details

Visitors	Contributors	Contributions	Comments	Votes
103	22	122	26	96

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

3. COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT MASTER PLAN

A large number of comments were provided by the community and users on the draft master plan. Many reinforced the importance of items included in the plan. Other items of suggested changes are requested, these are provided in the following table.

3.1 Suggested changes and @leisure response

In the following table @leisure Planners have provided a response to each suggested change to the draft master plan.

A full list of all comments made on the draft master plan is provided in Appendix 3-6.

Table 4. Suggested changes to the master plan and @leisure's responses

Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
Ovals	
1 Add western oval (Oval No.1) floodlight upgrade to the master plan.	This has been added to the master plan. Note floodlighting would be to relevant Australian Standards and Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy
2 Add an additional practice wicket, making it a total of two publicly accessible practice wickets.	Council have considered and due to the lack of ability to alter trees, the practices wickets at Oval No.2 will need to be removed and an additional open access wicket will be included at the existing cricket nets.
3 Do not upgrade the lights on the ovals to competition standard as this would impact on the residential amenity.	The Community Sports Lighting Community Guide recommends competition standard lighting. Spill light (i.e., light that falls outside the area intended to be lit) needs to be considered when installing or changing light globes. Council will need to take this into consideration in the planing process.
4 The cricket club would like a white picket fence around the oval.	Not likely to be a priority for Council. It is a major cost, and any additional fence may reduce the buffer around football/soccer fields of play. Council may consider if the club pays for and maintains the fence.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
5 The grounds need to be addressed as a matter of urgency	Master plan recommends upgrading of both ovals. Exact dates will be determined as per Council's standard capital works program
6 Would you be able to put AFL goals and a net behind the goals in winter time? move to ovals	Council to investigate the inclusion of AFL goals as part of the oval upgrade. These could be placed on the eastern or western side of Oval No.1.
Pavilions	
7 Provide a spectator shelter at the southwest corner of Oval No. 2 and retrofitting/extending (where possible) the existing pavilion.	A spectator shelter has been included in the master plan The retrofitting/extending the Pavilion may be considered in the design phase of the Pavilion upgrade. The upgrade will align with Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy. The space to the southwest may be limited as the pavilion would be extended to the west and the slope is steep
8 Consider addressing child safety concerns in the satellite pavilion near the netball courts, by separating the public toilet/change from accessed only by the netball club.	Council will consider this option when preparing a design for the satellite support facilities for netball.
9 Consider increasing the veranda depth of the main pavilion of Oval 1. As the pavilion faces west spectators and scorers of afternoon and evening games are forced to look directly into the sun.	The pavilion faces south west. This is better than the proposed western orientation suggested. @leisure would support a generous veranda. It may be considered in the design phase of the pavilion upgrade. The upgrade will align with Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy.
10 The handrail around the pavilion steps is so high that it distracts viewing the game from a seated position.	This should be considered in the design to meet Australian standards and a note will be included in the final master plan.
11 They need to have storage and a referee room for the top oval.	The support facility for Oval No.2 will be developed in line with the Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy and the peak bodies' requirements.
12 There will be some discussion about the location of the proposed toilet shelter to the south of the netball courts and adjacent to the bike track. Netball suggested it could be on the other side adjacent to the car park. Most residents at the drop in sessions felt that it was probably better on the south side of the netball courts.	Discussions with the community confirmed that the best location for the support facilities was to remain in its current position due to the potential exposure to anti-social activities after dark and in association with the car park. The final location will be determined through a detailed design process.

Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
<p>13 There is a concern that the people running the canteen are not able to see the game at the same time, in any redevelopment the canteen needs to be brought forward because that helps promote volunteers for the canteen when they can see the games at the same time.</p>	<p>Added to the master plan. The position of the canteen is important to encourage and support volunteers. The location will be considered through the detailed design process.</p>
<p>14 Ensure that any new pavilion is open to the public and can be used for other activities other than sport.</p>	<p>Design to encourage shared use, is included in the master plan. The principle of shared and community use of sports facilities is supported. Details of the management arrangements will be governed by policy.</p>
<p>15 Update club rooms by creating an upper level to create a better community space.</p>	<p>This form of the redevelopment could be considered in the design phase of the Pavilion upgrade. The upgrade will need to align with Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy.</p>
<p>16 Under the veranda area of the Oval No. 2 pavilion sunken brick pavers above the stairs. These need to be upgraded.</p>	<p>Yes, these need to be upgraded, or they may be removed in the upgrading of the satellite pavilion.</p>
<p>17 Updated canteen facilities to allow catering for events which includes increased space, dishwasher commercial kitchen etc.</p>	<p>This may be considered in the design phase of the pavilion upgrade. The size of the canteen will need to align with Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy.</p>
<p>18 A room for office/administration/secure storage for higher value items i.e., iPads, cricket balls, video recording equipment etc</p>	<p>This may be considered in the design phase of the Pavilion upgrade. The size of storage and other core requirements will need to align with Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy.</p>
<p>19 A better designed bar/wet area for drinks service. The current bar is cramped, and drinks are retrieved from a storage room when served.</p>	<p>This may be considered in the design phase of the Pavilion upgrade. An increased size of the social space is recommended. The exact size and the provision of a bar will need to align with Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy.</p>
<p>Netball</p>	
<p>20 The netball club needs access to netball courts for training, but asphalt isn't a suitable surface.</p>	<p>@leisure agrees but Netball Victoria has indicated that an asphalt surface is acceptable under their National Facilities Policy. Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy states that local level netball courts are to be asphalt.</p>

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Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
<p>21 Asphalt or concrete are recommended bases for outdoor training facilities, and a minimum training standard for outdoor training courts, however asphalt surfaces are high maintenance and slip hazards when cracked/not maintained; it is unforgiving to fall on and hard on joints for impact, a big consideration for netball players and the NV knee program to minimize joint impacts.</p> <p>Acrylic surfaces provide better traction than asphalt or concrete and also present a more comfortable playing environment in hot weather with court temperatures being lower in comparison to asphalt or concrete courts. The anti-glare finish also enhances visibility for players, umpires and spectators alike.</p>	<p>Council's Outdoor Sports Infrastructure Policy (2020) states that netball courts that are cauterised as a local facility will be developed as with an asphalt surface. This policy aligns with Netball Victoria infrastructure policies (refer to Netball Victoria feedback below)</p>
<p>22 The inclusion of basketball line-marking and hoop compromises the netball courts. The basketball rotators currently on the market deem the netball court to be non-compliant when in the netball position, as the basketball ring when reversed encroaches the 3.05m runoff. They are also cumbersome in their operation.</p> <p>We note that any basketball use is not for any formal training or competition and that it would only be for leisure/casual use. Our recommendation is that Council review the inclusion of basketball on the courts and look at alternative options for casual use.</p>	<p>The master plan recommends that basketball continue to be provided on the hard courts. Observations suggest that they are well used. The master plan recommends that additional space be provided to the runoff to allow for at least one basketball ring (currently provided) outside the netball field of play, and only one netball court will have basketball key lines.</p>
<p>23 Our community love the Gooligulch play area, as evidenced by recent community input. Perhaps courtside under cover shelter for weather issues could somehow incorporate this theme, providing shelter also for general community use.</p>	<p>This may be considered in the design phase of the netball shelters.</p>
<p>Play equipment</p>	
<p>24 Play equipment -more seating for parents.</p>	<p>The provision for seating and importantly tables has been included in the master plan for the play spaces and well as the dirt jumps area.</p>

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Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
25 Keep the bridge onto the courts many children love the bridge.	The bridge was discussed with members of the community at the on-site consultation and respondents were indifferent to the bridge. The bridge is in poor condition and has lost its connection to the play space. It is logical to remove the bridge as it does not fit safety standards and not accessible.
26 Our community love the Gooligulch play area, as evidenced by recent community input. Perhaps court side undercover shelter for weather issues could somehow incorporate this theme, providing shelter also for general community use.	The satellite support facilities proposed is to include shelter. This may assist users of the courts, the play space and the bike jumps. It would don't be appropriate to provide multiple support facilities to serve each of these.
27 Provider rubbish bin near the bike jumps and the playgrounds.	Noted. This could be explored as part of the support facility for netball.
Vegetation	
28 Trees that are dead in the children's play area need to be removed.	Any dead tree should be assessed by an arborist and trimmed for example, not necessarily removed for habitat reasons. This will be referred to Council's Parks Team for review and action.
29 Leave the pine trees because they are home to galahs and other birds	The pine trees that have been recommended for removal have been assessed by Council's arborist and have velvet top fungus. This makes them very dangerous as they can drop limbs. If they are removed more suitable local trees will replace them and attract local birds.
30 Can the wording "remove planting" change to "remove vegetation" or similar. It implies everything there is planted, which it obviously isn't.	This has been changed in the master plan.
Paths	
31 There needs to be a path from the gate in the oval fence for Oval No. 1, up to the canteen and to the car park not sure how this could be done given that it's a very steep slope and it probably does need to be accessible.	@leisure observations indicated that an accessible path could be located across the slope when entering into Oval No. 1, but if an accessible path can't be provided in this location near the existing gate slope, then the gate could be moved. Alternatively, the gate could be closed, and pedestrians be encouraged to enter the oval from the steps that come down from the Pavilion, or an alternative accessible route to be determined.

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Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
32 The track around the Oval No 1. should come off the deck not down to the fence and then along.	A recommendation has been made to improve path access to the field of play from the pavilion. A new path should travel down to the field of play off the pavilion deck and also up in the west to connect to the perimeter path. Some paths works need to be completed after the pavilion redevelopment.
33 Lighting around walking paths.	Council need to complete a lighting assessment that is completed at night to understand where additional lights are required. Lighting may well encourage more people to exercise, especially in winter when daylight hours are short. Care needs to be taken in lighting paths in bushland areas, in accordance with the National Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife. Some lights could be sensor solar lights that only come on when the path is in use.
Fitness equipment	
34 Fitness equipment needs to be placed around the walking track, this was noted by multiple residents.	If the perimeter path is upgraded and suitable space is available in nodes outside the bushland areas, (such as along the south west of the oval, or up near the hall), fitness equipment could be installed, if it can be adequately maintained.
Dogs	
35 Facilities for dog walkers i.e., dog bags and drinking fountain with a dog bowl.	A drinking fountain and with a dog bowl has been installed since the master plan process commenced.
Traffic management	
36 There are very poor sightlines turning into Old Yarra Road from Launders Avenue and people felt that a white line down the middle of the road would be beneficial.	This has been discussed with Council's Traffic Department. Council staff have agreed that a local traffic management plan will investigate improvements to the road network, intersections, access into the Reserve, and seek to enhance pedestrian driver safety, bus movements etc.

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Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
<p>37 I have concerns regarding these major improvements to the Wonga Park Reserve as this will definitely create extra traffic. Wonga Park surrounding area is not equipped to handle this extra traffic. At the moment there is continual traffic taking a shortcut down Hartley Road to Jumping Creek Road and visa a versa which creates a safety hazard as the road is only wide enough for one car. I would hate to see this road changed from its rural feel to accommodate all the extra traffic. I have lived in Wonga Park for over 20 years and it would be tragic to change our beautiful rural area to become a sports hub to satisfy people that don't even live in this area and don't respect its natural habitat.</p>	<p>This the only sports reserve in Wonga Park.</p> <p>The review of the program of use shows the peaks are relatively short and generate some conflict at that time.</p> <p>Recommendations in the master plan include improved scheduling of sporting events on the weekend to spread the use, manage surface quality and limit congestion. Management of use will assist with traffic management around Wonga Park Reserve.</p> <p>Council will seek to improve information signage for the Reserve.</p>
<p>38 At the moment the plan shows angle parking along the tennis club boundary however this is dangerous because it can only be accessed one-way safely, so they suggest it be retained as it currently is which is perpendicular to the roadway.</p>	<p>This has been changed on the master plan and will be referred to the traffic management assessment.</p>
<p>39 The speed hump located on the entry road to the soccer car park. It's positioned just after where the path comes out and is in pretty poor condition (See following page).</p> <p>The master plan references the perimeter path and improving connections and accessibility which I imagine covers this crossing, however is it worth specifically mentioning this crossing? There is an action to 'paint a pedestrian crossing across the car park to connect the paths on each side'. Is this in reference to the path at the entry road or is this in reference to the path between the pavilion and oval 2?</p>	<p>The master plan identifies the need for a speed hump. This is noted and recommendations have been made for traffic management to investigate.</p> <p>Noted and a pedestrian crossing will be added to the master plan for this section with consideration to an appropriate location for a speed hump.</p>
<p>40 All the additional car parking, hard surfaces, formal footpaths etc to suit sessional weekend sport could spoil the natural "rambling" atmosphere, which is valued and, for the moment, still exists.</p>	<p>No additional hard surfaces are recommended in this master plan. The refinements to the perimeter path are not proposed to be sealed. Rather, a consolidated gravel pavement which is permeable and more suited to the bushland setting is proposed. The current paving adjacent to the bike jumps was completed while the master plan as being prepared. Similarly, the parking to be provided at the hall as part of another project. No additional car parking is proposed. Only better designation of areas used for parking now.</p>

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Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
41 Speed humps along Lauanders Avenue now or in the car park entry before the crossing point.	Council will advise if any further traffic management measures are appropriate.
42 The Sports Club want to ensure that there will be no requirement for clubs to provide any traffic management responsibilities during normal season games and training.	There has been a recommendation for Council for develop a traffic management plan. The Sports Club will be briefed of the outcomes from this plan.
43 Traffic along Old Yarra Rd is an issue during kinder drop off, pick up times.	This will be considered in the traffic management plan.
44 A speed limit along Lauanders Avenue.	Council will advise if any further traffic management measures are appropriate.
Safety	
45 Provide a camera for night-time to help minimize any antisocial behaviour and for safety.	Council to advise if they support the monitoring of use, with cameras.
Drinking taps	
46 Drinking taps around the grounds.	A drinking fountain has been installed at the bike track since the master plan process commenced. Drinking water will be available in the additional support facility proposed adjacent to the netball court and the upgrade of facilities at Oval No.2.
Natural beauty of the area	
47 Disappointing. Very wary of results looking like recent changes to Warrandyte - in particular areas along the river and behind the Community House - would be horrified for Wonga Park to go down a similar path and lose its rural appeal.	Not clear on exactly what the concern is. Careful consideration has been made to ensure sports are provided for whilst retaining the natural values of Wonga Park Reserve.

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Suggested changes made by respondents	@leisure's response
<p>48 My concern is that in doing so the things that are valued about living in Wonga Park like trees, wildlife, natural grasses etc. will be destroyed.</p>	<p>Careful consideration has been given to ensuring the natural environment is protected and surfaces and facilities are as natural as possible.</p>
<p>Bike jumps</p>	
<p>49 Council needs to look at an approach to stop local motor bike riders from using the bike jumps and surrounding paths for motorcycling activities.</p>	<p>This issue has not been raised before, even though clubs and users were asked about use of the paths by horses and motor bikes. This is difficult as barriers across paths will restrict use by people using mobility devices. We suggest clubs and users groups seek to communicate with riders, but have no other concrete solutions. Council will discuss this with governing bodies.</p>
<p>50 Bike jumps – support all the actions but don't think a pump track will fit in this location as generally need flat ground.</p>	<p>Designs will be sought to ensure a fit for purpose bike track can be developed in this space.</p>

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Image provided by a local resident regarding the speed hump



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4. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Stakeholders consulted

Table 5. List of stakeholders consulted: interviews and workshops

Name of Organisation /Group	Position	Type of consultation
Netball Victoria	Facilities and Affiliate Capacity Development Manager	Online interview
Football Victoria	Government Relations and Facilities Manager	Online interview
Cricket Victoria	Cricket Manager Inner East Metro	Online interview
Tennis Victoria	Club Development Officer – Metro East	Online interview
Wonga Park Sports Club	President	Online interview and workshop
Wonga Park Wizards Football Club	President and Vice President	Online interview and workshop
Wonga Park Wizards Football Club	Secretary	Online interview and workshop
Wonga Park Netball Club	President	Online interview and workshop
Wonga Park Cricket Club	Vice President	Online interview and workshop
Wonga Park Tennis Club	President	Online interview
Wonga Park Community Centre	Coordinator	Online interview

Name of Organisation /Group	Position	Type of consultation
Wonga Park Fire Station	Captain	Online interview
Manningham City Council	Coordinator Recreation	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Recreation Planner	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Recreation Liaison Officer	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Senior Leisure Facilities Officer	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Senior Recreation Projects Officer	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Recreation Project Officer	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Recreation Participation Officer	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Business Support Officer	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Bio-diversity Planner	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Senior Landscape Architect	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Arborist	Workshop
Manningham City Council	Open Space Planning Officer	Online interview
Manningham City Council	Active Spaces Officer	Online interview
Manningham City Council	Manager Infrastructure Services	Online interview

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Name of Organisation /Group	Position	Type of consultation
Manningham City Council	Senior Traffic Engineer	Online interview
Manningham City Council	Community Facilities Officer	Online interview
Manningham City Council	Community Projects Lead	Phone Interview
Manningham City Council	Team Leader Active Space	Online interview
Manningham City Council	Senior Parks Officer - Open Space and Bushland	Online interview
Yarra Road Primary School	Secretary	Online interview
Wonga Park Primary School	Principal	Online interview
Resident – Launders Ave	X 2	Online interview
Resident – Dirt Bike Jumps	x 1	Online interview

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Appendix 2 – Comments in Yoursay Manningham prior to the draft

Comments raised in the YSM- listed by theme

Parking (8)

- The parking within the reserve is inadequate with cars often parking on the verge areas of the access road, Launders Avenue during peak times. Launders Avenue itself, is too narrow to cope with the amount of increased traffic on many days when the reserve is in use. In the interest of road safety, I'd suggest Launders Avenue be widened to the point of exit from the reserve and/or an additional entrance/exit to the reserve be created, perhaps off Old Yarra Road along with more parking within the reserve
- Parking and access certainly a priority
- Widening the road might be good for 2 hours on a Sunday morning, 3 months of the year but destroy the native layout for the other 6 days and 22 hours and 9 months. There is plenty of parking at the community centre, Old Yarra Rd
- No need to widen the Street to the detriment of Parkland. My Street is fine. I chose to live here. Out of Towners Parking is the Problem. Locals can walk to the park
- Others From Chirnside. Croydon, Mooroolbark could carpool
- Parking can be troublesome but park a little further away and walk. There are plenty of parking options so long as the lighting is adequate for safety.
- Parking and access is a very temp issue, not the big problem
- Parking and access are very temp issues per week/year, and should not under any circumstances override the needs and lives of residents who live here
24/7/365

Unique setting (7)

- Facilities are certainly all over the place-but we should also take care to preserve the unique setting of this area-the reason many people like it.
- The reserve is a lovely unique area used by many for many reasons. It should be preserved and maintained and not turned into a major sporting complex. We are still lucky enough to have native trees, shrubs and animals such as tawny frogmouth, echidnas and kangaroos. Improving facilities without increasing the footprint must be the objective
- We do not want to see all that is Wonga Park destroyed. If sporting clubs need bigger and better facilities they should look elsewhere to accommodate their needs. We chose to live in Wonga Park because it's a great place to live and don't wish to see it changed to asphalt and concrete
- Things can always improve and may well be required (eg netball sheds, toilets), but only if it matches the environment. This is a local, semi-rural, 'green' area, Launders Ave's unique, and serves local sporting needs, (not the Boxing Day Test or Soccer World Cup). Don't ruin all these things just for progress's sake or pandering to some loud voices.
- As a resident (and rate payer) I am happy to see the Wonga Park reserve used and enjoyed. However, I believe it is important to understand that the needs and wants of local s are likely to be quite different from those who visit. We should remember that this area and its sporting facilities were established to serve a small community on the urban fringe. Please retain the natural beauty of the reserve
- Don't forget about the residents who don't play sport and live here for the environment it offers

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Launders Avenue (6)

- The main access road needs improvements including Kerr's to cater for the traffic on training and game days. Thanks for listening
- Widening Launders for car parking would spoil the neighbourhood character
- No Kerb Channel necessary...slow down, be respectful to Old Yarra Rd & and Launders Ave. Carpool or walk
- Walk to your local park in your local area. My street is wide enough, Thank you. Peak Times? 365 days in a year. (8,760 Hours) Soccer 20 Sat & Sun @ 6 hrs (240 hrs), not much value for local community. The street is great
- Widening Launders Ave is a horrible idea. Use the hall parking or new parking at the shops that are under construction. Wonga Park is special because of streets like Launders Ave. The parking/bus situation may not be perfect but butchering native habitat and ruining the beauty of the street is not the answer
- Launders Ave does not need to lose its character simply for a relative few hours per week. Visitors are just that, residents live there. Buses simply should not enter; they can park and enable on/off in Old Yarra Road via walking bus or similar. There will always be peak times for e.g., parking, ruining an environment for temp visitors is exactly the wrong strategy. Because we have seen a car driving on the track/path around the ovals, (yes, true), that doesn't mean we should create a whole new road for such inappropriate conduct

Ovals (6)

- Shared facilities need to be better managed-for example the first game of a recent cricket season had to be cancelled because the ground was not in an adequate condition to play on
- Significant improvements to ground surface and drainage is required
- The synthetic cricket wicket on the bottom ground is in desperate need of replacing. The old matting has become very slippery and opposition clubs have complained about how unsafe the surface is on numerous occasions throughout the year. Further to that, an opposition player has broken their ankle on the edge of the concrete wicket due to divots beside the pitch. Adding the synthetic surrounds seen at various other sports grounds will improve safety and also lead to less damage requiring repair post soccer season.

- This will also limit the damage caused in cricket season in the run ups leading to a smoother and safer surface
- The oval can get quite boggy in winter.
- The synthetic cricket wicket is beyond dangerous. It is in need of replacing to ensure player safety. It is slippery and opposition clubs have complained about how unsafe the surface is on numerous occasions throughout the year. To ensure safety of the players should be number one concern of the council who promote local sport.
- Game quality lighting for both cricket and soccer on the bottom oval

Walking track (6)

- The trails are great around the sporting grounds for all to access
- We'd like to see better walking/running track
- Improved walking trail path from Clubhouse to bottom cricket nets along alignment created by existing natural foot traffic
- Retention of perimeter walking trail is essential
- This is widely used
- The trails are great

Netball (4)

- As a parent and user of the Wonga Park reserve with cricket and soccer — more needs to be provided for the netball club — decent, compliant netball courts, sports lighting and heaps of parking
- Netball in particular needs improved court surfaces and fencing, toilets! — It is not safe and practical to expect girls and young women who travel to these facilities after school for training to use the single toilet that is available, particularly as this toilet is too far away from the courts and the lighting is insufficient. Wonga Park netball club appears to be an afterthought in terms of presence within the facilities
- Perhaps a toilet facility closer to the netball courts?
- The netball facilities could do with a bit of improvement, but in line with the area

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Playground (4)

- The playground (both) are in the wrong locations and the timber one (waste of money to fix up) is hidden is out of line of sight from recreation areas and has previously had an incident there some years ago
- We'd like to see a significant playground
- No need for additional playgrounds
- The Gooligulch area is acknowledged by many locals and visitors of all ages as being absolutely fantastic, is not out of sight, it's simply placed in the appropriate nature setting

Bus (3)

- I once witnessed a full-size bus exiting the reserve onto Launders Avenue. This exercise took around fifteen minutes for the bus driver to complete. Thank you for the opportunity to participate
- I have never seen a bus take 15 mins to exit the reserve. They can easily negotiate the exit
- The parking/bus situation may not be perfect but butchering native habitat and ruining the beauty of the street is not the answer

Facilities (3)

- As parents of children who play or who have played at both the soccer and netball club, and with a close and continued association to Wonga Park the grounds need work to function as a shared sporting facility. With the right balance of upgraded facilities and respect for the environment Launders Ave Complex can cater for the many varying needs of Wonga Park and surrounding suburbs and help to inject money in the surrounding local business when they are completed
- This is exactly the point i.e. visitors vs residents. There is no need to turn this area into the MCG and Tennis Centre and AAMI Park type precinct. Keep it as a local sporting precinct with local charm. Improve, maintain, but in line with the very concept of this semi-rural environment. Residents live here, visitors have needs but only in line with the local world

- Be more efficient; open the toilets for all to use change rooms / kitchen etc expect council to maintain the area for all users

Great park (3)

- Such a beautiful park
- The park is great
- The park is beautiful

Pavilion (3)

- The current pavilion doesn't suit the sporting clubs and it not big enough
- The current clubhouse is in adequate for shared gender activities, with insufficient change rooms and lacks sufficient storage. Its location also means there is a disconnect between the netball courts and top oval, although it does provide a fantastic viewing area for the bottom oval
- Building adequate facilities for girls and women for all sports would make best use of the facilities

Snakes (2)

- The increasing number of snake sightings over the last couple of summers is a huge worry for all who use the paths, and for families who use the reserve grass areas for picnics and leisure. There have also been snake sightings at the bike ramps
- There are Snakes in Wonga Park. Humans kill, snakes are trying to survive

Biodiversity (1)

- My main concern is the overgrown 'natural vegetation' which is very close to the walking paths particularly along Launders and Old Yarra Rds. The increasing number of snake sightings over the last couple of summers is a huge worry for all who use the paths, and also for families who use the reserve grass areas for picnics and leisure. There have also been snake sightings at the bike ramps. We live in a semi-rural area within a green wedge, but family activities, children's' playgrounds, and snakes are just not compatible. A clearing of dead undergrowth and thinning of the vegetation is badly needed

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Dirt bike jumps (1)

- The BMX Jumps could do with some upgrades. The biggest line (Also known as A line) is quite small and isn't a big step up from B line (The second biggest set). Personally, I think the ideal size is something similar to Bright Dirt Jumps. Bright Dirt Jumps - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i_MxdhdUK1g. This would suit all skill levels. Such as advanced, intermediate, and beginner. As the Wonga Park jumps, at this moment in time, only suit beginner — intermediate. If you use up space well, you could have 4 lines. A line, on the far left, B line next to A line, C line in the middle, and D line on the far right. Which will suit all skill levels

Cricket nets (1)

- Top oval cricket nets are unsafe and inadequate and well past their useful lifespan and need urgent replacing

Dogs (1)

- Dog walkers who don't clean up after their animals. It is a privilege to have an off-leash area, and dog owners should respect etc., etc., at sporting participants do not wish to tread through their dog's mess

Drainage (1)

- Drainage improvements on the uphill areas adjacent to the ovals will stop water runoff from the surrounding hill onto the oval surface

Future generations (1)

- As a long-time resident of Wonga Park the sport facilities have improved enormously on land set aside by our forebears, The council have been preserving the original strip of original bush along the borders of the park. All I ask is preserve all the current bush land and open spaces for our future generations

Grass roots participation (1)

- The council should assist to allow the genuine promotion of grassroots participant in the three popular and growing — sports at this facility

Local community (1)

- I hope that the suggestions and concerns of those who use the facilities on a regular basis are seriously taken into consideration

Scheduling (1)

- Game quality lighting for both cricket and soccer on the bottom oval will provide greater scheduling opportunities, particularly given the cricket club now has to play homes games in Templestowe due to the lack of oval availability in Wonga Park area to meet the club's needs

Skate park (1)

- It would also be great to have a skate park up near the bike jumps

Wonga Park Hall (1)

- The hall that is never utilised

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Appendix 3. Comments made at the on-site face to face consultation, by theme

When attending the onsite consultation process the respondents were given the opportunity to speak to a Council Officer or an @leisure Planning consultant and/or provide a written response to the draft master plan. All of these responses have been sorted into themes and provided in the table below. The themes from the two consultation sessions have been consolidated into the one table.

Pavilions (16)

- The upper oval rooms could remain or be moved but where they are sited needs to be improved
- The handrail is so high that it distracts viewing the game from a seated position
- The change room could be larger to allow both teams to change and more toilets would be useful
- At the moment, only the scorers sit on the veranda and people sit around mainly to the west of the pavilion to watch the game
- They need to have storage and a referee room for the top oval
- Positive feedback on the change facility
- Currently there are only toilets available in the pavilion when the games are on and then people feel self-conscious asking to use them
- In the construction of the new pavilion, it is recommended that there be public toilets that are open during game day and when there are activities on the reserve that are separate to the club toilets
- They will have some discussion about the location of the proposed toilet shelter to the south of the netball courts and adjacent to the bike track as netball had suggested it could be on the other side adjacent to the car park. Most residents today felt that it was probably better on the southside of the netball courts
- They should be more public toilets on the reserve
- The pavilion which is often dirty after soccer use

- There is a concern that the people running the canteen and not able to see the game at the same time and in any redevelopment the canteen needs to be brought forward because that helps promote volunteers for the canteen when they can see the games at the same time
- The school and community groups would be interested in using the pavilion if it was slightly bigger and could be made available for community activities. This is common elsewhere
- Ensure that any new pavilion is open to the public and can be used for other activities other than sport
- The pavilion was really poorly designed when they re-developed it and it was very expensive to re-develop it they would've been better to start again the original plan was slightly elevated and had a big deck
- Looking at the way it's designed - the change rooms have the best view over the oval!

Ovals (14)

- Upgrade the ovals to improve drainage new turf, new soil, irrigation so it can be used throughout the soccer season and be in a better condition all year
- And the oval appears to not have been in original drainage causing because it becomes very muddy during winter and often untenable to play
- Please with the council look at re-grading the ovals with proper drainage
- Wonga Park Soccer Club- the wizards is a fantastic club however the grounds really need upgrading as there are many games every season that can't be played x2
- The swamp like conditions really has an effect on membership with some players choosing to move to other clubs based on the pitch and poor facilities x2
- Improve the drainage so more players can train and play
- That cannot be played during the winter months the club needs to find other facilities at the cost of members to train to ensure we minimize foot traffic on the pitch x2

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- When the lower ground is realigned in the soccer ground and cricket pitch need to be relocated so they are aligned perpendicular to the central position on the oval
- If the cricket pitch is moved it would be good to provide artificial run ups as at the moment the grass gets very carved up with diverts created which makes it dangerous for the fielders and for the bowler running in.
- There a lot of water comes down the hill near the tank which affects the condition of the ground so when the ground to reconstruct the drainage on that hill needs to be addressed
- Use winter grass not summer grass on the ovals
- Investigate why the ovals are in the current condition
- Soccer does an awful lot of damage- large tufts of grass are lifted from the fields after the games and the club doesn't seem to have the culture of fixing or cleaning up after them
- Members of the cricket club say they have to spend quite a lot of time and money in fixing the grounds after soccer has finished its season

Play equipment (9)

- Play equipment -more seating for parents. Provide pram and wheelchair access
- Keep the bridge onto the courts many children love the bridge. The parents that we've consulted would be unlikely to have an opinion about it
- Put play items along circuit to link back to the courts and the bridge in a similar way to the original design
- Provide additional nature play items
- Keep the natural feel not commercial equipment
- The community were really concerned about the process concerning the upgrade of the playground. They thought it was very inappropriate that they were offered just to choose between several different types of commercial equipment when it was clearly inappropriate for the reserve and the Gooligulch playground which is unique and loved by the community. It needs to be upgraded and added to in line with the Graeme Base story

- Currently whilst they were happy with the upgrade, they would like to see additional elements provided to make it a much more comprehensive playground with a range of different activities for younger children in particular
- What they've done with playground is good she's good, but it could do with some additional items
- Provider rubbish bin near the bike jumps and the playgrounds

Launders Avenue (9)

- Review the width of Launders Avenue
- In Launders Avenue would like controls on parking particularly on a Sunday as residents park along private properties in particularly between the driveway the two entry and exit points to the reserve
- They should be no upgrade none of the residents in launders avenue want curbing or channel but they also don't want cars parking there and they concerned that the pavilion upgrade will mean additional costs
- One resident suggested that Launders Avenue should be one way however others said it was impractical because the area is a bush fire prone
- One resident suggested speed humps along Launders Avenue now or in the car park entry before the crossing point
- One resident suggested that Launders Avenue should be one way however others said it was impractical because the area is a bush fire prone
- They would like a speed limit along Launders Avenue
- Launders Avenue residents said they were happy with the lights and being put in on the top oval and that they were not disturbed by them at night
- Additional traffic management along Launders Avenue including speed limit signs and or speed humps

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Amenities (7)

- Residents said that the car park is used by learner drivers and sometimes it's used late at night and therefore a toilet at the end of the car park was probably not preferred
- There is a need for additional public toilets in the reserve because of the large number of dog walkers and people who are using the reserve casually that are not necessarily part of the sports club and even for those people who come to watch away players
- Additional toilets for uses around the reserve
- These toilets apparently are often out of order (observed last Sunday)
- Consider putting toilets on the other side of the netball courts closer to the car park and just a shelter on the southside where the toilets were proposed
- A toilet please -location is not an issue just something that isn't locked an Exeloo or something like that with lights
- Kitchen facilities need to be improved

Vegetation (7)

- Provide some low spreading native plants to attract smaller birds
- Clean up the bush on the northwest corner of number one ground it's pretty awful and people don't like going in there to retrieve ball. It seems to be a lot of weeds and grass as the understorey
- Trees that are dead in the children's play area need to be removed
- There are some orchids up behind the cricket nets
- Leave the pine trees because they are home to galahs and other birds
- Don't trim the trees around the oval and don't touch any of the bush land on the reserve
- Can a "friends of" group be set up to look after to the reserve?

Cricket nets (6)

- The cricket nets at the top incorrectly aligned as in the afternoon sun sits behind the nets it is dangerous as the bowler can't see a ball being hit back by the

batter. Nets are required on the top oval as well for warm-ups as it's a long way from the other nets. So, the existing ones need to be replaced and upgraded in a suitable location

- Nets need to be on the top oval
- There is evidence of the original practice nets up on the northwest of No. 1 oval they are still in the bush
- The cricket nets are really poor on the top oval however they are full generally when this training
- One addition may be useful -a new lane down the bottom that is open was well received it was suggested that they should still tone 2 up the top -reconstructed in a similar location

Paths (6)

- There needs to be a path from the gate in the oval fence up to the canteen and to the car park not sure how this could be done given that it's a very steep slope and it probably does need to be accessible
- Reduce the height of the slope walking down to the oval it is currently quite steep and it gets very slippery when it rains especially for the away clubs who are not aware of that
- The track around the oval should come off the deck not down to the fence and then along
- The community cottage runs a walking program that goes around the reserve but also, they go from the reserve and way around five kms or so, or they might drive somewhere and walk from there
- More path maintenance is required particularly for all the people, but they don't want sealed paths and more seating, or an enhancement of existing seats would be desirable
- Like the idea that the path would be extended and improved

Fitness equipment (5)

- The walking track would benefit from having some fitness facilities such as chin up bar steps push-ups etc. To supplement the walking track
- Passive gym equipment or exercise machines

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- Would like outdoor fitness equipment as people currently use the play equipment next to the pavilion as chin ups and strength training
- The reason design for fitness equipment needs the play equipment as families can use both
- More fitness equipment around the path potentially in a couple of different nodes

Dogs (4)

- Park bins at entrances to encourage dog owners to put dog waste instead of leaving them on the path wise and over for us to step in
- Cricket club say they have to do a walk over before their games and clean up sticks from dogs and faeces before they can play games.
- Probably the greatest uses of the reserve a dog walkers. Many people walk their dogs on the weekend and then come for coffee afterwards
- One resident suggested that dog bags should be provided in conjunction with the drinking tap which she liked had a dog bowl

Lights (4)

- Soccer would like lights on number one ground so it can extend teams to include an under 18 team that could play at night during the week
- required
- Need lighting around the whole complex with solar backups or sensor lights
- One resident said they don't wish to have the lights upgraded to competition standard as they feel that would impact on the residential amenity

Netball (4)

- The netball area could do with some change rooms and toilets I don't see many of the girls coming down and using the change rooms at the club rooms and I'm not sure if they feel intimidated by the people at the club the majority of which are male
- The Netball club needs access to netball courts for training, but asphalt isn't a suitable surface.

- The club has suggested that they could fund the provision of a suitable surface themselves more asked to access to the grounds needs to be provided for females or if I have a second ground in Maroondah they could play many of the games
- There is need for public toilet to support the netball location

Traffic (4)

- There are very poor sight-lines turning into Old Yarra Road from Launders Avenue and people felt that a white line down the middle of the road would be beneficial
- It would be good for Councils traffic area to look at all the traffic issues and what should happen on Launders Avenue. Several people have had very near misses at that corner would like more play elements on the reserves that blending with the unique setting
- The designated bays for buses in the car park should be turned around into car park as buses can't park there and don't park there.
- At the moment the plan shows angle parking along the tennis club boundary however this is dangerous because it can only be accessed one-way safely, so they suggest it be retained as it currently is which is perpendicular to the roadway

Car parking (3)

- There is a need for the soccer club to promote car parking area and tell people where they can park but also schedule games so that there isn't as intense need for car parking
- Residents would like the scheduling of games on a Sunday to be re-organized so as to spread out the car parking demand and speed control along Launders Avenue is important
- Could the car just have dedicated car spaces not sealed at the hall.

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Bike jumps (2)

- The bike jumps please investigate the Anglesea bike park as a point of comparison for what can be established for ages 7 to 77 a fabulous facility
- Upgrade to the current bike tracks

Community centre (2)

- The kindergarten is about to be taken over by the school
- The community cottage would like to make the area at the side of the building putting the cricket ground fence in pavilion into a little outdoor space with grass etc. Where people can picnic outdoors. They are seeking a grant for this

School (2)

- The school principal says that on Thursday's children are dropped at the hall and they have a Thursday walk to school
- The school feels a little bit ostracised by the council they are made to feel like they are not part of the community -when the school has very limited facilities there and they feel that the Council is not willing to work with them although. They have good access to the grounds. Everything is difficult. They had to pay for an accessible car park to be installed at the school some years ago. Whenever Council seem to want to work in partnership with the schools the school would be really interested in using the hall, but they find it far too expensive and there is quite a rigmarole to actually book it and all the rules and regulations conditions of use etc. These just make it not worth it

Storage (2)

- Thanks for considering these changes in an increase on site storage x3 better changing room facilities
- Upgrade the female change rooms increase on the site- storage

Additions to master plan (1)

- It was noted that two additional seats a large concrete slab and a new accessible drinking fountain and dog bowl has been installed since the master plan process commenced

Alternative playing fields (1)

- The drive up to alternative playing fields is a long one

Consultation (1)

- No one has asked me how I'd like my rates spent in Wonga Park maybe it shouldn't only be spent on sports facilities that I'm not likely to use I did suggest to counsel some years ago when a block of land came up for sale did they consider purchasing it for future residence needs however they were not interested I was also on a horse riding commission committee and they had a five-year plan with funding to fix the bridge down the road however they decided they didn't need the advice from the committee anymore and disbanded it and also took away the money. How can I trust that what you've drawn here will ever happen

Fencing (1)

- The cricket club would like a white picket fence around the oval

History (1)

- One man who grew up in the house now the community cottage said the council had bought the Bickford home and had built the house next door for his mother. The family was heavily involved in the cricket club and they grew apples in the orchard on the site

Keep as is (1)

- Resident said they like what has been happening around the reserve in recent times with little improvements

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Ownership over ground (1)

- There seems to be little ownership of the reserve by soccer in the same way that cricket. One resident felt that that was because it's expensive to join the soccer club and therefore parents feel that they shouldn't contribute as volunteers because they pay so much so those soccer club doesn't have as many volunteers

Safety (1)

- Provide a camera for night-time to help minimise any antisocial behaviour and for safety

Snakes (1)

- The long grass between the top oval and the car park needs to be addressed as the small boundary means plenty of balls are hitting to this area there are snakes in the area which are dangerous and it's overgrown and this does not reflect well on the area

Speed controls (1)

- Some residents suggested that they should be speed controls. One said 30 km/h what is the most appropriate speed along Launderers Avenue

Unique environment (1)

- The reserve has a unique feel keep it that way its natural residents don't want curb and channel on roads -they want good surfaces of paths and car parks but not sealed surfaces

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Appendix 4 – Wonga Park Sports Club draft master plan workshop

A workshop was conducted with the Wonga Park Sports Club, from which 14 people attended.

There were 6 actions that were derived from this workshop, they include:

- Add western oval floodlight upgrade to the draft master plan
- Add an additional practice wicket to the draft master plan, making it a total of two publicly accessible wickets.
- Consider amending the master plan to reflect a spectator shelter at the southwest corner, and retrofitting/extending (where possible) the existing pavilion
- Update master plan to consider addressing child safety concerns in the satellite pavilion, by investigating options to have 1 public accessible toilet and another toilet/change accessed only by the netball club.
- Council staff to email Community Infrastructure Plan information once it is publicly available, with clubs encouraged to submit feedback on upgrades to the hall (where possible).
- There was general support not to renew the current lease when it expires, resulting in maintenance coming under Council's responsibility.

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Appendix 5 – Yoursay Manningham comments on the draft master plan

The YSM draft master plan was open to residents from the 23rd August - 19th September 2022. Some 29 people placed a comment on this platform. The majority of the comments (66%) were placed by respondents that reside within Wonga Park (refer Table below). Responses were also provided from respondents that are located in Warrandyte (10%) and Chirside Park (7%).

Table 6. Postcode Analysis

Postcode	Suburb	No of responses
3115	Wonga Park	19
3113	Warrandyte	3
3116	Chirside Park	2
3136	Croydon	2
3140	Lilydale	1
3114	Park Orchards	1
3135	Ringwood East	1

The following list provides all the comment made on the YSM online portal, under headings related to the key themes.

YSM comments

Pavilions (15)

- Updated club rooms by creating an upper level to create a better community space as we don't have that in Wonga Park for the Wonga Park Primary School and other community groups. (The Wonga Park Hall is old, dark and unappealing for community events). Going up a level would allow the existing club rooms can be used for storage and appropriate female change rooms. Similar to Coleman Reserve, South Warrandyte and the Warrandyte Sporting Facility
- Updated canteen facilities to allow catering for events which includes increased space, dishwasher commercial kitchen etc
- Updated rooms on top oval to include toilets and change rooms
- Updated club rooms by going up a level to create a better community space as we don't have that in Wonga Park for the Wonga Park Primary School and other community groups. (The Wonga Park Hall is old, dark and unappealing for community events). Going up a level would allow the existing club rooms can be used for storage and appropriate female change rooms.
- Updated canteen facilities to allow catering for events which includes increased space, dishwasher commercial kitchen etc
- Updated rooms on top oval to include toilets and change rooms the main pavilion and provide new shelters and support facilities for Oval No. 2, the netball courts and the bike jumps
- The proposed upgrade of the main clubrooms does not satisfy the current community demands for a large indoor space for local groups to utilise. A larger space would be used by local schools and community

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groups for their once of annual events and or the ability to lease for regular activities as required. We would like to propose that the council consider a modified plan that includes an additional level to the existing dwelling to provide this space

- The top ground pavilion needs to be upgraded to the current minimum standard for football and cricket to accommodate female and all abilities participants
- Concept seems heavily focused on pathways, not so much on best solution for the facilities and club functionality. I have been a member of the cricket club for 40 years and used to play for the Wonga Park junior football club when that existed if anyone can remember that.... :)
- Commitment to upgrade/replace the facilities at the NO.2 oval grandstand is needed, and the proposed relocation to closer to the netball courts a good idea; provided that will enable the netball club to also utilize these facilities as they will be closer and provide some storage / toilet facilities. the toilets could then be opened for community use 24/7 (or day hours for security)
- The suggested upgrade to the NO1 oval pavilion I believe will be inadequate, serving current demand of the clubs only, not into the future, nor serving the need of the community. with the pavilion "nestled" into the back of the hill, a perfect opportunity presents to have a upper level added, which could provide the greater community of Wonga park something there is nowhere else in the region. The upper level could be a multipurpose rec area, and then lower level repurposed for change rooms for both sexes and storage area for both clubs. The second level would not be out of character for the area as a large part of it currently is nestled into the natural fall of the hill
- I am keen to see the main pavilion extended and upgraded so as to provide separate women's change rooms for the players

- While providing a sheltered space for spectators at Oval 2 is a good idea, the proposed placement would be terrible on a Saturday morning all year as the rising sun will be shining directly into the faces of spectators and they will not use it. Extending the spectator region around the existing (improved) pavilion would be a much better option
- The proposed extensions to the clubrooms, whilst a positive, do not meet the current of future needs of the total community. A second story should be added so that a true community space can be provided. This should be able to be utilised by the sporting clubs and the Wonga Park community. It would also allow for sporting clubs to re-coup against what are sure to be increased fees to use the upgraded facilities, rather than passing those all on to club members
- Women's sport is growing fast and a major focus for clubs. Clubs could easily grow by 50%+ in the next couple of years. The clubroom changes need to reflect this and be future built

Positive feedback (14)

- This is a really important upgrade to a busy sporting precinct in our community. I would love to see this happen as a priority, so my three primary school aged children are able to enjoy the facilities in our tenure with the club. Many thanks
- Great idea
- Needs to be done quickly
- Brilliant please make this happen
- Its practical and long overdue
- I think the draft master plan is a fabulous initiative and would make the facilities at Wonga Park Reserve much more accessible and usable all year round.

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- Having the whole sporting facility upgraded to accommodate the growing number of participants the club has would be greatly beneficial the Wonga Park and surrounding community
- I fully support the plan and look forward to the vision becoming a reality
- It will be great to see some improvements made all around the area
- The plan focus on development around the community hall and netball courts is well needed and warranted they are not utilised and I see the attention you plan as well deserved
- Overall the draft masterplan is a good one
- It is long overdue. The community deserves to have facilities that are aligned with best practice in other municipalities and also facilities (Ovals and Courts in particular) that meet the needs of local clubs to provide all year-round facilities for use that are not compromised by surface conditions or incorrect size
- The Sporting Community at Wonga is vibrant and important. We lose too many due to inferior surfaces
- As a local resident and Principal of Wonga Park Primary School I would like to comment as a representative of School Council and a local community member. The proposed upgrade of the Wonga Park Reserve will provide valuable improvements for local sporting groups, the school and the community. Sporting clubs and recreation spaces have been a special part of how our community members meet and connect. Having the opportunity to exercise, connect with others and be in nature are important factors to improve the wellbeing of individuals and the community at large

Netball (12)

- We need a multipurpose surface on netball court and a larger area for netball courts that can be used for futsal and cricket
- Lights on netball courts to improve safety Satellite pavilion for the netball community which will increase safety (girls currently need to walk to the club rooms in the dark)
- We need a multipurpose surface on netball court and a larger area for netball courts that can be used for futsal and cricket
- Lights on netball courts to improve safety
- Satellite pavilion for the netball community which will increase safety (girls currently need to walk to the club rooms in the dark)
- Reconstruct the netball courts, restoring full sized courts and a floodlight upgrade
- My daughter plays for Wonga Park Netball Club and I'm hoping the new plan will include some facilities close to the netball courts for changing/toilets etc as it's quite a long walk for a young girl (10 years old) to go from the courts to the existing club house, particularly in winter months when she's training over sunset (5-6pm). The current arrangement definitely doesn't feel safe, and at the moment I'd prefer she "hold on" and not go to the toilet rather than have to go so far! Thank you for considering our input
- The netball court lights are not to the minimum standard required and they are unsafe. Once again, priority for funding should be made with urgency

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- The netball club require toilets, storage space and change room space closer to the netball courts. It is unsafe for players (typically young females) to walk to the existing clubrooms, in the dark to use the facilities. It is also unsafe for coaches and volunteers to retrieve and store equipment at the rear of the clubrooms in the dark
- Some amenities (change space & clean inside toilets) and facilities (a club room/ safe space to wait) that are at the actual courts would be fabulous to see for my girls that play netball
- The reconstruction of the netball courts is long overdue as is the lighting to the netball courts
- In particular, the proposals aimed at providing improved facilities for girls and women are a priority. At present there is a very real need for better toilet facilities for the females involved in netball as well as safety improvements needed in terms of court surfaces and undercover areas. Thank you for the opportunity to give feedback through this survey. A huge number of our students and families utilise the Wonga Park Reserve and improvements to these spaces will be greatly appreciated by the Wonga Park community.

Ovals (12)

- The grounds need to be addressed as a matter of urgency to make them usable for winter sports as currently they are not suitable for winter sports When reconstructing the sporting grounds, realignment of the cricket pitches is a high priority to keep adequate current dimensions for the soccer pitch
- It is much needed concentrated effort from Council to elevate one of the more attractive ovals in the Eastern corridor. The facilities and or oval fail to withstand the rigors of seasonal play
- The grounds need to be addressed as a matter of urgency to make them usable for winter sports as currently they are not suitable for winter sports
- When reconstructing the sporting grounds, realignment of the cricket pitches is a high priority to keep adequate current dimensions for the soccer pitch
- Reconstruct both ovals so their shape and size meets sporting code (where possible). We will also fix drainage issues so the oval can be used more in winter.
- Much needed improvements, particularly drainage of the two ovals. It is entirely substandard, and the community deserves better. It is difficult to even walk on the ovals during the wetter months let alone play sport on them
- Currently the ovals become extremely muddy, slippery and unsafe in the winter
- The upgrade of the sports fields requires URGENT PRIORITY! This has been in discussion with the council for over 10 years and the current sports clubs cannot complete a full season of training or hosting of games currently. Priority for funding should be made with urgency
- The ovals are a mess
- The small synthetic pitches are old technology and should be replaced with larger synthetic squares style as seen on many other ovals in the region. It allowed for no run up wear, creating hazards by divots etc., also the work areas beside the pitch no longer occur with can cause injury to players. The larger square area evens out the whole area to a smooth play surface for all sports

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- I am particularly keen to see the ovals reconstructed and see the drainage issues sorted so that the ovals can be used more in winter
- While the master plan has some good features, the removal of the cricket nets at oval 2 would be a mistake. Our family has been a member of the Wonga Park Cricket Club for at 11 years and are intricately aware of how the club uses the reserve. An upgrade of the Oval 2 nets is required because:
 - Due to the large number of teams at the club these nets are used for training of senior and junior players 3 nights a week. Adding an additional net at Oval 1 will not compensate for the loss as 12+ players cannot train in a single net.
 - Both Oval 1 and Oval 2 are used for games Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon and Sunday afternoons for 6 months of the year. The teams playing on Oval 2 need the nets to provide a warmup space. The Oval 1 nets cannot be used by teams playing on Oval 2 due to the distance between the ovals. And it is impractical to warm up for batting, without being able to go on to the ground immediately. This is the same for both junior and senior teams.
- These are the only community access nets available in the area. These nets are used by the community all year round to maintain cricket skills. The lower nets are not available to the general community and are only used directly by the club for training and on game days. Removal of these nets takes away a community resource

Parking (5)

- Parking is an issue surrounding the reserve on game days for soccer and cricket

- Better connection of the grounds to each other and the surrounding parking options without compromising the country feel of Launders Ave
- There is very limited parking at the facility, and this can also prove dangerous on weekends with kids weaving around cars parked on the narrow streets to access the venue
- While the carparking issue is somewhat covered off in the draft plan, more thinking and design is required to ensure that there is greater connectivity between the current carparking options that is available and that there should be more visual aids where this is located in the precinct. It should also be clear that carparking on Launders Ave should be avoided
- A key area that has not been addressed in any of the masterplan proposal however, is the lack of carparking for players, families and other attendees to these facilities. There is often a shortage of car spaces within the facilities resulting in an overflow of parked cars congesting traffic movement up and down Launders Ave

Vegetation (5)

- Manage the vegetation at the reserve so it does not spread onto sporting facilities and fields
- Plant new vegetation in areas of the reserve such as the tennis court and hall
- The draft master plan for Wonga Park Reserve is good in that it appears to repair and upgrade the facilities that have become old, damaged or neglected. My concern is that in doing so the things that are valued about living in Wonga Park like trees, wildlife, natural grasses etc. will be destroyed

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- The suggestion of community garden. apple orchard regrowth area is a fantastic / exciting idea. Please do this!
- I think that the improvements to the landscape vegetation is a great idea with the protection of the existing indigenous wildlife sections very welcome.

Amenities (4)

- Some shelter for parents waiting for their children to finish sports, and public toilets would be a good inclusion and usable for the whole community
- Just a note to also ensure enough bins are around the entire reserve, including dog waste bags
- Drinking taps around the grounds
- Further litter bins are required in the precinct and the one existing litter bin next to the BBQ urgently needs to be relocated. The unsavoury smell that comes from the bin (dog poo deposits) when you open it is not appropriate to be located next to the BBQ and picnic table.

Paths (4)

- Pathways around the reserve need to be improved with a focus on all ability access
- Improve reserve facilities such as paths, picnic tables and trails.
- The slope down to the ground itself becomes very unsafe to navigate for us and creates a barrier to us attending the venue. The ovals also become very hazardous for the players in winter after a few months of use

- Improvements to the placing surfaces is sorely needed and hopefully a sand-based surface will be installed

Traffic management (4)

- Traffic along Old Yarra Rd is an issue during kinder drop off, pick up times
- Investigate traffic management on Old Yarra Road to improve safety.
- I have concerns regarding the plans to make these major improvements to the Wonga Park reserve as this will definitely create extra traffic and the Wonga Park surrounding area is not equipped to handle this extra traffic. At the moment there is continual traffic taking a shortcut down Hartley Rd to Jumping creek road and visa a versa which creates a real safety hazard as the road is only wide enough for one car in the most part. Would hate to see this road changed from its rural feel to accommodate all the extra traffic. I have lived in Wonga Park for well over 20 years and it would be tragic to change our beautiful rural area to become a sports hub to satisfy people that don't even live in this area and don't respect its natural habitat
- Car parking and access roads are currently at max, however I don't believe upgrading or changing them as a good proposal. The local character and tie to the heritage of the area I deem as more important

Dirt bike jumps (4)

- Upgrade the bike jumps
- Finally, council needs to look at an approach to stop local motor bike riders from using the bike jumps and surrounding paths for motorcycling activities

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- JUMPS MUST BE BIG! PROPER BIG! Check out the Diamo jump master plan. Build it and they will come! Don't build it, and they will just build illegal jumps close by

Accessibility (2)

- Improve accessibility for people using a wheelchair, mobility device or pram
- Our daughter has a disability and accessing the grounds/ovals in winter when her brothers are playing soccer is extremely tricky

Additional equipment (2)

- Some equipment inclusions that cater to older kids/teens would be welcome
- It seem pretty good, would you be able to put AFL Goals and a net behind the goals in winter time?

Fitness Equipment (2)

- Wonga Park Reserve fitness equipment proposal. I am writing today to request the installation of fitness equipment at Wonga Park Reserve.
- This reserve currently hosts many users from organised sports such as soccer, cricket, netball and basketball, to local residents walking, running and doing fitness exercises.
- With the popularity of television shows such as 'Ninja Warrior' and military fitness related programs, many are utilising bodyweight exercises in their fitness program.
- There are two children's playgrounds at the reserve, however no suitable fitness equipment available. This results in some locals using the

children's equipment for bodyweight exercises. The children's fireman's pole, the rings and rope netting are used in such a way.

- The tables and benches are utilised for box jumps. Installation of fitness equipment, such as the one installed at Yarunga Reserve in Croydon Hills, would add to the facilities available and ensure that the children's play equipment is used for its intended purpose.
- Many will benefit from the proposed equipment installation. With young families and many potential future sporting prospects already utilising this very popular spot. Parents will also have the ability to exercise whilst their children play on the nearby playgrounds, sports fields and courts. There are a number of suitable locations for the equipment. These areas being relatively flat and requiring minimal if any earth works. They are also located conveniently nearby the children's playgrounds
- Can you please include some exercise equipment/stations like a lot of other parks have. A lot of people walk/run around here and exercise stations would be well utilised by many in our community. I am disappointed they weren't already included in the master plan.

Natural beauty of the area (2)

- All the additional car parking, hard surfaces, formal footpaths etc to suit sessional weekend sport could spoil the natural "rambling" atmosphere, which is valued and, for the moment, still exists
- Disappointing. Very wary of results looking like recent changes to Warrandyte - in particular areas along the river and behind the Community House - would be horrified for Wonga Park to go down a similar path and lose its rural appeal

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Community Hall (1)

- Upgrade the hall surrounds

Dogs (1)

- I found that the small a consideration and comment about the dog walkers was poor. Many people actually drive to WP Reserve to walk their dogs because it is a great area to let your dog off lead with the bottom oval have lockable gates if you have a dog that likes to wander

Lighting (1)

Wonga Park is generally quite a difficult suburb to exercise safely in during the winter. Having a well-lit accessible sporting facility in the suburb would be amazing - not just for our kids who use the precinct but the broader community - people who want to exercise or walk their dog in a well-lit area.

Playground (1)

- Upgrade the play spaces (except Gooligulch)

Signs (1)

- Introduce new signage

Storage (1)

- More storage for club equipment required

Thanks (1)

- Thanks for the opportunity to add my thoughts. I love the reserve and looking forward to the next 40 years there...

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Appendix 6. Submissions and written feedback on the draft plan

No. 1 Wonga Park Sports Club August 8 2022

- The two ovals at Wonga Park need to be fixed as a matter of urgency to make them useable for winter sports as currently they are not suitable. Efforts to seek funding need to be addressed immediately - i.e., prior to the final version of the master plan being accepted.
- Lights are required on the netball courts to improve safety. This is also a key priority. Funding opportunities need to be sought prior to the final version of the master plan.
- When constructing the sporting grounds realignment of the cricket pitches in the soccer fields should be designed so that the playing of soccer games at least affected by the cricket pitch while still meeting picture alignment standards for cricket.
- A major update on clubrooms is a once in a generation opportunity in the talent rooms and no longer suitable for today's multisport multigender all abilities requirements as well as still falling well short of a suitable community venue in which longer path has virtually no other options for. We feel that this existed design in the DRAFT Master Plan still falls short of the key requirements, as stated. We would like to propose at the council consider constructing a large new space above the current structure and then modifying the bottom level to provide suitable change rooms and storage facilities. The new level above could be used to create a modern unusable community space for groups such as the Wonga Park Primary School and other community groups. (The Wonga Park Hall is old, dark and unappealing for community events).

Please refer to the Warrandyte and South Warrandyte Pavilions as an example of what would be ideal for Wonga Park.

- Updated canteen facilities to allow catering for events which includes increased space, dishwasher commercial kitchen etc
- We need a multipurpose surface on netball court and a larger area for netball courts that may also be able to be used for off-season futsal competitions.
- Satellite pavilion for the netball community which will increase safety (girls currently need to walk to the club rooms in the dark) should include larger than standard toilet facilities that can also be used for ad hoc single person changing room activities. This should not be accessible to the public. Any public toilet facilities should be in addition to facilities as stated.
- Updated rooms on top oval to include toilets and change rooms that meet minimum football and cricket standards.
- Parking is an issue surrounding the reserve on game days for soccer and cricket. Designing better connection of the grounds to each other and the surrounding parking options without compromising the country feel of Launders Ave is considered in the plan however we want to ensure that there will be no requirement for clubs to provide any traffic management responsibilities during normal season games and training.
- Pathways around the reserve need to be improved with a focus on all ability access
- Traffic along Old Yarra Rd is an issue during kinder drop off, pick up times.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

No. 2 Wonga Park Netball Club August 8. 22

- The lighting LUX output is less than 30 (approx. 21). Standard for outdoor training is level 3 is 100LUX (refer to Appendix 4).
 - Courts in their current state do not comply with NV Standard size or run off zones (refer to document below for more details).
 - Asphalt or concrete are recommended bases for outdoor training facilities, and a minimum training standard for outdoor training courts, however asphalt surfaces are high maintenance and slip hazards when cracked/not maintained; it is unforgiving to fall on and hard on joints for impact, a big consideration for netball players and the NV knee program to minimize joint impacts.
 - Acrylic surfaces provide better traction than asphalt or concrete and also present a more comfortable playing environment in hot weather with court temperatures being lower in comparison to asphalt or concrete courts. The anti-glare finish also enhances visibility for players, umpires and spectators alike.
 - Currently our young girls and women are expected to access facilities far from the courts for toilets and change rooms or shelter. These facilities are a male dominated environment of soccer and cricket with only one female toilet located inside; this is quite intimidating for many young girls and women and not sufficient for a club that is 100% females with 15 teams currently competing this season and expected to use these facilities.
 - This issue is exacerbated during dark winter months with having to access these in the dark and also having to access storage for training equipment which is located at the furthest point away from the courts, behind the club rooms, completely out of sight. It is unsafe and dangerous to continue this way. We are seeking amenities and equipment storage courtside to allow our players and members' safe and secure access to a toilet and change area, and a safe space from the elements, ensuring we can provide adequate supervision and child safety to the young girls under our care during training sessions and club events.
- It is absolutely essential that we can provide this courtside from a safety perspective. We have a responsibility to the children and young women in our club to ensure their safety and inclusivity.
 - We have two small bus shelters which are woefully inadequate to provide enough shelter from inclement weather, which we often experience during our full winter seasons, nor any shade from the sun which we experience the full force of during our Spring season from October – December. There are currently no shelter options for coaches, waiting teams, spectators and umpires. We often have four teams training at the same time; 32+ players, four coaches, assistant coaches, umpires and also parents are trying to cram into these spaces waiting for weather to pass or seeking shelter from harsh UV exposure (refer to (refer document below) for images of current shelters options).
 - As council have identified that the current courts and facilities are not compliant to NV standards and are working towards making these compliant, we are seeking this opportunity to make changes and provide a better quality, safer and improved facility for our netball girls and women in our community. Any shelter and facilities options also need to consider and include adequate equipment storage to negate the current unsafe access behind existing club rooms on evenings.
 - Our community love the Gooligulch play area, as evidenced by recent community input. Perhaps courtside under cover shelter for weather issues could somehow incorporate this theme, providing shelter also for general community use.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

- The courts and surrounding areas are heavily used by our community; it would be good to provide multi-use shelter options

No. 3 Wonga Park Resident August 17

- The speed hump that is currently located on the entry road to the soccer car park. It's positioned just after where the path comes out and is in pretty poor condition (refer image below). The master plan references the perimeter path and improving connections and accessibility which I imagine covers this crossing, however is it worth specifically mentioning this crossing? There is an action to 'paint a pedestrian crossing across the car park to connect the paths on each side'. Is this in reference to the path at the entry road or is this in reference to the path between the pavilion and oval 2?

No. 4 Netball Victoria September 7 2022

- There are currently two non-compliant asphalt netball courts at the reserve, with little supporting amenities close to the courts
- The lighting lux levels are well below the required training standard of 100 lux, currently measuring 20 lux
- The courts are being used by the Wonga Park Netball Club for an average of 15 hours per week and that their teams compete in the Association based competition at Pinks Reserve
- In terms of the master plan: We note that it is recommended that the courts be reconstructed to provide to full size compliant courts, with an additional space for a basketball hoop
- We confirm that under the National Facilities policy (pages 50-56), that both asphalt and acrylic surfaces are acceptable under the Policy

- We feel the inclusion of basketball line-marking and hoop compromises the netball courts.
- The basketball rotators currently on the market deem the netball court to be non-compliant when in the netball position, as the basketball ring when reversed encroaches the 3.05m runoff. They are also cumbersome in their operation.
- We note that any basketball use is not for any formal training or competition and that it would only be for leisure/casual type use. Our recommendation is that Council review the inclusion of basketball on the courts and look at alternative options for casual use.
- Under our NV facilities manual, any amenities should be within 50m of the courts. The brief discussion that we regarding any supporting infrastructure, was that we would be mindful of the intended use of the courts and therefore could show some flexibility in some of the recommendations.

No. 5 Aus Cycling

- Verbally have supported looking at developing the jumps however advised they wouldn't normally get involved until the detailed design stage.

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

No. 6. Wonga Park Sporting Club member

- The cricket club supports many aspects of the master plan and its direction in improving the whole sporting and community precinct.
 - The ovals urgently need reconstruction with improved drainage, soil profile and turf species.
 - Despite reduced training times on the ovals this winter by the soccer club due to the above average rainfall, we have our doubts that we will have the ovals ready for commencement of this cricket season early October.
 - Many of our competitor clubs (ie Norwood, Chirside Park, Warranwood) have had their ovals rebuilt in recent times.
 - Wonga Park Cricket Club has one of the largest memberships in the Ringwood District Cricket Association, and we have outgrown the existing pavilion. With plans to continue our growth, particularly in the area of junior and female participation, this need for a pavilion upgrade is even more important. Again, we are competing with local clubs (ie Norwood, Chirside Park, Warrandyte, South Warrandyte) that have had their facilities modernised and enlarged.
 - Council needs to consider: a second storey as a bigger social space - to be used for club functions and shared with the local community/schools/clubs/community groups as a modern alternative to the existing hall.
 - This provides a gathering area for fundraising activities, and a focal point for the local residents to meet, with the outlook over the main oval and park setting
 - A setting that is more welcoming to female visitors, club participants and families
- A commercial style kitchen that caters for junior/senior club match day and events, and offers better opportunity for fundraising
 - A better designed bar/wet area for drinks service. Current bar is cramped, and drinks are retrieved from a storage room when served
 - A room for office/administration/secure storage for higher value items i.e., iPads, cricket balls, video recording equipment etc
 - Lower level redeveloped with adequate storage and change rooms for male/female participants of cricket/soccer/netball clubs (currently both the cricket and soccer clubs store items offsite due to lack of storage space)
 - This building no longer meets minimum standards for soccer and cricket. With a focus from both clubs for increased female participation, the single open change room is not adequate in the 21st century.
 - Building needs at least 2 separate change room/toilet facilities. It appears there is adequate space at the current site to expand the footprint.
 - Under veranda area needs renovation of sunken brick pavers above the stairs
 - Main oval synthetic cricket pitch is worn and needs replacing
 - Extended synthetic bowlers run ups to both pitches
 - With the removal of the two top ground training nets, we request two extra training nets if space permits at the bottom oval
 - Renovation of the top ground site screens
 - We support the proposed spectator viewing area at the site of the existing top oval training nets

Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan - Volume 4. Consultation findings

- If space permits, consideration of an open training net at the north-east corner of the top oval
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11.4 Manningham Youth Advisory Committee

File Number:	IN23/65
Responsible Director:	Director Connected Communities
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Manningham Youth Advisory Committee 2022 Annual Report (Attachment 1) ↓2 Manningham Youth Advisory Committee Terms of Reference December 2021 (Attachment 2) ↓3 Manningham Youth Advisory Committee amended Terms of Reference February 2023 (Attachment 3) ↓

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) has successfully completed its first year of operation. MYAC is comprised of local young people aged between 16 and 25 years of age. Among the achievements of MYAC, the committee has enabled the voice of young people to contribute to Council strategies and directions. An annual report summarising the work of MYAC and its successes is provided.

In reviewing MYAC's first year, consideration has been given to its Terms of Reference. Council endorsed the MYAC Terms of Reference prior to its endorsement of a standard template for use by all of Council's advisory committees. MYAC Terms of Reference has now been updated in accordance with the endorsed standard template to ensure consistency with all other advisory committees.

Included in the review, consideration was also given to the one-year period of committee membership appointment. In order to fill vacancies that arise and avoid the need for an annual call for expressions of interest, it is proposed that a rolling committee membership pool be developed for a two-year period, with endorsed nominees allocated either the first or second year of committee membership. The rolling membership pool will provide continuity in committee knowledge and ensure an ongoing quorum. The updated Terms of Reference is provided.

MYAC currently has four vacancies which have been filled for the remainder of the term from the pool of unsuccessful candidates from the previous EOI process. Under the Terms of Reference, the new committee members will be approved by the CEO under delegation.

A report was presented to Council for noting at SBS on 14 February 2023.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR ANNA CHEN
SECONDED: CR TOMAS LIGHTBODY

That Council:

- A. Notes the Manningham Youth Advisory Committee 2022 Annual Report (Attachment 2).**
- B. Notes the four Manningham Youth Advisory Committee vacancies have been filled from the pool of unsuccessful candidates from the previous EOI process, approved by the CEO under delegation.**

C. Endorses the Manningham Youth Advisory Committee revised Terms of Reference (Attachment 3).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Council has a range of Advisory Committees to represent Manningham's diverse community in decision making.
- 2.2 The Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) was endorsed by Council on 28 September 2021 with its first meeting in March 2022. MYAC's councillor representatives during 2022 were Cr Laura Mayne and Cr Anna Chen. In 2023, the councillor representatives will also include Cr Geoff Gough.
- 2.3 MYAC's membership comprises up to 15 young people representing diverse backgrounds, together with two young people directly nominated by Manningham Youth Services (EACH). Manningham Youth Services is delivered by EACH on behalf of Manningham Council by way of service agreement.
- 2.4 The objectives of MYAC in 2022 included consultation, advocacy, building awareness, understanding the role of Council, building skills and leadership capacity.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

- 3.1 MYAC has enabled the voice of young people to contribute to Council strategies and directions, Council's *headspace* campaign, and the delivery of Council's inaugural Principals' Breakfast, among other things. The progress and key achievements of MYAC are outlined in the 2022 Annual Report (Attachment 1).
- 3.2 MYAC's original Terms of Reference (Attachment 2) pre-dated Council's Advisory Committee Terms of Reference template adopted in 2022 for use by all of Council's advisory committees. Accordingly, the MYAC Terms of Reference has been reviewed to ensure consistency with the other advisory committees. The amended MYAC Terms of Reference is tailored to reflect the target audience of young people 16-25 years.
- 3.3 The Terms of Reference provide for one-year committee membership with the option to extend for a further year. In order to fill vacancies that arise and avoid the need for an annual call for expressions of interest, it is proposed that a rolling committee membership pool be developed for a two-year period. Council endorsed nominees will be allocated either the first or second year of committee membership, to provide seamless succession planning, continuity in committee knowledge and ensure an ongoing quorum. The Terms of Reference have been amended (Attachment 3) to include the rolling membership pool.
- 3.4 MYAC's current term will conclude in December 2023 and expressions of interest will be sought in the latter half of the year in readiness for the next committee term commencing in 2024.

- 3.5 In the meantime, MYAC currently has four vacancies which have been filled from the pool of unsuccessful candidates from the previous EOI process for the remainder of the committee's term in 2023. Under the Terms of Reference these appointments are approved by the CEO under delegation, and Council will be advised accordingly.
- 3.6 Officers have confirmed four nominees from the previous EOI pool who have each expressed interest in taking the opportunity to join MYAC for 2023, making a total membership of 15 young people, including two representatives from Manningham Youth Services.
- 3.7 Collectively, the nominees are interested in contributing their skills and knowledge to support Manningham's young people, represent the youth voice, and support the development of living in Manningham; together with supporting their respective studies and developing new skills.
- 3.8 The nominees, approved by the CEO under delegation are as follows:
- Kakarla Meghna;
 - Emaan Saleem;
 - Christopher Tsiopelakos; and
 - Lili Al-Algawi.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

Council Plan

- 4.1 Goal 1.1: A healthy, resilient and safe community
- Work with our partners and Advisory Groups to improve access to health and wellbeing services and programs for all people in our community.
- 4.2 Goal 1.2: Connected and inclusive community
- Improve Council practice for inclusive communication and engagement.
- 4.3 Goal 5.2: A Council that values customers and community in all that we do
- Work with our partners and advisory networks to advocate and raise awareness of inclusive practices for key priority areas - considering people from First Nations, LGBTIQ+ communities, youth, culturally diverse communities and people with a disability.
 - Deliver initiatives that advocate or demonstrate Council leadership to promote equality across gender, age, diversity, ability and culture.

5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 MYAC requires full membership to ensure a quorum and effectively operate.
- 5.2 The four new advisory committee members for the 2023 term approved by the CEO under delegation will be provided induction training to support them in understanding Council and Committee processes and support active contribution to their Committee in anticipation of the first meeting on 8 March 2023.

- 5.3 The amended Terms of Reference (Attachment 3) incorporating a rolling membership pool is presented to Council for endorsement.
- 5.4 A full call for expressions of interest for MYAC's rolling membership for 2024 and 2025 will open latter in 2023. Nominations will be assessed by the MYAC councillor chair and representatives, together with officers, and referred to Council for final endorsement.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Finance / Resource Implications

The administration MYAC is resourced through the operational budgets of the service area.

6.2 Communication and Engagement

Officers have identified four MYAC nominees from the pool of unsuccessful candidates from the previous EOI process, who have each confirmed their interest in filling the vacant positions.

6.3 Timeline

Following CEO approval of the new MYAC members, they will be formally advised of their appointment.

The new advisory committee members will be invited to attend the first MYAC meeting scheduled for 8 March 2023.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.



Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC)

2022 Annual Report



Interpreter service

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1. Terms of Reference

MYAC provides the opportunity for young people aged 16 to 25 years to contribute to the development of Council's plans and policies. Through MYAC young people have provided feedback and advice to be reflected in key strategic documents and directions.

The membership of the Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) includes 15 young people aged between 16 to 25 years appointed for a twelve-month term, which includes two Manningham Youth Services (EACH) representatives.

Cr Laura Mayne and Cr Anna Chen are Council's nominated representative. Cr Laura Mayne has co-chaired each of the committee meetings with a MYAC member as chair, selected on a rotational base. Cr Mayne has mentored and supported the MYAC chair and MYAC members in the requirements of a formal meeting.

MYAC is supported by officers, including the service unit coordinator acting as secretariat, the service unit manager, and the coordinator of Manningham Youth Services (EACH).

Six meetings have been convened by since MYAC's inauguration in September 2021. During this time MYAC has provided strategic advice in accordance with its Terms of Reference.

MYAC has acted in an advisory capacity only, and all advice is recorded via meeting minutes.

2. Priorities

MYAC has delivered a highly successful inaugural year.

The objectives of MYAC in 2022 were consultation, advocacy, building awareness, understanding the role of Council, building skills and leadership capacity.

Peak organisation for young people, Mission Australia, conducted a survey in 2021 which identified the three top issues identified by young people 15-19 years:

- the impacts of Covid-19,
- sustainability and the environment,
- equity and discrimination with a focus on youth mental health.

Mission Australia's survey results shaped the content of the MYAC agenda and guided MYAC's advocacy priorities. Highlights included:

- Supporting the Youth Mental Health Advocacy campaign for *headspace* in Manningham.
- Contributing to Council's strategy development including the Draft Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- Skate Park consultation with the Recreation unit.
- Attending the Council's Meet and Greet for Advisory Committees provided an opportunity for MYAC members to advocate for young people.
- Rotary representatives sought suggestions for youth projects and ways to promote ideas/projects to young people.
- Gaining insight into the role of the CEO including the career opportunities for young people in local government.
- Stephanie Martinez, Young Citizen of the Year 2022 and Berry Eain, Volunteer of the Year Nominee are both members of MYAC.

An achievement of MYAC

As an initiative of the former Mayor, Cr Michelle Kleinert, MYAC members co-hosted the inaugural Principals' Breakfast. This was an opportunity for Council to meet with Manningham school leaders and other key community members to identify areas of concern in relation to young people, including increasing mental health issues, vaping, and removing stigma around mental health issues in schools. Teachers' wellbeing was also considered a concern due to students' resilience and behavioral issues following lockdown.

3. Evaluation

MYAC members participated in a self-assessment at the completion of the inaugural year. The results confirm that the MYAC objectives were met and the MYAC members valued their experience.

The survey responses and feedback from the MYAC survey included:

1. How well did we meet the objectives of MYAC - consultation, advocacy, building awareness, understanding the role of Council, building skills and leadership capacity?
 - 54% excellent
 - 38% very good
 - 8 % good

2. How would you rate your experience on MYAC?
 - 31% Excellent
 - 69% Very good

3. Most valuable event/presentation – top 3
 - 69% Opportunity to be consulted for Councils' strategic directions plans
 - 62% A Day in the Life of the CEO
 - 54% Principals' Breakfast

4. Meetings – the most popular responses to what did you enjoy the least and the most?
 - Least – nothing
 - Most – Youth Mental Health, conversations, very welcoming/inclusive

5. Would you recommend MYAC to friends and/or colleagues and why?
 - Yes, community
 - Yes, good training opportunity
 - Yes, opportunity to do impactful work

These survey results and the forthcoming 2022 Mission Australia survey results will help shape the agenda for the 2023 MYAC meetings, together with Council's strategic direction.



Contact Details

Pamela Dewhurst

Coordinator

Children and Family Services

youthadvisory@manningham.vic.gov.au



Manningham Youth Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

Short Description:**Relevant to:****Responsible Officer:****Approved by Council:****Review Date:****Reference:**

This Terms of Reference applies to
Council's Manningham Youth Advisory
Committee (MYAC)

Councillors, Committee Members and
Manningham Council officers

Director City Planning and Community

28 September 2021

28 September 2025

D21/110630

<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) will provide the opportunity for young people aged 16 to 25 Years to give their ideas and opinions relating to the development of Council's plans and policies. This will strengthen the voice of young people and to allow their thoughts and advice to be reflected in key strategic documents and directions.</p> <p>The MYAC will also be a forum where the Committee members can engage in discussion regarding issues that affect young people. These matters may then be considered as advice to Council and may form part of a response in terms of advocacy, awareness, programs, services or other action.</p> <p>The Committee will also provide an opportunity for young people to build their skills and leadership capacity in the Advisory Committee setting, so that they can make meaningful contributions and have a greater understanding of the role of Council in creating improved community wellbeing.</p>
<p>2. Roles and Tasks</p>	<p>The role of the MYAC is to provide Council with direct access to a diverse group of young people to provide input into Council plans, strategies and programs, and to raise matters of interest to young people in Manningham.</p> <p>In particular the MYAC will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honour Council's commitment to key Council policies and strategies including the Council Plan and Health and Wellbeing Strategy. • Build the capacity of Council to understand and respond to the needs of young people of all backgrounds. • Develop the capabilities of Committee members, through an understanding of the environment and processes of local government, so that they can contribute constructively as well as support their employment, education and civic engagement aspirations. • Advise on the development and review of key Council strategies, policies and plans. • Provide a discussion forum for matters of interest to all young people.
<p>3. Chairperson</p>	<p>Meetings will be chaired jointly by a young person, nominated by the Committee, assisted by one of the Manningham Councillors.</p> <p>It is intended that the majority of the agenda will be directly led by the Youth Co-Chairperson. The Councillor will assist with advice and guidance on meeting process and content, as a support for the Youth Co-Chairperson.</p> <p>In the event that the Youth Co-Chairperson is absent, the meeting will be co-chaired by another young person, to be nominated by the Committee. The Councillor representatives can share the co-chairing role by agreement.</p>

<p>4. Delegated Authority and Decision Making</p>	<p>Advisory Committees act in an advisory capacity only and have no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council.</p> <p>Advisory committees provide advice to Council and staff to assist them in their decision making.</p> <p>In accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>, a Councillor must not improperly direct or influence a member of Council staff in the exercise of any power or in any performance of any duty or function.</p>
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<p>5. Meeting Procedures</p>	<p>Meetings will be held five times each year, ideally during school terms, at a time that is suitable for most young people to attend.</p> <p>Additional meetings may be required on an as-needs basis, such as during the development or review of a major strategy. Additional meetings will be subject to approval by the Co-Chairpersons and the relevant Council delegate.</p> <p>Meetings are closed to the community outside endorsed members. Guests or subject matter experts may be invited to attend meetings as required.</p> <p>Meetings will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence on time and conclude by the stated completion time. • Be scheduled and confirmed in advance with all relevant papers distributed to each member. • Encourage fair and respectful discussion. • Focus on the relevant issues at hand. • Support the members to learn about meeting protocols and Council processes with guidance from Council staff, Youth Services staff and others. • Provide advice to Council, as far as practicable, on a consensus basis. • Be held either in person or remotely.
<p>6. Committee Management</p>	<p>As per Council's Advisory Committee Policy, Council will provide the necessary support to assist the Committee to function effectively including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining contact details of members. • Preparing agendas and meeting papers which reflect the priorities of Council and the youth representatives. These will be distributed to Committee members prior to the meeting. • Draft minutes of the MYAC meeting will be circulated to members within two weeks of the meeting and be listed on the agenda for the next meeting for endorsement. • The supporting officer will ensure timely completion of any actions arising from the meeting and provide an update on the status of any outstanding actions at the next meeting. • Comments provided by the MYAC on Council matters will be considered by the appropriate units of Council and outcomes will be reported back to the MYAC in a timely manner. • The MYAC will have access to Council staff with expertise relevant to the item being advised on by the Committee. • At the beginning of each Committee term or where there is a change in Committee membership, the supporting officer will provide an induction program which outlines the various roles and responsibilities of the MYAC. <p>Advisory Committees are required to contribute to a report on an annual basis which should directly reflect the Terms of Reference and be in line with their stated objectives. The report may include a self-evaluation of the Committee's operations against the objectives and the performance measures of the committee as set out in the Terms of Reference. The report will be prepared by officers or Youth Services staff and presented to Council for noting under the relevant directorate heading. Attendance at Council by Committee members to present the report is encouraged.</p> <p>Please refer to Council's Advisory Committee Policy for an overview of all requirements.</p>

<p>7. Membership</p>	<p>Membership of the MYAC will consist of members approved and appointed by Council.</p> <p>The MYAC will comprise the following membership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to three Councillors appointed annually by Council. • Youth representatives aged between 16 to 25 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least eight young people (and up to 15 young people) from a variety of backgrounds who live, study or work within Manningham, appointed annually by Council. The actual number of young representatives will be determined at the selection stage to ensure a good mix of interests on the Committee. • Two representatives of young people from Manningham Youth Services Youth Committee, directly nominated by Manningham Youth Services. <p>Supporting the Committee will be two Council officers who are not formally part of the Committee: The Manager responsible for youth and a supporting officer), plus two youth staff from Manningham Youth Services.</p> <p>The representation of young people will encompass a variety of interests, abilities, backgrounds and membership will consider a balance of diversity and intersectionality, including gender, LGBTIQA+, cultural backgrounds, abilities, ages, interests and other factors to ensure a diversity of views.</p> <p>The quorum for the MYAC meeting will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Councillor or delegated representative • Five young people • One Council Officer <p>Participation by young people is limited to those who have been nominated to attend, except where the agenda allows for members to bring a friend.</p> <p>Other Council Officers may attend to support the operations of the MYAC. Guest presenters and representatives from other groups may be invited to attend meetings on an as-need basis.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that with a range of ages and experience in committee matters, a range of engagement and consultation methods will be appropriate and some topics for discussion may require additional support from Council Officers. Councillors not formally appointed as Committee members may attend Committee meetings to observe proceedings.</p>
<p>8. Membership Criteria</p>	<p>Appointment will based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mix of ages and genders of young people represented, ranging between 16 and 25 years. • A variety of interests, abilities and backgrounds. • Young people who live, work or study within the municipality. • An interest in civic participation, community involvement or advocacy. • Ability to contribute in a meaningful way with a mix of skills and attributes to complement other members of the MYAC. • Commitment to regularly attend and actively participate in meetings. • Willingness to work within the Advisory Committee structure to consider the needs of all young people in Manningham.
<p>9. Nomination and selection Process</p>	<p>Nominations for the young representatives will be sought via a public process, including through social media and direct approaches to schools, tertiary institutions, church groups and community organisations. Young people will apply in writing (e.g. via email or using a simple web template) and indicate (for example) why they wish to participate, what skills they believe they can contribute, whether they have any special interests or capacities, and indicate their commitment to regularly attend the meetings.</p> <p>The two representatives of young people from Manningham Youth Services Youth Committee, will be directly nominated by Manningham Youth Services.</p>

	<p>A selection panel comprising one Council Officer, at least two Councillor representatives nominated to the MYAC and two young people (who are not seeking to join the Committee) will make a recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer Council for the appointment of the young people for the year.</p> <p>All members of the MYAC will be appointed for one calendar year. Young people on the MYAC may request one second term of a further twelve months by using the nomination process outlined above.</p>
10. Resignation	<p>A member of the Committee may resign at any time. Notice of resignation is to be provided in writing to the Council officer responsible for supporting the MYAC.</p> <p>If a Committee member fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings without advising they will be absent, membership is deemed to have lapsed.</p> <p>Casual vacancies that occur due to a youth representative resigning or membership lapsing may be filled by co-opting suitable candidates identified from the most recent selection process for the remainder of the previous incumbent's term.</p> <p>Officers, in consultation with the selection committee, will make a recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer to appoint a suitable candidate to the MYAC for the remainder of the previous incumbent's term.</p> <p>Where a vacancy occurs within 6 months of the current membership expiring and providing that a quorum is maintained, there is no requirement to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.</p>
11. Conflicts of Interest	<p>In the event of a conflict of interest arising for any member of the MYAC, the member will disclose the interest and clearly state the nature of the interest at the meeting before the matter is considered. Any member who discloses a conflict of interest in a matter, must leave the room while the matter is being discussed.</p> <p>Where a Councillor or officer declares a conflict of interest in relation to a matter in which the committee is concerned, they must disclose the interest to the MYAC before the matter is considered or discussed at the meeting.</p> <p>Disclosure must include the nature of the interest and be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. The Councillor or officer must leave the room while the matter is being considered and may return only after consideration of the matter and all votes on the matter.</p> <p>Where a young Committee member has a Conflict of Interest (as defined in the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>) in relation to a matter in which the MYAC is concerned, or is likely to be considered or discussed, the young Committee member must disclose the matter to the group before the matter is considered or discussed.</p> <p>Disclosure must include the nature of the relevant interest or conflict of interest and be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. It will be at the discretion of the Chairpersons if the young person remains or leaves the room whilst the matter is discussed, and this must also be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. A young person who has declared a conflict of interest on a matter must abstain from voting on the matter if they remain in the meeting.</p>

12. Code of Conduct	<p>As a minimum, to ensure advisory committees are conducted in a respectful and efficient manner, MYAC members must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Act with integrity. • Impartially exercise their responsibilities in the interests of the local community. • Not improperly seek to confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person, including themselves. • Treat all persons with respect and have due regard to the opinions, beliefs, rights and responsibilities of Councillors, Committee members, Council officers and guests. • Commit to providing a safe, inclusive and productive environment free from discrimination, harassment and bullying by not engaging in behaviour that is intimidating or that may constitute discrimination, harassment or bullying. • Take reasonable care of their own health and safety and that of others. • Commit to regular attendance at meetings. <p>Any breach of this Code of Conduct by a young Committee representative may result in termination of membership.</p> <p>Councillors are bound by the Councillor Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Council officers are bound by the Employee Code of Conduct.</p>
13. Media	<p>Committee members should defer any media enquiries to the Council Chairperson in the first instance and should take care not to respond as a representative of the MYAC.</p>
14. Confidential Information	<p>Committee members must not disclose information that they know, or should reasonably have known is confidential information.</p> <p>MYAC members have an obligation to not disclose any materials or information that is not publicly available unless approved by a representative of Council.</p> <p>MYAC members should be mindful of their obligations under the <i>Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014</i> regarding the use and disclosure of information.</p>
15. Review	<p>A review of the Terms of Reference and the role, function, membership, and productivity of the MYAC will be conducted at the conclusion of the first year of operation. Thereafter, it will be reviewed at least once every four years to ensure currency and effectiveness.</p> <p>These Terms of Reference may be revoked at any time by Council.</p>
16. Sunset Clause	<p>The MYAC will sunset four years from the date of adoption.</p>

Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) Terms of Reference 2023

What is the Manningham Youth Advisory Committee?	The Manningham Youth Advisory Committee (MYAC) provides the opportunity for young people aged 16 to 25 years to contribute to the development of Council plans and policies. This will strengthen the voice of young people to be reflected in key strategic documents and directions.
1. Purpose	MYAC provides a formal mechanism for Council to ensure the voice of young people is reflected in Council's decision-making processes, strategy and policy development, and help Council to achieve its goals and objectives under the Council Plan. MYAC will act in an advisory capacity only and has no delegated authority to make decisions on behalf of Council.
2. Role and Objectives	<p>The role of MYAC is to provide a direct link between Council and people who have expertise, knowledge, skills and/or lived experience relevant to young people.</p> <p>Advisory Committee members will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a representative sample of expert, independent and authentic voices of people from young people aged 16 to 25 years with an ability to advise on current and emerging trends in the community or relevant sector. • Contribute constructively to support the delivery of key Council strategies, policies and plans, including Manningham's Council Plan 2021-2025, Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025 and Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2025. Such actions include working with Manningham Youth Services and other partners to support young people to engage in education, employment and in community life. • Provide strategic advice and direction on the development and review of key Council strategies, policies and plans. • Contribute to the work of other Advisory Committees where relevant as subject matter experts. • Report to Council via the tabling of Advisory Committee minutes at Council meetings, and via an annual reporting template regarding the Advisory Committee's activities, advice and achievements.
3. Delegated Authority and Decision Making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory Committees provide advice to Council and officers to assist their decision making. • In accordance with Section 124 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>, it is an offence for a councillor to direct or seek to direct a member of Council staff in the performance of specific types of tasks and specifies a maximum penalty level.



4. Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to three Councillors appointed annually by Council, including the co-chair. • Up to 15 young people (and a minimum of eight) aged between 16 to 25 years encompassing diverse interests and intersectionality, including gender, LGBTIQA+, cultural backgrounds, abilities, ages and other factors to ensure a diversity of views. • Two representatives from Manningham Youth Services Youth Committee, directly nominated by Manningham Youth Services. • Council officers comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A senior Council Officer, either Director or Manager ○ Service area coordinator to act as Secretariat; and ○ Subject matter expert/s as relevant to the agenda. • Manningham Youth Services Coordinator.
5. Co-opted Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives from peak bodies, service providers and council may be invited to attend Advisory Committee meetings to provide specific advice as relevant to the agenda, and do not contribute to the Advisory Committee's quorum.
6. Quorum	<p>50% plus one comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Councillor or delegated representative. • Seven MYAC members; and • One officer.
7. Membership Criteria	<p>Appointment will be based on the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mix of ages and genders of young people represented, ranging between 16 and 25 years. • A variety of experiences, abilities, and backgrounds. • Young people who live, work or study within the municipality. • An interest in civic participation, community involvement or advocacy. • Ability to contribute in a meaningful way with a mix of skills and attributes to complement other members of the MYAC. • Commitment to regularly attend and actively participate in meetings. • Willingness to work within the Advisory Committee structure to consider the needs of all young people in Manningham. • Availability to attend 80% of the meetings scheduled throughout the year. Willingness to sign a Code of Conduct for Committee members and abide by the terms of appointment.
8. Membership Appointment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressions of interest for the full Advisory Committee membership will be sought in the local media, on Council's website or by invitation to relevant local or peak agencies or community organisations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nominations shall be submitted via the Council form (available on Council's website) within the advertised nomination period. ○ Inclusive techniques will be used to ensure access for the broadest reach possible.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applicants will be supported to access, complete and submit the form in the way that best suits them. ○ Nominations will be assessed by Officers and the Committee's Councillor representative, based on appropriate membership mix responsive to the criteria above. Sufficient nominations will be recommended to create a rolling membership pool and allocated either the first or second year of committee membership. ○ Recommended nominations will be presented to Council for formal endorsement of the Advisory Committee membership. ● Vacancies may be filled by drawing on the rolling pool in the first instance. ● If the pool is exhausted, suitable candidates may be co-opted from the most recent expression of interest for the remainder of the previous incumbent's term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Officers, in consultation with the Councillor chair, will make a recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer to appoint a suitable candidate to join the Advisory Committee for the remainder of the previous incumbent's term ○ Where there are no suitable candidates identified, a formal expression of interest and formal Council endorsement is required; and ○ Where a vacancy occurs within six (6) months of the current membership term expiring, and providing that a quorum is maintained, there is no requirement to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term.
<p>9. Membership Responsibilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Councillors are bound by the Councillor Code of Conduct. ● Council officers are bound by the Employee Code of Conduct. Committee members are bound by an Advisory Committee Code of Conduct, which includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Act with integrity ○ Act with impartiality and exercise responsibility in the interests of the local community ○ Not seek to confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person, including oneself ○ Disclose any actual or perceived conflict of interest ○ Undertake Council values, WE ARE Manningham: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working Together ▪ Excellence ▪ Accountable ▪ Respectful; and ▪ Empowered. ○ Take reasonable care of one's own health and safety and that of others ○ Commit to regular attendance at meetings, a minimum of 80%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Members should provide an apology, preferably in writing to the Chair and relevant Officer as soon as they are aware that they cannot attend a meeting; ○ Commit to active contribution to the work of the Committee ○ Committee members must defer any media enquiries to the Councillor Chairperson in the first instance and should not to respond as a representative of the Committee ○ Committee members are also bound by Council’s Social Media Policy and must not respond to any media enquiries, but refer same to the Councillor Chairperson or Secretariat, and ○ Online behaviour should be consistent with the behaviours outlined above. Committee members must not engage in any conduct online that would not be acceptable in their workplace or that is unlawful. For example, do not make derogatory remarks, bully, intimidate, harass other users, use insults or post content that is hateful, slanderous, threatening, or discriminating. ● A breach of the Code of Conduct may result in Committee membership terminating.
<p>10. Appointment Terms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Councillor representatives are appointed annually by Council. ● Volunteer community representatives are appointed from a rolling pool of endorsed nominees, for a one (1) year period across a two-year period, with the option to extend for a further one (1) year period. ● A member of the Committee may resign at any time. Notice of resignation or change of service provider/organisation representation can be made at any time in writing to the Councillor Chairperson and the Secretariat. ● Vacancies will be filled by drawing on the rolling pool of endorsed nominees. ● Service providers and community organisations may appoint and/or substitute a representative at their discretion. ● If a Committee member fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without giving prior notice, membership is deemed to have lapsed.
<p>11. Committee Administration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Secretariat will be responsible for preparation of meeting agendas, minutes, reports and other administrative functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each agenda must commence with an Acknowledgement of Country. ○ An agenda, prepared in consultation with the chairperson, will be circulated to Committee members a minimum of seven (7) days prior to the meeting. ● Secretariats will be experienced in minuting Advisory Committees and the public distribution of minutes; and/or provided with appropriate training. ● Committee members should familiarise themselves with the agenda material prior to the meeting and come to meetings prepared and informed.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft minutes of the Committee meeting will be circulated to Committee members within two weeks of the meeting. • Confirmed Committee meeting minutes will be tabled at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council and published on Council’s website. • An annual report summarising the Committee’s activities and achievements for the preceding twelve (12) months and ensuring continued alignment with Council’s strategic objectives.
<p>12. Meeting Procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five meetings per annum will be pre-scheduled, at a time and place determined by the Councillor Chairperson in consultation with the Advisory Committee. • Additional meetings will be subject to approval by both the Councillor Chairperson and the relevant senior Council Officer. • With the exception of co-opted members, meetings are closed to the public. • Any Councillor may attend any Advisory Committee meetings to observe. • Committee members provide advice, as far as practicable, on a consensus basis. • Committee members are supported by Council to participate in meetings remotely if unable to physically attend. • Committee members must not disclose information that they know or should reasonably have known is confidential information. • Committee members have an obligation to not disclose any materials or information that is not publicly available unless approved by the Councillor Chairperson or a representative of Council. • Any actual or perceived conflicts of interests should be declared by Councillors, Committee members, or officers prior to the agenda item discussion, with the relevant Committee member leaving the room, with the declaration and absence recorded in the meeting minutes.
<p>13. Review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee’s Terms of Reference, membership, and productivity will be reviewed annually to ensure currency and effectiveness. • The Councillor Chair is responsible for reporting to Council on the Committee’s progress and achievements on behalf of the Committee. • The terms of reference may be revoked at any time by Council. • The MYAC will sunset three (3) years from the date of adoption.



Definition of Key Terms	Advisory Committee	Manningham Council's Advisory Committee Policy 2019 - 2023 defines the main function of an Advisory Committee as enabling stakeholder engagement that provides input and guidance to support quality decision making and in turn, the achievements of Council's goals and objectives under the Council Plan. Advisory Committees facilitate access to independent advice from external stakeholders and collaboration with the community on a range of matters. Advisory Committees generally have a life span beyond one year and are aligned with a Council plan or strategy.
	Chairperson	The person appointed to facilitate an Advisory Committee meeting, in this case, a Councillor.
	Co-chair	The people jointly facilitating an Advisory Committee meeting, in this case a Councillor and MYAC member, with the Councillor co-chair to act as mentor to the MYAC member co-chairs.
	Co-opted membership	Appointment to membership of an Advisory Committee by invitation of the existing members.
	Council	The Councillor group participating in decision making at a formally constituted Council meeting.
	Councillor	Elected representatives of Manningham City Council.
	Intersectionality	The combination of various characteristics such as age, gender, cultural background, sexuality and ability that contribute to a person's lived experience, and in some cases may lead to discrimination or disadvantage.
	Officer or Council Officer	An employee of Manningham City Council.
	Peak body	A non-government organisation that consists of individuals or smaller organisations that are united by a shared purpose.
	Quorum	The minimum number of Committee members required for a Committee meeting to proceed.
	Secretariat	The senior Officer appointed to administer the Advisory Committee, such as the service area Coordinator.
	Strategic	Relating to the goals and objectives contained within documents such as the Council Plan, and how to achieve them.

12 CITY SERVICES

12.1 Mid-Year Capital Works Update

File Number: IN23/40
Responsible Director: Director City Services
Attachments: Nil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The delivery of the 2022/23 Capital Works Program and the development of the next iteration of the longer-term Capital Works Program are both progressing in tandem. This report provides an update on the status of both.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR STEPHEN MAYNE
SECONDED: CR CARLI LANGE

That Council notes the mid-year capital works update..

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The FY 22/23 capital works program represents Councils largest capital works program in recent years.
- 2.2 \$16.1 million had been spent on capital projects, which is 25% of the overall adopted capital works program budget of \$64.5 million.
- 2.3 Historically a spend of 25% by the end of December is typical as spending tends to ramp up in the second half of the financial year.
- 2.4 As discussed below, it is noted that due to current market conditions the delivery of Council capital KPI of 90% is unlikely this financial year.
- 2.5 Development of the longer-term Capital Works Program is progressing well, with a balanced draft complete. A couple of innovations including the inclusion of maintenance programs and a list of supplementary projects scheduled for construction beyond 2032/33 have been included.

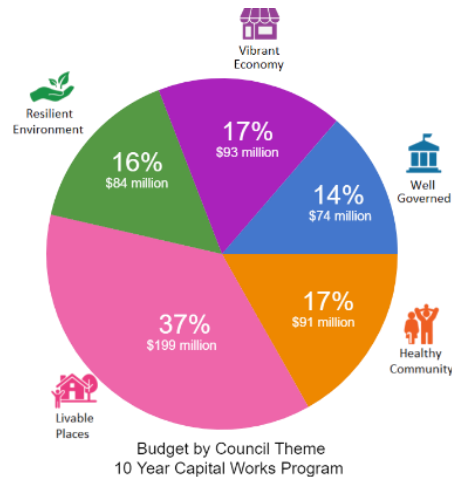
3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

- 3.1 The FY 22/23 capital works program represents Councils largest capital works program in recent years. The first half of the year has involved officers being significantly better prepared for delivery than previous financial years, with a higher degree of consultation, approvals and procurement of projects completed.
- 3.2 The deliverability of the projects within the financial year is being significantly impeded by the current market conditions affecting design and consultancy works. Officers are facing the following significant issues:

- 3.2.1 Sourcing contractors from the market with several projects having to be re-tendered.
- 3.2.2 Securing material to undertake the works and long times for materials. For example, the current industry wait time for drainage pipes is 6 months.
- 3.2.3 Contractors having significant longer construction programmes than previous years due to labour shortages.
- 3.2.4 Limited pool of available contractors with long lead times before they can commence on projects.
- 3.2.5 Significant delays in consultancy work and external approvals due to labour shortages.
- 3.3 \$16.1 million had been spent on capital projects, which is 25% of the overall adopted capital works program budget of \$64.5 million.
- 3.4 The current forecasted spend for the financial year is \$55 million, which is significantly more than in any previous 12-month period, but still less than the 90% of budget KPI.
- 3.5 33 of 183 projects or 18% of current year projects have been identified as being at risk of not being 100% completed by the end of the financial year. Attachment 1 details at risk project and reasons these projects are at risk.
- 3.6 To achieve the best possible outcome for delivery officers and manage the forecasted under-expenditure, officers have been actively fast-tracking future years projects. \$5.5 million worth of projects have been brought forward although it is acknowledged that they may not all be viable to be delivered within the financial year.
- 3.7 The development of the 10-Year Capital Works Program is progressing well, with a balanced draft version of the program completed containing significantly more detail than previous financial years.
- 3.8 It is intended that future iterations of the Capital Works Program include a budget for infrastructure maintenance. This will increase the overall budget that we report on by about \$20 million a year.

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

- 4.1 The delivery of the Capital Works Program is integral to all five Council themes, and the image below shows our best estimate of the percentage of the capital budget that related to each of the themes.



5. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Without a Capital Works Program to deliver new assets and renew and upgrade existing ones, Council could not deliver the large number services is currently does.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Finance / Resource Implications

6.1.1 As discussed above the Capital Works Program requires a budget of \$748 million over 10 years, and a significant amount of staff time is devoted to planning, delivering, and monitoring, the program

6.2 Communication and Engagement

6.2.1 The draft 10-year program will be circulated publicly for comment prior to being approved by Council in June 2023.

6.3 Timelines

6.3.1 A further update on the delivery status of the Capital works program will be provided via the bulletin as the financial year concludes.

7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

13 EXPERIENCE AND CAPABILITY

13.1 Manningham Quarterly Report, Quarter 2 (October - December), 2022/23

File Number: IN23/47
Responsible Director: Director Experience and Capability
Attachments: 1 Manningham Quarterly Report - Quarter 2 (October - December), 2022/23 [↓](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Manningham Quarterly Report provides an overview of key reporting requirements. Detailing performance in key areas including finance, capital works, progress of 2021-2025 Council Plan, governance, expenses, and community engagement for the quarter covering 1 October – 31 December 2022.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR GEOFF GOUGH
SECONDED: CR STEPHEN MAYNE

That Council note the Manningham Quarterly Report for Quarter 2 (October – December) 2022/23.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Manningham Quarterly Report meets the requirements of the Local Government Act and Council policies for areas including finance, capital works and governance as well as progress of the 2021- 2025 Council Plan.

3. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

A summary follows as at 31 December 2022:

3.1 Capital Works Program

3.1.1 \$16.1m (million) has been spent on capital projects, which is 25% of the overall adopted program budget of \$64.5m. The current forecasted spend for the financial year is \$55m, which is significantly more than in any previous 12-month period, but still less than the 90% of budget KPI.

3.1.2 33 of 183 (or 18%) of current year projects have been identified as being at risk of not being completed by the end of the financial year.

3.1.3 To achieve the best possible outcome for delivery and manage the forecasted under-expenditure, we have been actively fast-tracking future years projects. \$5.5m worth of projects have been brought forward although it is acknowledged that they may not all be viable to be delivered within the financial year.

3.1.4 Details are in Section 1 of the Report

3.2 **Budget and Financial Performance**

3.2.1 *Revised Budget:* Sections 95 and 97 of the Local Government Act (2020) requires the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to consider Council's half year financial position and include a statement as to whether a revised budget is, or may be, required. CEO, Andrew Day, is of the opinion that a revised budget is not required.

3.2.2 Council's Operating Surplus was \$1.36m or 2.3% favourable compared to the year-to-date (YTD) adopted budget. Council's cash and cash investments balance as at the end of December 2022 is \$93.41m

3.2.3 Details are in Section 2 of the Report.

3.3 **2021-2025 Council Plan Performance**

3.3.1 All major initiatives are on track.

3.3.2 Details are in Section 3 of the Report.

3.4 **Chief Executive and Councillor Expenses**

3.4.1 Councillors are all within allowance

3.4.2 Details are in Section 4 and 5 of the Report.

3.5 **Governance Performance**

3.5.1 Statutory Planning improvements continue across the indicators.
Decision Making: 91.6% decisions were made open to the public, with 95.8% Councillor attendance at Council Meetings

3.5.2 Details are in Section 6 of the Report.

3.6 **Community Engagement Performance**

3.6.1 Consultations included the Macedon Square Safety and Streetscape Upgrade, Budget 2023/24 and the Climate Emergency Action Plan. Feedback is considered and presented to Council separately.

3.6.2 Details are in Section 7 of the Report.

3.7 **Chief Executive Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

3.7.1 Each year, the Chief Executive and Councillors develop a series of KPIs for the Chief Executive to focus on in areas to improve community outcomes (aligned to the Council Plan) and organisational performance.

3.7.2 For the period of 1 September 2022 – 30 September 2023, there are 20 new KPIs to improve community outcomes. Progress will be included in this report. At the end of the quarter, all indicators are on track.

3.7.3 Details are in Section 8 of the Report

4. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

4.1 The quarterly report covers all themes and goals of the Council Plan.

5. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

Quarter 2

1 October to 31 December 2022

Manningham Quarterly Report

Key information on our performance and governance

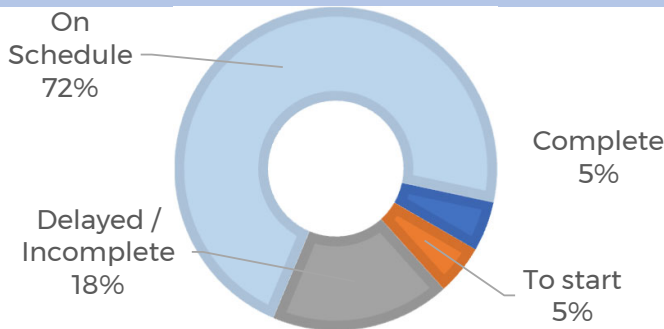


Volunteers at Doncaster Hill community garden
MC Square Community Centre, 10th anniversary



1. Capital Works

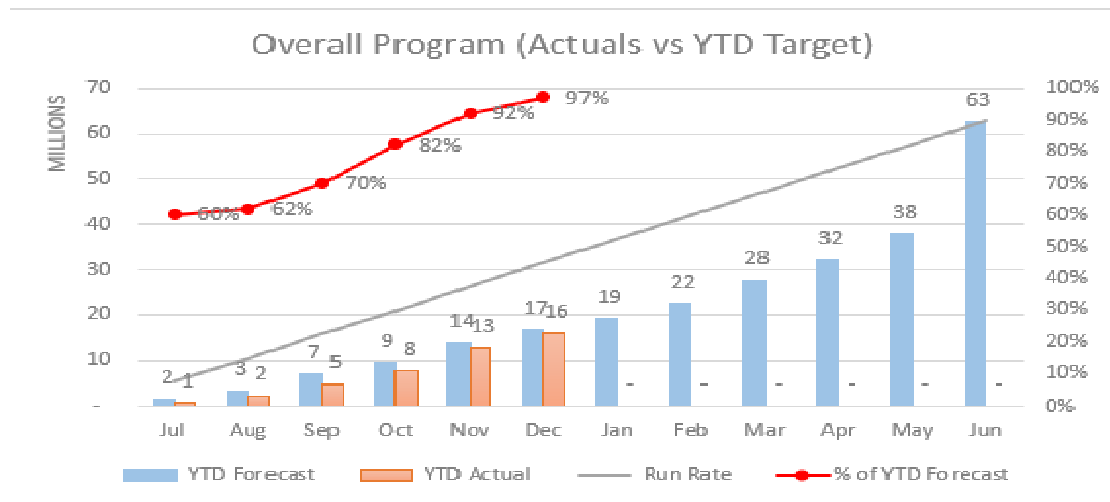
Project Overview



Adopted Budget	\$65.2m
<i>Less Carry Forward Adjustments</i>	<i>*-\$0.7m</i>
Final Approved Budget	\$64.5m
<i>less FOGO*</i>	<i>*-\$2.5m</i>
Updated Forecast	\$62.0m

*FOGO is Food Organic, Green Organic

Program	Projects	Value of Capital	Capital Income
Complete	Complete	Works	& Grants
25%	5%	\$16.1m	\$6.1m



Capital Spotlight

- \$16.1m (million) has been spent on capital projects, which is 25% of the overall adopted capital works program budget of \$64.5m. The current forecasted spend for the financial year is \$55m, which is significantly more than in any previous 12-month period, but still less than the 90% of budget KPI.
- 33 of 183 (or 18%) of current year projects have been identified as being at risk of not being completed by the end of the financial year.
- To achieve the best possible outcome for delivery and manage the forecasted under-expenditure, we have been actively fast-tracking future years projects. \$5.5m worth of projects have been brought forward although it is acknowledged that they may not all be viable to be delivered within the financial year.
- Project delivery is significantly being impeded by the current market conditions affecting design and consultancy works including:
 - sourcing contractors from the market with a number of projects having to be re-tendered.
 - securing material to undertake the works and long times for materials. For example, the current industry wait time for drainage pipes is 6 months.
 - contractors having significant longer construction programs than previous years due to labour shortages.
 - limited pool of available contractors with long lead times before they can start projects.
 - significant delays in consultancy work and external approvals due to labour shortages.

2. Financial Status

Year to Date (YTD) Income Statement

Account Group	YTD Current Budget \$'000	YTD Actuals \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	YTD Variance %	Annual Adopted Budget \$'000	Annual Forecast \$'000
1. Income						
Rates - General	116,632	116,656	23	0.0%	117,381	117,420
Statutory Charges, Fees & Fines	1,906	1,581	(325)	(17.1%)	3,726	3,013
User Charges	4,895	3,963	(932)	(19.0%)	10,073	9,328
Interest Received	325	1,023	698	214.7%	650	1,900
Grants & Subsidies	4,637	5,411	774	16.7%	11,375	11,814
Capital Grants & Contributions	457	1,584	1,127	246.5%	6,624	5,521
Other Income	3,421	1,635	(1,786)	(52.2%)	8,014	8,354
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	45	136	90	199.4%	91	91
Total 1. Income	132,319	131,988	(331)	(0.3%)	157,934	157,440
2. Expenditure						
Employee Costs	29,643	28,080	1,562	5.3%	57,869	57,869
Materials & Contracts	15,019	14,203	816	5.4%	30,696	31,436
Interest	23	4	18	80.7%	45	45
Utilities	1,163	863	299	25.8%	2,304	2,217
Other	11,711	12,560	-849	-7.2%	17,775	19,568
Depreciation	14,630	14,786	-156	-1.1%	29,261	29,294
Total 2. Expenditure	72,188	70,497	1,691	2.3%	137,952	140,428
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	60,131	61,491	1,360	2.3%	19,982	17,012

Executive Summary

At the end of December 2022, Council's Operating Surplus was \$1.36m or 2.3% favourable compared to the year-to-date (YTD) Adopted Budget. The key favourable variances include:

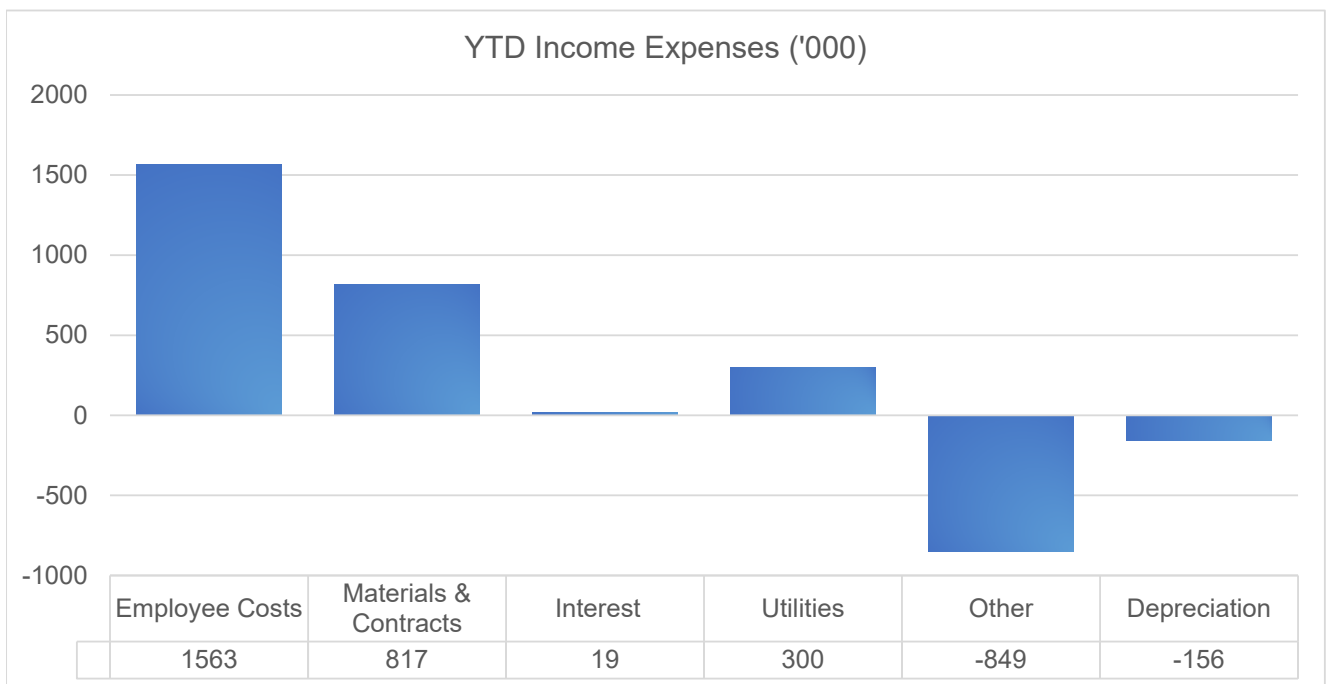
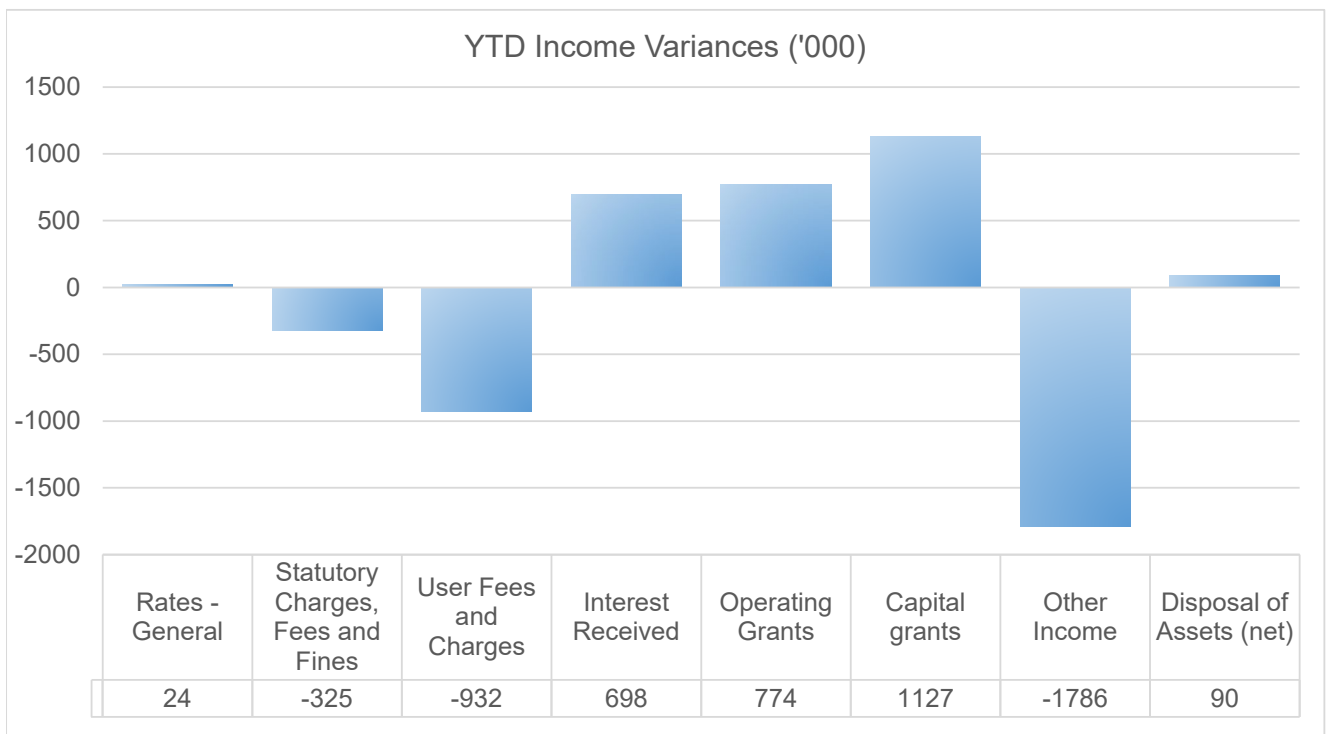
- \$1.56m favourable Employee Costs due to a large number of vacancies.
- \$1.13m favourable Capital Grants income primarily due to unbudgeted \$819k receipt of Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (Phase 2) monies from the Department of Infrastructure & Transport for road sealing projects. Various capital projects have also received unbudgeted monies.
- \$816k favourable Materials & Contracts due to the timing of expenditure for City Amenity, City Infrastructure and City Projects - mainly in the Contractors account. Economic & Community Wellbeing is also favourable in the Youth program.
- \$774k favourable Operating Grants income due to the timing of School Crossing supervision funding, a small increase in the Grants Commission payment for 2022/23 and early receipt of Emergency Resource Program payments.
- \$698k favourable Interest Received due to increasing term deposit interest rates.
- \$299k favourable Utilities due to timing of electricity and water costs.

These are partly offset by:

- \$1.79m unfavourable Other Income from timing variances in receipt of Developers (Open Space) Contributions.
- \$932k unfavourable Fees & User Charges primarily due to lower than anticipated activities in Community Venues & Functions \$293k, Aquarena contract income \$369k, Traffic & Development \$86k and Utility recoveries \$58k.
- \$849k unfavourable Other Expenses mainly due to software licence costs being \$950k greater than budgeted, \$183k unbudgeted legal expenses for historical matters, \$89k greater than budgeted corporate insurance, premium, and postage costs relating to Waste educational activities. The timing of consultancy costs relating to the Strategic Property Portfolio, Tech One and Library related expenses partly offset this unfavourable variance.
- \$325k unfavourable Statutory Charges, Fees & Fines mainly due to parking infringements & infringement court lodgement fees (\$302k - City Compliance).

2. Financial Status

Year to Date Income and Expenditure Variances by Category



2. Financial Status

Cash and Investments

Council's cash and cash investments balance as at the end of December 2022 is \$93.41 million

Summary of Council Investments

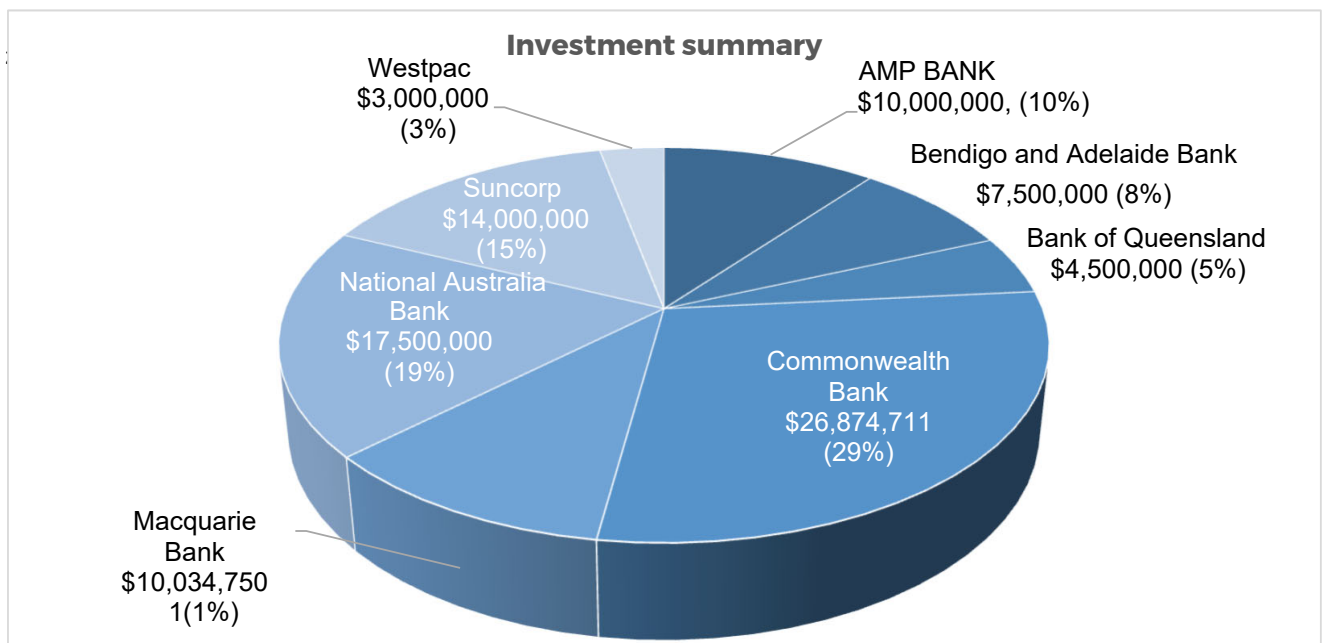
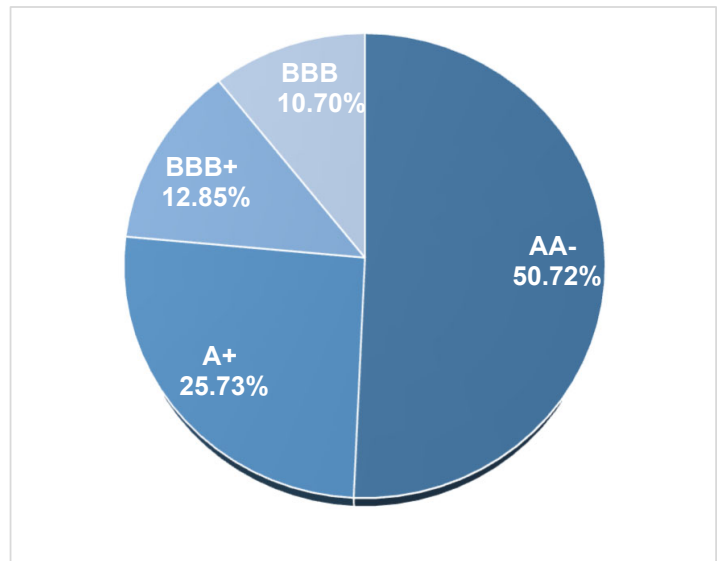
Average Weighted interest rate	3.40%
Average monthly interest \$	170,470
Maximum interest rate earned	4.55%

Investments by Risk (S & P Long Term Credit Rating)

What is the S& P Risk Rating?

The Standard & Poor (S&P) is a universal credit rating. There are 17 ratings, using letters A-D. This is achieved by doubling or tripling letters—the more the better. Ratings can also include a plus sign (which is better than standalone letters) or a minus sign (which is worse than standalone letters).

The best is "AAA." This rating means it is highly likely that the borrower will repay its debt. The worst is "D," which means the issuer has already defaulted.



2. Financial Status

Balance Sheet

	December 2022 (\$)	June 2022 (\$)	Movement (\$)
Assets			
Current Assets			
Trade and Other Receivables	75,056,748	15,924,167	59,132,581
Accrued Income	958,820	692,721	266,099
Cash and Cash Equivalents	14,409,461	12,622,907	1,786,554
Other Financial Assets	79,000,000	80,679,367	(1,679,367)
Prepayments	267,391	1,461,554	(1,194,163)
	169,692,420	111,380,716	58,311,704
Non-Current Assets			
Investments in associates	2,865,159	2,865,159	0
Sundry Debtors - Non Current	624,125	590,227	33,898
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	2,455,212,979	2,454,017,279	1,195,700
	2,458,702,263	2,457,472,665	1,229,599
Total Assets	2,628,394,683	2,568,853,381	59,541,303
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	23,047,352	24,684,395	1,637,043
Provisions	13,950,927	14,427,560	476,633
Trust Funds and Deposits	13,887,108	13,722,789	(164,319)
	50,885,387	52,834,744	1,949,357
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions - Non Current	3,305,477	3,305,477	-
	3,305,477	3,305,477	-
Total Liabilities	54,190,864	56,140,222	1,949,357
Net Assets	2,574,203,819	2,512,713,158	61,490,661
Equity			
Accumulated Surplus	822,328,506	790,207,403	32,121,103
Reserves	1,690,384,653	1,690,384,653	0
Suspense	0	0	0
Current Retained Earnings	61,490,659	32,121,101	29,369,558
Total Equity	2,574,203,819	2,512,713,158	61,490,661

Reason for YTD variances (as at 31 December 2022)

Current Assets include cash and cash equivalents (cash held in bank accounts and term deposits or other highly liquid investments with terms of three months or less), other financial assets (term deposits with terms between three and twelve months) and monies owed to Council by ratepayers and others. Total current assets (trade and other receivables) increased compared to 30 June 2022 due to the 2022/23 annual rates and charges being raised during July 2022

Non Current Assets: property, infrastructure, plant & equipment and intangible assets represents 99.9% of Council's non-current assets. Total non-current assets have slightly decreased compared to the 30 June 2022 figure mainly due to year to date depreciation/amortisation expenditure partly offset by an increase in work in progress.

Current Liabilities have decreased compared to 30 June 2022 primarily due to the timing of payments to be made to creditors (trade and other payables).

Non Current Liabilities are in line with the 30 June 2022 figure.

Equity (Accumulated Surplus and Reserves) include Asset Revaluation reserves and other cash reserves which Council wishes to separately identify as being set aside to meet a specific purpose in the future and to which there is no existing liability. This component includes Reserves such as the Open Space Reserve and the Doncaster Hill Development Contributions Plan Reserve. These amounts are transferred to or from the accumulated surplus of Council and are separately disclosed. The increase in Equity compared to 30 June 2022 is essentially related to the Year to Date Surplus

2. Financial Status

Cash Reserves

The Open Space (resort and recreation) Reserve was established to control contributions received from developers that will, upon completion of developments be utilised to acquire and create open space, and develop recreation and other facilities for residents in the respective development areas.

The Doncaster Hill activity centre DCP Reserve was established to control contributions levied on developers under the Doncaster Hill Development Contributions Plan Overlay (DCPO) and funds will be used to develop social and community infrastructure in accordance with the conditions contained in the DCPO.

\$'000	Opening Balance at 1 July 2022	YTD Actual Income	Forecast Expenditure 2022/23	Projected Reserve Balance
Open Space Reserve	\$13,159	\$1,419	\$6,199	\$8,379
Doncaster Hill DCP Reserve	\$1,103	\$0	\$0	\$1,103

2022/23 Open Space Reserve Contributions Summary

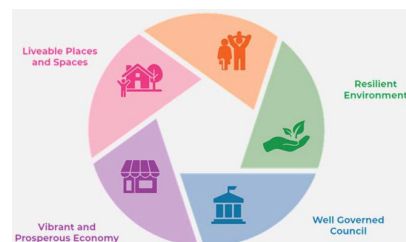
Property	Amount
777 Doncaster Road Doncaster VIC 3108	\$320,000
14 Elvie Street, Doncaster East, VIC, 3109	\$128,000
12 Montgomery Street, Doncaster East VIC 3109	\$126,400
26 Oxford Street Nunuwading Vic 3131	\$122,500
121 Beverley Street, DONCASTER EAST VIC 3109	\$120,000
1/8 Anderson Street TEMPLESTOWE VIC 3106	\$112,000
5 Saxon Street, DONCASTER VIC 3108	\$108,000
11 Balmoral Avenue TEMPLESTOWE LOWER VIC 3107	\$100,000
108 Manningham Road, BULLEEN VIC 3105	\$80,000
24 Sunhill Road, TEMPLESTOWE LOWER VIC 3107	\$67,500
29 Lawanna Drive, TEMPLESTOWE VIC 3106	\$65,000
24 Studley Street, DONCASTER VIC 3108	\$62,000
817 Doncaster Road, DONCASTER VIC 3108	\$7,500
Total Year to Date	\$1,418,900

3. Council Plan 2021-2025

Our progress on our Council Plan 2021-2025 is detailed over the next pages with a traffic light: on track (green), monitor (yellow) and off track (red).

The Plan has five themes, with goals for each theme developed in consultation with our local community, business and partners.

We progress these goals through actions and major initiatives each year. Major Initiatives are significant pieces of work, usually delivered across the four years of the Plan. Our reports are at www.manningham.vic.gov.au



Action we have taken to progress the goals of our Council Plan **Progress**

Healthy Community **Goals:**
■ Healthy, Safe and Resilient
■ Inclusive and Connected

1. **We will undertake evidence-based planning for equitable, inclusive and accessible services and infrastructure improvements for prominent issues including:** ●

i. **Commence gender equality impact assessments on Council policies, services and programs** ●
Action ■ In line with our commitment to gender equality and fulfill requirements of the Victorian Gender Equality Act (2020), we are undertaking assessments on policies, services and programs as they are reviewed.

ii. **improve the range of accessible supports and services available to young people within Manningham, exploring a youth hub, advocating for improved mental health resources and working collaboratively with youth agencies** ●
Action ■ We continued our work to improve youth mental health services through support given for Access Health.
 ■ A tender for a headspace service in Box Hill has opened, which is due to be announced in February 2023.

iii. **Developing a collaborative forum to engage with businesses, community leaders, community groups and residents from culturally diverse backgrounds** ●
Action ■ We held an event to announce the 2022 Civic Award winners including citizen and young citizen, sports volunteer and volunteer of the year and the Community Achievement Award.
 ■ A *Strength Through Connection* event held with the Multicultural Network to explore Mental Wellbeing.

iv. **Investigate extended use of community facilities including libraries, through a new Community Infrastructure Plan.** ●
Action ■ Successfully extended opening houses of Doncaster and The Pines Libraries.
 ■ Our draft 20-year Plan to guide use of our community facilities is being readied for community consultation.
 ■ Outcomes of The Pines Library and Community Hub Feasibility are being finalised for internal review.
 ■ The Warrandyte Library afterhours access project in underway.

2. **Work to connect service providers, community groups, local organisations and networks to improve and profile community outcomes through forums and connections** ●

Action ■ We held an *Inclusive Connections - International Day of People with Disability* expo involving over 40 local service providers and a speakers panel covering a range of topics from fashion to accessing NDIS services.
 ■ We appointed 16 community members to our new Recreation and Sports Advisory Committee to share their experiences and expertise on sport and recreation outcomes and our Active for Life Recreation Strategy.

3. **We will support and educate to connect inclusive and healthy communities (inclusive of our First Nations and culturally diverse communities) through:** ●

i. Environmental and waste program ●
 ii. Implementing the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) to enhance recognition of First Nation Peoples
 iii. Resources and information that link our community to understanding of and responses to family violence
Action ■ We have prepared extensive community support to start Food Organics Garden Organics (FOGO) in July.
 ■ Our *Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-2025* received conditional approval from Reconciliation Australia.
 ■ We took part in the Victorian *Walk Against Family Violence* and 16 Days of Activism activities.
 ■ We supported the *Yaluk Langa (River's Edge) Ceremonial tree scarring* at the Heide Gallery.
 ■ We participated in the finalisation of the Yarra Strategic Plan - Burndap Birrarung burndap umarkoo developed in partnership with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.
 ■ The opening of Wonguim Willam involved the traditional owners in design, signage and the welcome.

3. Council Plan 2021-2025

Action we have taken to progress the goals of our Council Plan

Progress



Liveable Places and Spaces

Goals:

- Inviting places and spaces
- Enhanced parks, open space, and streetscapes
- Well connected, safe and accessible travel
- Well utilised and maintained community infrastructure

4. Strengthen our principles to guide responsible planning for new developments by:

- i. Adoption of key strategic documents including Liveable City Strategy 2040, the Environmental Strategy and review of the Manningham Planning Scheme 2022 - 2026, and
- ii. investigate enhanced planning controls to enhance the protection of our environment.

Action

- We adopted our Liveable City Strategy 2040, considering 360 community submissions.
- We endorsed the *Manningham Planning Scheme Review* on 13 December 2022 and submitted it to the Minister for Planning. We are now implementing the recommendations.
- The draft Environment Strategy is being considered following the recently adopted Climate Action Plan.

5. Provide ways for people to connect by:

- i. Prioritise grant funding to support community inclusion and connections to respond to community needs
- ii. deliver actions in our Transport Action Plan and Bus Network Review 2017 including contributing to the planning of the Suburban Rail Loop (SRL), Doncaster Busway, Bus Rapid Transits, bus network and service improvements and enhancing our walking and cycling network.

Action

- We finalised the review of our *Community Grant Policy 2021-2025* to further strengthen benefit to the Manningham community in alignment with our 2021-2025 Council Plan.
- We added a new Neighbourhood Houses Grant Program for 2023-2025 within our funding suite to better support Neighbourhood Houses to meet community need.
- Our *Small Grant* program completed its third round for 2022, resulting in 18 community organisations receiving a total of \$32,547.65 to support community strengthening initiatives.
- We launched an 18-month carshare trial with carsharing service *GoGet* to provide the community with more sustainable and affordable transport options.
- We continued discussions with the Department of Transport and others to advocate for bus reform for Manningham, through a bus review and new services.

6. investigate use of our facilities and identify opportunities to develop or repurpose facilities and the use of Council land for multi-use purposes to meet changing community needs through:

- i. Finalising the Community Infrastructure Plan and commence implementing the 20-year Action Plan.
- ii. Strengthening utilisation and performance of stadiums in conjunction with stadium managers, and
- iii. Improving community access to sport and recreation facilities and spaces for broad community use and benefit.

Action

- We commenced a tender for the management of our indoor facilities. The efficient and multi-use of these indoor facilities will be a key outcome of the tender process.
- Our new *Sports Facility Development Plan* guides review of current facilities and how they can be improved, while identifying opportunities for new facilities. This includes consideration of how current land is used and whether this land can be repurposed to address emerging sport trends.

7. We will continue to advocate, influence and respond to the North East Link Project (NELP) authority for improved mitigation measures and environmental outcomes, particularly around urban design outcomes and to reduce to reduce construction impact of the project on the community.

Action

We are working daily with NELP and Spark on the North East Project stages including:

- commencement of the Central tunnel package works where we are reviewing ongoing design plans, construction compound plans.
- Early Works package which is almost complete with final rectification works being undertaken at the new Bulleen Park and Ride facility is being constructed with completion due March 2023.
- Southern Package alliance which has been engaged.

3. Council Plan 2021-2025

Action we have taken to progress the goals of our Council Plan

Progress

8. We will continue to work to maintain to a high standard our roads, footpaths and drains (as scheduled) including Melbourne Hill Road Drainage Upgrade.

Action

- The tender evaluation for Melbourne Hill Road drainage (stage 2) road reserve works is complete. The planning permit for tree removal is in progress, with construction expected to commence in June 2023. Detailed design and land acquisition for works within drainage easements is also in progress.
- We are constructing footpaths including Atkinson Street in Templestowe, Blackburn Road in Doncaster East. The new Yarra Trail section connecting Beasley's Nursery with Alexander Road is ready to start.
- Our commitment to sealing all local unsealed roads continues with major culvert upgrades on Rainbow Valley Road, Park Orchards in preparation for sealing works, and Gatters Road, Wonga Park ready to start.
- Significant drainage upgrades have also taken place in Brymton Avenue, Euston Avenue and Park Road in Park Orchards. In addition, major upgrade works have commenced in Everard Drive in Warrandyte.

9. We will deliver the Road Improvement Program (as scheduled) including Jumping Creek Road, Tuckers Road, Knees Road and Templestowe Village connecting roads

Action

- Our Program Works are progressing well with Tuckers Road (stages 1 and 2) nearing completion.
- The Jumping Creek Road design is complete with regulatory approval process underway and additional community information session held.
- Templestowe Route early works have been completed and design is nearing completion.

10. We will deliver the Parks and Recreation Facilities Upgrades (as scheduled) including Petty's Reserve Sporting Development (Stage 2), Rieschiecks Reserve Pavilion Redevelopment and Deep Creek Reserve

Action

We delivered upgrades to our facilities, including progressing the Petty's Reserve Sporting Development (Stage 2), Rieschiecks Reserve Pavilion Redevelopment, and Deep Creek Reserve.

11. We will deliver the Parks Improvement Program including Ruffey Lake Park Landscape Masterplan, New Open space on Hepburn Road, Victoria Street place space upgrade and the Wonguim Wilam playspace upgrade (stage 2).



Action

- Work has been progressing on the Ruffey Lake Park Landscape Masterplan implementation including the development of new signage, Disc Golf course upgrade, third exercise station and tree planting.
- The new open space on Hepburn is scheduled to go out to tender in early 2023.
- The Victoria Street place space upgrade concept design has completed community consultation and detailed design is underway.
- Wonguim wilam playspace upgrade (stage 2) is now open to the public. The First Nations artwork is underway and will be installed in 2023.

3. Council Plan 2021-2025

Action we have taken to progress the goals of our Council Plan

Progress



Resilient Environment

Goals:

- Protect and enhance our environment and biodiversity
- Reduce our environmental impact and adapt to climate

12. We will deliver the Environmental Strategy and strengthen principles to protect the environment, biodiversity and wildlife by

- i. Advocating to government and business on environmental issues
- ii. Improving management practices of bushland maintenance, pest animal and environmental weed control and monitoring, evaluating and improvement mechanisms
- iii. Exploring biodiversity improvement or environmental community engagement programs for local public areas in collaboration with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation, Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria
- iv. Exploring protection measures in the new Community Local Law, and
- v. Improving the sustainability of Council's environmental practices

Action

- Significant improvements made in bushland maintenance, with a new contractor and position created to help work in the bushland area. We have started a new quarterly newsletter, a *friends of 100 Acres* group and new management plans for Mathews Property and Tullamore Bushland areas.
- Our Environment Strategy will consider the new Climate Emergency Action Plan which was adopted in December and commits to working with residents, businesses, and visitors to achieve net zero emissions for Council operations by 2028 and for the community by 2035.
- Once adopted the new Community Local Law will provide a more contemporary document that will improve Council's ability to respond to issues, increase performance based regulations whilst reducing administrative burden for the community and officers. The Community Local Law also responds to changes in government legislation and removes unnecessary duplication.
- We are working on recommendation 8 of the endorsed Manningham Planning Scheme Review 2022 - 2026 to review the controls that protect Pine and Cypress Trees.



Vibrant and Prosperous Economy

Goals:

- Grow our local business, tourism and economy

13. Support local business through:

- i. Demonstrating leadership to increase procurement with Social Enterprises, Aboriginal Enterprises and Australian Disability Enterprises (collectively known as Social Benefit Suppliers) and local businesses.
- ii. Capacity building and support through the Business Development Program.
- iii. Exploring local opportunities to support local businesses to collaborate via a hub or co-working space
- iv. Implementing the recommendations in the Doncaster Hill Strategy and Economic Development Strategy to encourage and support tourism and employment opportunities

Action

- We are continuing to support local business, engaging directly with traders on a range of issues including business permits.
- We continue to deliver our business mentoring and business development programs as required.
- We continue to provide on-going support recovery to our business community. On 10 November our Mayor launched our new Find Your Local campaign at the 2022 Manningham Business Excellence Awards.
- Research and benchmarking have been completed for the feasibility of a business hub and co-working space. Funding has been secured to undertake the next round of research into site specific locations and an evaluation of different delivery models.



Manningham Business Breakfast

3. Council Plan 2021-2025

Action we have taken to progress the goals of our Council Plan

Progress



Well Governed Council

Goals:

- A financially sustainable Council that manages resources effectively and efficiently
- A Council that values our customers and community in all that we do change

14. Explore different ways to improve community satisfaction with our communications on local community issues, services and activities

- Action**
- Easy English is a key driver for the information and layout of our Manningham website. While we have done significant work on this, it is ongoing, and we have started to identify and consult with our Advisory Group on which key documents to translate into Easy English.

15. Explore ways to enhance performance reporting across social, environment and economic outcome against community need.

- Action**
- We have started a review of our strategic framework which guides how we develop our strategic documents, including how we report strategy outcomes to the community.
 - We are also in updating the strategy and policy page on the Manningham website to better allow the community to see the links between our strategic commitments, progress and community outcomes.

16. Improve our customer experience to better understand and meet their specific needs

- Action**
- Improvements to our Customer Experience and Customer Relationship System (CRM):
 - We have seen a 31% increase of customers using our recently automated Snap Send Solve process with 1211 cases created. Live chat interactions with customers were down 35% compared to last quarter.
 - real time integration between our Customer Relationship Management, TreePlotter and Field Service systems were successfully deployed, removing a manual process and allowing our Parks Team to respond quicker to tree related cases. Our Customer Service team are now able to provide detailed responses more quickly to customers on the progress of their tree related request.
 - contractors are now able to access case details such as mapping/location details via the Contractor Portal. This has enabled contractors to respond and resolve cases more efficiently.

17. Ensure our long-term financial sustainability by preparing our Budget and 10-year Financial Plan incorporating key strategies to Council by 30 June 2022

- Action**
- Early planning work to understand budget priorities for 2023/24 includes online community engagement from November to January on *Your Say Manningham* and a budgeting session with Councillors.

18. We will maximise public value through the systematic planning and review of Council's services and effective, early and broad engagement on projects

- Action**
- Service plans have been updated for all our services in preparation for the Annual Budget 2023/24.
 - Three service reviews are currently in progress.
 - Our commitment to early community engagement on projects continued with the draft Climate Emergency Action Plan and the Annual Budget 2023/24.

19. We will take a proactive and motivated approach to be an open and transparent Council

- Action**
- We undertook significant work to build understanding of the importance of transparency and accountability particularly as it relates to decision making. The education has focused on the importance of declaring and reporting conflicts of interest to ensure community confidence in decision making.

4. Councillor Expenses

An allocation of \$10,473 for each Councillor and \$11,896 for the Mayor is budgeted each financial year to reimburse Councillors for expenses incurred while carrying out their official roles.

Significant demands are placed on Councillors in carrying out their civic and statutory roles attending community meetings and events, capacity building and advocacy meetings in pursuit of the best outcomes for the municipality. The Mayor has a slightly higher allowance as they are required to carry out additional civic and ceremonial duties.

The Council Expenses Policy guides the reimbursement of Councillor expenses. This budget is all inclusive and covers conferences and training, travel, child minding and information and communications technology expenses. As part of Council's commitment to remaining accountable and transparent, these expenses are presented to the community each quarter.

Categories include: Travel (including accommodation, cab charges), Car Mileage, Childcare, Information and Communication Technology, Conferences and Training (including professional development, workshops), General Office Expenses (including meeting incidentals), Formal Attendances (including community events and functions) and Other (publications).

Councillor	Travel	Car Mileage	Child-care	Information Communication Technology	Conference & Training	General Office Expense	Formal Attendance	Member -ship	Other	Total Qtr	Year to Date
Cr A Chen	\$46	\$376	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$46	\$0	\$0	\$468	\$817
Cr A Conlon	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$125
Cr D Diamante (Mayor)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$413	\$0	\$0	\$413	\$563
Cr G Gough	\$128	\$743	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$871	\$1,076
Cr M Kleinert	\$544	\$0	\$0	\$185	\$0	\$58	\$138	\$0	\$0	\$925	\$1,922
Cr C Lange	\$0	\$803	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$52	\$0	\$0	\$854	\$944
Cr T Lightbody (Dep Mayor)	\$0	\$317	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$317	\$626
Cr L Mayne	\$20	\$0	\$0	\$320	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$340	\$5,576
Cr S Mayne	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$112

Notes for the Quarter

- \$77 adjustment for Councillor (Cr) L Mayne to the figure reported last quarter
- Allowances have been adjusted to reflect that Cr Deirdre Diamante was elected Mayor and Cr Tomas Lightbody as Deputy Mayor on 3 November 2022.
- Councillor year end event \$2,344.20

5. Chief Executive Expenses

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) incurs expenses while carrying out the role. Expense categories related specifically to the CEO role are travel, conferences and seminars and miscellaneous. Gifts declared are also included in this report although not an expense to Council. The CEO is required to be transparent in the use of Council resources as per the Employee Code of Conduct.

	Travel	Food and beverage	Conferences and seminars	Gifts declared	Misc.	Total Qtr	Total Year
Andrew Day	\$257	\$37	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$294	\$294

Notes

Expense categories

Travel

Costs associated with assisting the CEO in meeting transport costs incurred whilst attending meetings, functions and conferences. This includes taxi services, uber services, car parking fees, airfares, accommodation costs etc.

Food and Beverage

Costs associated with food or beverages that directly relate to the CEO role within a professional context.

Conferences and seminars

Costs associated with registration fees from attendance by the CEO at conferences, functions and seminars. Meetings such as these are normally held by local government related organisations, professional bodies and institutions, educational institutions and private sector providers on areas and events which impact on the role of the CEO and the City in general.

Gifts Declared

Any gifts that exceed the token gift threshold (\$50) that the CEO is required to declare as per the Token Gift Policy.

Miscellaneous

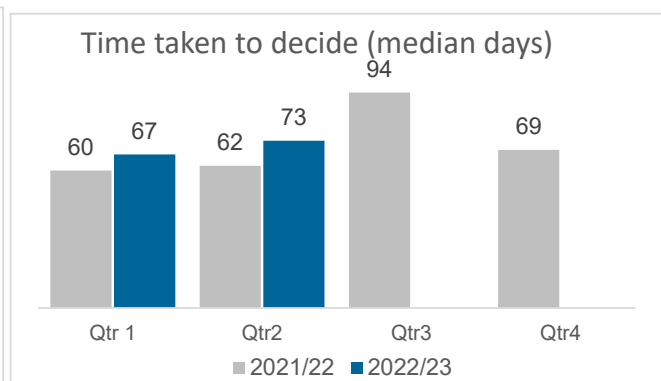
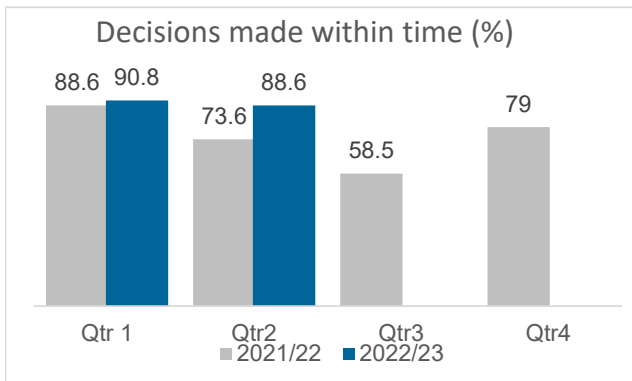
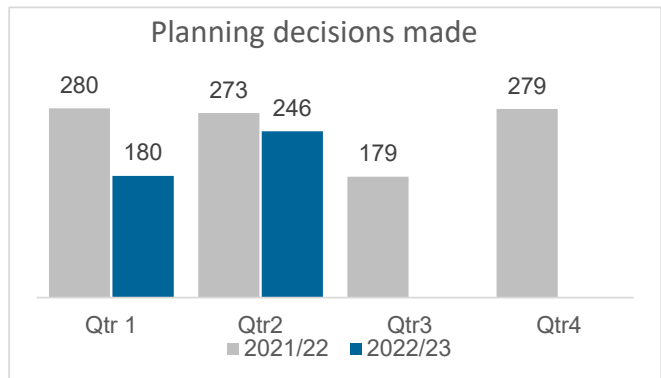
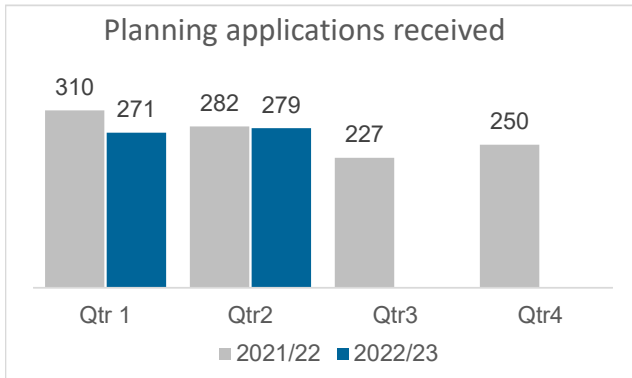
Any other costs associated with the CEO role not covered by the categories above.

6. Governance

We monitor our service performance to make sure we maximise our public value and make improvements where needed. A portion of our performance indicators are in the local government performance reporting framework. The areas below are of particular interest, the full suite is on Know Your Council.

Statutory Planning

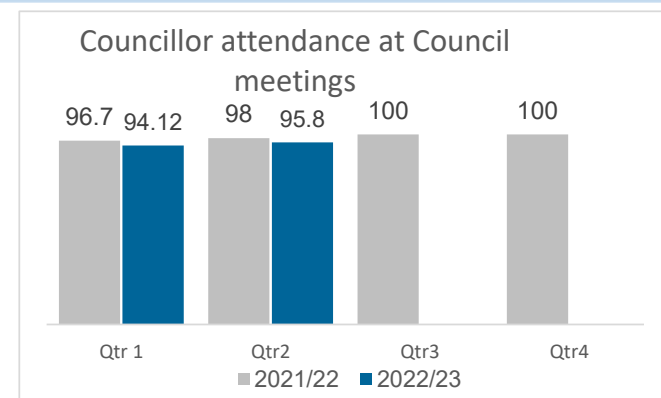
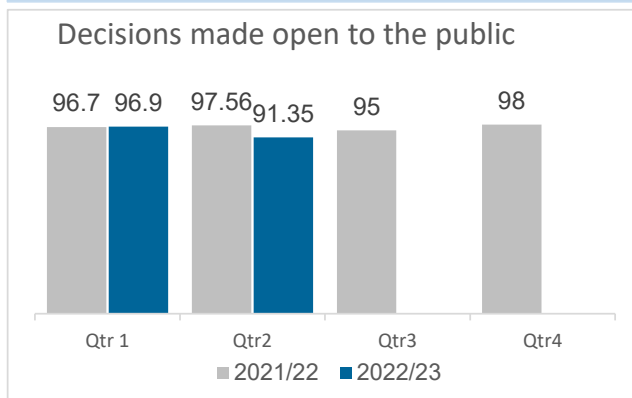
Statutory planning services include the assessment of planning permit applications for new development proposals and changes to land use activities under the Planning and Environment Act 1987.



Decisions made within time has stabilised with 88.6% of all applications decided within time. There has also been an increase in the number of applications received and the number of planning decisions made from the previous quarter.

Council decision making

Manningham Council is committed to being open and transparent and



The decisions made closed to the public included property and contractual matters

7. Community Engagement

Engagement Projects



Victoria Street Playspace

We're looking to create a major play destinations with experiences for all ages to enjoy creative and imaginative play.



2023/24 Budget

We're committed to spending your rates wisely and providing community services, infrastructure and programs that suit your needs.



Skatepark at Swanston Reserve

In 2023, we'll be upgrading the Bulleen skatepark at Swanston Reserve as part of the Swanston Reserve Masterplan.



Active Manningham Program 2023-25

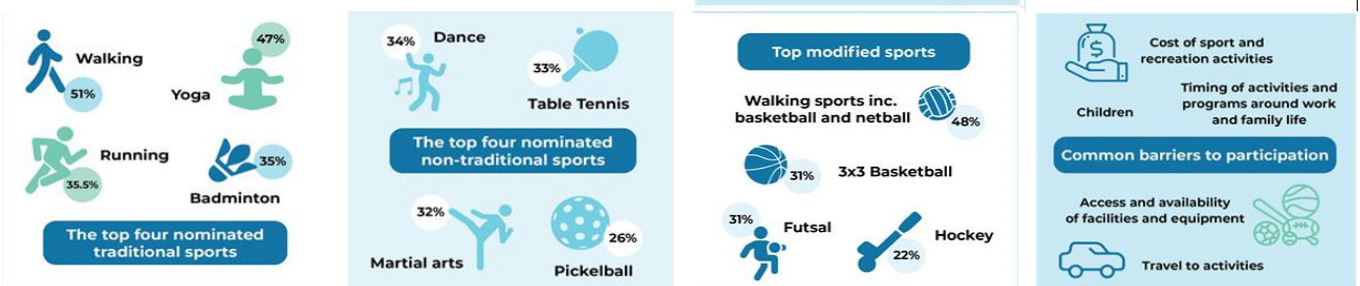
Which sport and recreation activities you wish to try to improve health and wellbeing in the community

What you told us

Active Manningham Program 2023-2025

The *Active Manningham Program* provides opportunities for our community to participate in different sport and recreation activities for free, or at a discounted cost.

We asked the community on *Your Say Manningham* what sports and activities the Program should focus on over the next three years. The results from 110 responses are:



Progress on recent engagement

Macedon Square Safety and Streetscape Upgrade

We are continuing to talk with our community about the proposed upgrade of Macedon Square. After feedback from our traders and community, the current concept plan for Macedon Square was taken off the table and we held a Macedon Square Community Engagement workshop on 6 December 2022. The workshop included 12 traders, eight community members, two property owners and six Manningham council representatives.

The outcome of the activity was an agreed upon way to move forward and to start designing a new concept plan alongside the community starting in March 2023. This is an ongoing project and Manningham Council is committed to continue working with the community.

Budget 2023/24

Our Council service priorities survey for the 2023/24 budget is now closed and 202 people shared their views and preferences on what needs to be prioritised in our budget.

A strong preference for parks, reserves and other open spaces as well as the maintenance and cleaning of public spaces was shown by participants.

Climate Emergency Action Plan

We used the online platform *Polis* to boost resident's interest and influence over our Climate Emergency Action Plan. 211 people voted and a total of 8,062 votes were cast for this poll.

8. Chief Executive KPIs

In September each year, Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are developed in collaboration with our Councillors as key pieces of work that require our Chief Executive's particular attention in the pursuit of improved community outcomes and organisation excellence. Progress on indicators to improve community outcomes is presented below.

Performance: On Track ● Off Track ● Monitor ●

Community

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Provide quarterly reports to Council on the implementation of the Community Infrastructure Plan | ● |
| 2 | Develop community assets 'access and utilisation report' and present to Council by 30 September 2023 | ● |
| 3 | Implementation of strategies to improve retention and encourage diversity, including employment opportunities targeting youth (such as graduate programs). | ● |

Environment

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4 | Climate Action Plan adopted and Year 1 actions commenced by September 2023 | ● |
| 5 | Progress flood mapping reforms with committee convened and timelines for mapping established by 1 July 2023. | ● |
| 6 | Develop a 10-year prioritised list of drainage projects which will consider available flood mapping for presentation to Council by 30 September 2023. | ● |

Places and Spaces

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 7 | Active transport strategy presented to Council by 1 July 2023 | ● |
| 8 | 90% completion of Capital Works Program | ● |
| 9 | Provide quarterly progress reports to Council on the implementation of the Asset Plan | ● |
| 10 | Immediate Liveable City Strategy actions are categorised into a 5-year implementation plan and presented to Council by 30 June 2023. 90% of high priority actions to be delivered during this timeframe. | ● |
| 11 | Provide quarterly reports to Council on the Road Management Plan (including maintenance scheduling) | ● |
| 12 | Implement a new Community Bus Service model by 1 July 2023 | ● |

Economy

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 13 | Economic Development Strategy presented to Council by 1 July 2023. Progress plans for business hub and co-working space options. If feasible, complete preliminary design phase by 30 September | ● |
|----|---|---|

Well Governed Council

- | | | |
|----|--|---|
| 14 | Preparation of preliminary designs for at least one of the key Strategic Property Portfolio sites and present a process and options for property portfolio transactions by 1 July 2023 | ● |
| 15 | Council's State election advocacy agenda is promoted with a report to SBS on outcomes by 30 March | ● |
| 16 | 90% of the Council Plan Major Initiatives and Initiatives are on track at the end of the financial year | ● |
| 17 | Prepare and present an Annual Budget to Council in alignment with Council's 10 year Financial Plan. Meet the organisation financial budget target as set out in the annual budgets for 2022/23. | ● |
| 18 | Provide an annual report to Councillors on service review areas and outcomes | ● |
| 19 | Improved collaborative processes and reporting in place to reduce response and resolution times for service requests and community enquiries / community feedback on service handling satisfaction | ● |
| 20 | Annual reporting of employee diversity (gender/young people/older workers/culture) to Council | ● |



Manningham Council

📍 Manningham Council, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, 3108

☎ 9840 9333

✉ manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au

🌐 manningham.vic.gov.au

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 Interpreter service **9840 9355**
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13.2 National General Assembly 2023 Motions - Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) Infrastructure

File Number: IN23/61
Responsible Director: Director Experience and Capability
Attachments: Nil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Councils can submit advocacy motions to the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA).

This year's ALGA National General Assembly focuses on "Our Communities, Our Future". ALGA is seeking motions that align with this theme and identify opportunities for new federal programs and policies that will support councils to build stronger communities.

This report proposes a motion calling for more national Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) infrastructure support.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR TOMAS LIGHTBODY
SECONDED: CR STEPHEN MAYNE

That Council endorse the following motions to be submitted to the 2023 ALGA National General Assembly of Local Government;

Motion 1

The National General Assembly

- 1. Requests the federal government develop an electric charging network program whereby critical infrastructure can be installed nationally and efficiently through a single standardised rollout.**
- 2. Requests that the program provides grant funding and a group of preferred providers to construct and maintain EV charging stations for Local Governments to draw from as they install chargers as part of this network.**
- 3. Notes that local governments are best placed to understand their communities and regions in identifying these locations. Many have already begun installing this infrastructure as the owners of many public car parking locations. However, this can place a significant cost burden on local governments and results in a mishmash of different providers, technologies, payment platforms and availability of charging stations.**
- 4. Notes the anticipated critical labour needs and ensure there are skills and supplies for timely maintenance and repair of EVC through the appropriate supply chain and training opportunities.**

Motion 2

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to address Australia's world-highest gambling losses per capita and the intolerable harm \$25 billion of annual losses inflicts on Australians, local communities and local and regional health and municipal service providers by:

- 1. Introducing a new dedicated Federal Gambling Regulator which includes a mandate to implement and oversee a broad tobacco-style ban on gambling advertising.**
- 2. Legislating for the complete removal of cash from Australia's fleet of 200,000 poker machine as a national anti money laundering measure in light of last year's NSW Crime Commission report revealing widespread money laundering across NSW poker machines where criminal money launderers can still load up to \$10,000 in cash into a single machine.**
- 3. Establishing a national ACT-style buyback and retirement of poker machine licenses with an initial budget allocation of \$500 million and make it conditional on the state and territory governments and the participating clubs, pubs and casinos agreeing to permanently retire the licenses and remove the attached machines from their venues.**
- 4. Negotiating a moratorium agreement with the Northern Territory government to cease issuing any new low tax digital bookmaking licenses to foreign-owned gambling operators such as Sportsbet, Bet365, Ladbrokes and Betr and instead transferring online gambling licensing and regulation to a new Federal Regulator.**
- 5. Legislating to the effect that Federally registered political parties are ineligible for Federal per-vote political funding if they, or any of their state affiliates, own and operate poker machine venues.**
- 6. Removing the DGR status of any church or charity which continues to directly own and operate licensed gambling entities, such as poker machine clubs.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BACKGROUND

Each Council has the opportunity to submit advocacy motions to the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly (NGA).

The theme for the 2023 NGA is "Our Communities, Our Future". ALGA is seeking motions that align with this theme and identify opportunities for new federal programs and policies that will support councils to build stronger communities.

This report seeks endorsement of the proposed Motion for the ALGA National General Assembly, June 2023.

1 DISCUSSION / ISSUE

The past few years have seen underinvestment by governments in the development and construction of Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) infrastructure. This underinvestment has led to a sparsity of public charging stations, many of which use several types of plugs, and many drivers find chargers that are out of order.

With most EV charging now occurring in private households and the high cost of EV models, only those on higher incomes and those with space or adequate infrastructure for private charging can afford EVs.

Registrations of EVs have doubled these past few years. With more affordable EV models due to reach our market in the coming years, there will be a growing demand for public charging stations, which the current supply is insufficient and inadequate to support.

In Metropolitan areas, EV owners who live in apartment buildings, units and townhouses that do not have off-street parking or are in developments built without electric vehicle charging facilities will drive the demand for more EV stations. In Regional areas, demand will come through local EV owners and a desire for more equitable EV access and as a means to support inter-regional travel, tourism, and visitors.

A national strategy is required to provide consistency across all regions of Australia. In 2022 Manningham was part of a consolidated response to the first National Electric Vehicle Strategy consultation coordinated by the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances (https://eaga.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/National-Electric-Vehicle-Strategy_Victorian-Greenhouse-Alliances_FINAL_Nov-2022.pdf).

This strategy hopes to improve the affordability, supply and uptake of electric vehicles, ensuring Australians can access the best transport technologies and help meet our emission reduction targets. The consultation closed in October 2022, and we await the report.

Motion:

- 1.1 Requests the federal government develop an electric charging network program whereby critical infrastructure can be installed nationally and efficiently through a single standardised rollout.
- 1.2 Requests that the program provides grant funding and a group of preferred providers to construct and maintain EV charging stations for Local Governments to draw from as they install chargers as part of this network.
- 1.3 Notes that local governments are best placed to understand their communities and regions in identifying these locations. Many have already begun installing this infrastructure as the owners of many public car parking locations. However, this can place a significant cost burden on local governments and results in a mishmash of different providers, technologies, payment platforms and availability of charging stations.
- 1.4 Notes the anticipated critical labour needs and ensure there are skills and supplies for timely maintenance and repair of EVC through the appropriate supply chain and training opportunities.

2. COUNCIL PLAN / STRATEGY

2.1 The Motion aligns with the Council Plan 2020-2025:

GOAL: 3.2 Reduce our environmental impact and adapt to climate change

Facilitate the uptake of electric vehicles in our operations and support the implementation of community infrastructure to enable the uptake of electric vehicles.

3. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

3.1 If the Motion was successful, our community could have significant social, economic, business, health and environmental benefits.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Finance / Resource Implications

4.1.1 There will be no finance / resource implications in submitting the Motion.

4.2 Communication and Engagement

4.2.1 There will be no communication and engagement implications in submitting the Motion.

4.3 Timelines

4.3.1 The Motion is being considered at the February Ordinary Council Meeting to meet the ALGA NGA timelines. If endorsed, it will be submitted to ALGA for consideration at the NGA in June 2023.

5. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

14 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

14.1 Appointment of Authorised Officer - Planning and Environment Act 1987

File Number: IN22/781
Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: 1 S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation -
Jellina de Vries [↓](#)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act), Council is required to authorise officers for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of the Act. It is proposed to appoint the Council officer detailed below as an Authorised Officer pursuant to Section 147(4) of the Act.

The Local Government Act 1989 also empowers Council to appoint a person, other than a Councillor, to be an authorised officer for the purposes of the administration and enforcement of any Act, regulations or local laws which relate to the functions and powers of the Council.

A person who is appointed to a position has the powers of that position under the legislation which they have been appointed. Authorisations are necessary to facilitate the efficient and effective function of councils as they enable authorised officers to carry out compliance or enforcement under legislation related to their functions and powers of the Council.

Authorised officers will continue to be appointed under s224 of the Local Government Act 1989, as there are no provisions for appointing authorised officers under the Local Government Act 2020.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR MICHELLE KLEINERT
SECONDED: CR ANDREW CONLON

In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 224 of the Local Government Act 1989 and the other legislation referred to in the attached instruments of appointment and authorisation, Council resolves that:

- A. the following Council Officer be appointed as an authorised officer:
 - Jellina de Vries**
- B. the instrument will come into force immediately upon execution and will remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke the Instrument or the officer ceases their employment with Council; and**
- C. the Instrument be signed and sealed.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) regulates enforcement of the Act and is reliant on authorised officers acting on behalf of the Responsible Authority which is Council.
- 2.2 The Act, unlike the *Local Government Act 1989*, does not permit appointments to be made by the Chief Executive Officer and therefore in order for the officer to legally undertake the duties of their position under the Act, it is necessary for Council to make appointments by formal resolution.
- 2.3 The Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation has been prepared based on advice from Maddocks Lawyers and empowers the relevant officer to exercise those powers granted in the Instrument.
- 2.4 The appointment will come into force immediately upon its execution under the Seal of Council and will remain in force until varied or revoked by Council or the officer ceases employment with Council.
- 2.5 In addition to the appointment under the Act, Council pursuant to Section 224 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, may appoint any person other than a Councillor to be an authorised officer for the purposes of the administration and enforcement of most other Acts, Regulations or Local Laws which relate to the functions and powers of Council. This broader Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation has already been carried out, in respect to the designated officers, under the delegated authority of the Chief Executive Officer as the first part of a dual appointment process.
- 2.6 The appointment will be recorded in the Authorised Officers Register that is required to be kept by Council and is available for public inspection.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

**Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation
(Planning and Environment Act 1987)**

In this instrument "officer" means -

Jellina de Vries

By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Manningham City Council -

- 1. under section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* - appoints the officer to be an authorised officer for the purposes of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the regulations made under that Act; and
- 2. under section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020* authorises the officer either generally or in a particular case to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.

It is declared that this instrument comes into force immediately upon its execution and remains in force until varied or revoked.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Manningham City Council on 28 February 2023.

The Common Seal of)
Manningham City Council)
was hereunto affixed)
in the presence of:)

Mayor

Chief Executive Officer

Date:

14.2 Informal Meetings of Councillors

File Number:	IN23/63
Responsible Director:	Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Advanced Waste Processing Options for Waste Briefing - 6 February 2023 ↓2 Strategic Briefing Session - 7 February 2023 ↓3 Gender Equality and LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee - 9 February 2023 ↓4 Councillor and CEO Only Time - 14 February 2023 ↓5 Strategic Briefing Session - 14 February 2023 ↓6 North East Link Central (Tunnels) Urban Design and Landscape Plan Briefing – 15 February 2023 ↓

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter 6, sub rule 1 of Manningham’s Governance Rules requires a record of each meeting that constitutes an Informal Meeting of Councillors to be reported to Council and those records to be incorporated into the minutes of the Council Meeting.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR LAURA MAYNE
SECONDED: CR CARLI LANGE

That Council note the Informal Meetings of Councillors for the following meetings:

- **Advanced Waste Processing Options for Waste Briefing – 6 February 2023**
- **Strategic Briefing Session – 7 February 2023**
- **Gender Equality and LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee – 9 February 2023**
- **Councillor and CEO Only Time - 14 February 2023**
- **Strategic Briefing Session – 14 February 2023**
- **North East Link Central (Tunnels) UDLP Briefing – 15 February 2023**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Section 60 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, requires a Council to develop, adopt and keep in force Governance Rules (the Rules).
- 1.2 Chapter 6, sub rule 1 of Manningham’s Governance Rules requires the Chief Executive Officer to ensure a summary of matters discussed at an informal meeting is tabled at the next convenient Council meeting and recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

1.3 An Informal Meeting of Councillors is a meeting that:

- is a scheduled or planned meeting of all Councillors (irrespective of how many Councillors attend) with the Chief Executive Officer for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors; or
- is a scheduled or planned meeting of all Councillors (irrespective of how many Councillors attend) with the Executive Management Team for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors; or
- is a scheduled or planned advisory committee meeting attended by at least one Councillor and one member of Council staff; and
- is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting.

2. DISCUSSION / ISSUE

Summaries of the following informal meetings are attached to this report:

- Advanced Waste Processing Options for Waste Briefing – 6 February 2023
- Strategic Briefing Session – 7 February 2023
- Gender Equality and LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee – 9 February 2023
- Councillor and CEO Only Time - 14 February 2023
- Strategic Briefing Session – 14 February 2023
- North East Link Central (Tunnels) UDLP Briefing – 15 February 2023

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS					
Meeting Name:	Advanced Waste Processing Options for Waste Briefing				
Date:	Monday, 6 February 2023				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Time Opened:</td> <td>6:00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time Closed:</td> <td>7:00pm</td> </tr> </table>	Time Opened:	6:00pm	Time Closed:	7:00pm
Time Opened:	6:00pm				
Time Closed:	7:00pm				
Location:	Council Chambers				
Councillors Present:	Cr Diamante (Mayor), Cr Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Lange, Cr S Mayne, Cr Conlon & Cr Chen				
Officers Present:	Andrew Day, Andrew McMaster, Rachele Quattrocchi, Lee Robson, Krishen Soobrayen, Helen Napier, Linda Kenworthy				
Apologies:	Cr Gough, Cr L Mayne & Cr Kleinert				
Items discussed:	Options available for managing future residual waste volumes and options for advanced waste processing for Manningham				
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES					
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No				

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS					
Meeting Name:	Strategic Briefing Session				
Date:	Tuesday, 7 February 2023				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Time Opened:</td> <td>6:33pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time Closed:</td> <td>8:34pm</td> </tr> </table>	Time Opened:	6:33pm	Time Closed:	8:34pm
Time Opened:	6:33pm				
Time Closed:	8:34pm				
Location:	Council Chambers				
Councillors Present:	Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor), Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Anna Chen, Cr Andrew Conlon, Cr Carli Lange and Cr Stephen Mayne				
Officers Present:	<p>Executive Officers Present</p> <p>Andrew Day, Chief Executive Officer Jon Gorst, Chief Financial Officer Andrew McMaster, Chief Legal and Governance Officer Kerryn Paterson, Director Experience and Capability Rachelle Quattrocchi, Director City Services Lee Robson, Director Connected Communities Duncan Turner, Director City Planning</p> <p>Other Officers in Attendance</p> <p>Carrie Bruce, Senior Governance Lead Georgina Snaddon, Senior Corporate Planning & Performance Advisor Krishen Soobrayen, Manager City Projects</p>				
Apologies:	Cr Laura Mayne Cr Michelle Kleinert Cr Geoff Gough				
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Manningham Quarterly Report, Quarter 2 (October - December), 2022/23 2. Strategic Property Portfolio Update (Confidential) 3. Mid-Year Capital Works Update 4. Wonga Park Reserve Master Plan for endorsement 5. Manningham Reconciliation Action Plan 2023-25 Adoption 				
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES					
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No				

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS	
Meeting Name:	Gender Equality and LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee
Date:	Thursday, 9 February 2023
	Time Opened: 6:00pm
	Time Closed: 8:00pm
Location:	Koonung Room, Civic Centre
Councillors Present:	Cr Tomas Lightbody
Officers Present:	Catherine Simcox, Michelle Zemancheff, Frankie Bailey
Apologies:	Cr Laura Mayne
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organisational Development Overview 2. Events – 16 Days of Activism, Review Midsumma Pride March, Upcoming International Women’s Day, Upcoming IDAHOBIT 3. Other Business – Proud2Play LGBTQIA+ education sessions for clubs and leisure providers.
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES	
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS					
Meeting Name:	Councillor and CEO Only Time				
Date:	Tuesday, 14 February 2023				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Time Opened:</td> <td>5:30pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time Closed:</td> <td>6:30pm</td> </tr> </table>	Time Opened:	5:30pm	Time Closed:	6:30pm
Time Opened:	5:30pm				
Time Closed:	6:30pm				
Location:	Koonung Room				
Councillors Present:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Diamante • Deputy Mayor - Cr Lightbody • Cr Chen • Cr Conlon • Cr Kleinert • Cr Lange • Cr L. Mayne • Cr S. Mayne 				
Officers Present:	CEO Andrew Day				
Apologies:	Cr Gough				
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Employment matter 2. MAV Board 3. The Voice to Parliament 4. Cost Shifting 				
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES					
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No				

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS	
Meeting Name:	Strategic Briefing Session
Date:	Tuesday, 14 February 2023
	Time Opened: 6:35pm
	Time Closed: 9:51pm
Location:	Council Chambers
Councillors Present:	Cr Deirdre Diamante (Mayor), Cr Tomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Anna Chen, Cr Andrew Conlon, Cr Michelle Kleinert, Cr Carli Lange, Cr Laura Mayne and Cr Stephen Mayne
Officers Present:	<p>Executive Officers Present Andrew Day, Chief Executive Officer Jon Gorst, Chief Financial Officer Andrew McMaster, Chief Legal and Governance Officer Kerryn Paterson, Director Experience and Capability Rachelle Quattrocchi, Director City Services Lee Robson, Director Connected Communities Duncan Turner, Director City Planning</p> <p>Other Officers in Attendance Carrie Bruce, Senior Governance Lead Niall Sheehy, Manager City Safety Heather Callahan, Coordinator Recreation Michelle DePasquale, Leisure Facilities Officer (Virtual attendee) Paul Bonnici, Coordinator Local Laws</p>
Apologies:	Cr Geoff Gough
Items discussed:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facility Management and Leisure Services Tender (Confidential) 2. Local Law Engagement Feedback 3. Aged Care (Confidential) 4. National General Assembly 2023 Motions - Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) Infrastructure 5. Community Transport (Confidential) 6. Manningham Youth Advisory Committee 7. Pricing Policy for Use of Council Active Open Space
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES	
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No

Informal Meeting of Councillors

Chapter 6, Sub rule 1 of the Governance Rules 2020



MEETING DETAILS					
Meeting Name:	North East Link Central (Tunnels) Urban Design and Landscape Plan Briefing				
Date:	Wednesday, 15 February 2023				
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Time Opened:</td> <td>6:00pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Time Closed:</td> <td>8:30pm</td> </tr> </table>	Time Opened:	6:00pm	Time Closed:	8:30pm
Time Opened:	6:00pm				
Time Closed:	8:30pm				
Location:	Function Room 3				
Councillors Present:	Cr Diedre Diamante (Mayor), Cr Thomas Lightbody (Deputy Mayor), Cr Laura Mayne, Cr Anna Chen, Cr Stephen Mayne, Cr Andrew Conlon, Cr Carli Lange				
Officers Present:	Andrew Day, Duncan Turner, Frank Vassilacos, Liz Lambropoulos, Andrew Mangan, Daniele Raneri				
Apologies:	Nil				
Items discussed:	Representatives of the North East Link Program presented the final endorsed Central Tunnels Package Urban Design and Landscape Plan to Councillors				
CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURES					
Were there any conflict of interest disclosures by Councillors?	No				

14.3 Documents for Sealing

File Number: IN23/62
Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer
Attachments: Nil

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The following document is submitted for signing and sealing by Council.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR GEOFF GOUGH
SECONDED: CR MICHELLE KLEINERT

That the following document be signed and sealed:

**Consent to Build Over an Easement
Agreement under Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987
Council and SNB Wong & CWK Chan
65 The Boulevard, Doncaster**

**Consent to Build Over an Easement
Agreement under Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987
Council and 118 Beverley Pty Ltd
118 Beverley Street, Doncaster East**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. BACKGROUND

The Council's common seal must only be used on the authority of the Council or the Chief Executive Officer under delegation from the Council. An authorising Council resolution is required in relation to the documents listed in the recommendation section of this report.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any general or material conflict of interest in this matter.

15 NOTICES OF MOTION**15.1 Notice of Motion by Cr Stephen Mayne (NOM No. 1/2023)**

File Number: IN23/73

Attachments: Nil

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR STEPHEN MAYNE

SECONDED: CR CARLI LANGE

That Council requests officers prepare a report for noting to be considered at a council meeting before the end of 2023, summarising developments with the North-East Link project including:

1. A summary of the outcomes of the program of relocation and compensation for displaced businesses in the Bulleen West industrial precinct.
2. A summary of council's input into the North-East Link project thus far and anticipated ongoing input over the balance of the current council term, including details of any formal submissions council is likely to make before November 2024.
3. Any other information about the North-East Link project regarded as pertinent to council and the wider Manningham community.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

16 URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of Urgent Business.

17 COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND QUESTION TIME

17.1 Councillor Reports

Cr Anna Chen thanked Doncaster East resident Andrew Milligan who once again transformed his home into a Christmas display last year. Mr Milligan has been bringing joy to the community with his display for the past 17 years. Cr Chen advised that Mr Milligan used this as an opportunity to raise funds for the Manningham State Emergency Service (SES) Unit, which recently celebrated 60 years of service to the community. Cr Chen thanked the Milligan family, the community and dedicated volunteers who serve the Manningham SES.

Cr Carli Lange took the opportunity to congratulate all of the volunteers who ran the annual Warrandyte Pottery Expo which was held between 25-26 February 2023. Cr Lange recognised the substantial community effort it takes to coordinate this international event. She noted that the event endorses sustainable tourism in Manningham and attracts state-wide visitors. Cr Lange thanked all of the artists for sharing their work and putting on display their skill and creativity, for which she noted they should be most proud.

Cr Laura Mayne congratulated the Doncaster Junior Football Club on their recent multicultural footy fun program, which was partially funded by a community grant and was conducted over four weeks. Both the Mayor and Cr L Mayne attended a session and noted it was a fun and enjoyable occasion. Cr L Mayne found it to be encouraging to see the amount of effort that had been put into the multicultural community in football, which she noted does not have a history of being the most inclusive sporting community. Cr L Mayne wished the club a prosperous season ahead and a continuation of their great efforts.

Cr Stephen Mayne reported that he recently attended the Victorian local government working group on gambling. Cr S Mayne was particularly struck by the 12% increase in poker machine losses (\$3.05 billion) in Victoria's 500 pubs in 2022. Cr S Mayne highlighted some of the worst hit areas and the approaches by other Council's through their gambling policies to minimise harm to the community. Cr S Mayne noted that Manningham is also reviewing its gambling policy at the moment.

Cr Andrew Conlon reported that he recently attended the inaugural meeting of the Recreation and Sports Advisory Committee also attended by Crs Lange and S Mayne. Cr Conlon noted the incredible depth of talent of the community members who have put their hand up to volunteer for this committee. Cr Conlon stated that he is looking forward to making sure the community's views are heard in the way Manningham makes its recreational facilities accessible and available to the public under Council's stewardship.

18 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR CARLI LANGE
SECONDED: CR MICHELLE KLEINERT

That Council close the meeting to the public pursuant to sections 66(1) and 66(2)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, to consider the following items:

- **Item 18.1 Aged Care Reform**
- **Item 18.2 Community Transport Future Directions**
- **Item 18.3 Facility Management and Leisure Services Tender**
- **Item 18.4 Property Matter**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Meeting was closed to the public at 8:47pm to consider the following reports and reopened at 9:47pm.

18.1 Aged Care Reform

This report contains confidential information as defined in the *Local Government Act 2020*. The relevant grounds applying are S3(1)a and g(ii) of the Act concerning Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released and private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

18.2 Community Transport Future Directions

This report contains confidential information as defined in the *Local Government Act 2020*. The relevant grounds applying are S3(1)a and g(ii) of the Act concerning Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released and private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

18.3 Facility Management and Leisure Services Tender

This report contains confidential information as defined in the *Local Government Act 2020*. The relevant ground applying is S3(1)a of the Act concerning Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

18.4 Property Matter

This report contains confidential information as defined in the *Local Government Act 2020*. The relevant ground applying is S3(1)a of the Act concerning Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

The meeting concluded at 9:47pm.

Chairperson
CONFIRMED THIS 28 MARCH 2023