BANYULE CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT TENNIS STRATEGY

JUNE 2016



Banyule
CITY COUNCIL

CONTENTS

1. THE STRATEGY

Introduction Page 5

Summary of issues and opportunities Page 6

Tennis action plan Page 8

2. BACKGROUND, RESEARCH AND CONSULTATION

Tennis in Banyule Page 15

Structure of tennis Page 16

Current provision Page 17

Key tennis drivers Page 19

Population review Page 21

Participation Page 22

Club membership Page 23

Member catchment Page 24

Market for tennis Page 25

Future demand for tennis Page 26

Stakeholder Consultation Page 27

Tennis facilities Page 31

3. Appendices

Site Reports Page 43

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

The Banyule Tennis Strategy has been prepared by specialist sport and leisure consultants *insideEDGE* Sport and Leisure Planning on behalf of the Banyule City Council.

This document identifies the potential future demand for tennis across the municipality and reviews the current network of tennis facilities and their condition and future infrastructure requirements. The current constraints on tennis participation and development across Banyule have also been investigated.

A key driver of the Banyule Tennis Strategy is the need to better understand the key requirements for growing participation in tennis over the next ten years, and to establish a framework for provision that ensures the long-term sustainability of tennis clubs, programs and competitions.

The Banyule Tennis Strategy builds on existing strategic planning and directions developed through Council's 2005-2010 Tennis Strategy, Banyule Regional Tennis Centre Feasibility Study (2007), and the North West Metropolitan Melbourne Tennis Strategy (2010).

Acknowledgements

The project team wishes to acknowledge the support and assistance provided by all individuals, tennis clubs and other tennis community stakeholders that participated in the development of the Tennis Strategy. Clubs involved in the development of the strategy include:

Eaglemont Tennis Club*

Chelsworth Park Tennis Club

St James Ivanhoe Tennis Club

Rosanna Tennis Club*

Watsonia Tennis Club

Ivanhoe Tennis Club

Macleod Tennis Club

Karingal Drive Tennis Club

Montmorency Tennis Club

Viewbank Tennis Club*

St. Francis Tennis Club

St. John's Anglican Tennis Club

St. Mary's Tennis Club

Bundoora Tennis Club*

St. John's Catholic Tennis Club

Banyule Tennis Club

Yallambie Tennis Club*

Grace Valley Tennis Club*

East Ivanhoe Uniting Church Tennis*

Greensborough Tennis Club

Lower Plenty Tennis Club

Tennis Victoria

*clubs that have a member involved in the community reference group.

Banyule
CITY COUNCIL



1. THE STRATEGY

INTRODUCTION

Banyule City Council offers a range of sport and recreation facilities and services designed to provide participation opportunities to their diverse community, and to enhance the health and well being of local residents. The Banyule Tennis Strategy aims to provide Council with an understanding of current tennis facility provision, participation trends, supply and demand information, club needs and facility requirements, and a capital program to guide future investment.

The City of Banyule is a culturally diverse and growing community, and with increasing pressure on Council to provide a range of sport and recreation opportunities for residents, tennis requires a clear vision to ensure future demands for the sport are being delivered.

A movement away from traditional weekend competition formats has resulted in many local tennis clubs and associations struggling to retain and attract participants, creating the need for a collaborative approach to future integrated strategies.

The Banyule Tennis Strategy investigates the issues and opportunities facing tennis at a local level, utilising the knowledge and resources of Council and local clubs. Further information has been provided by Tennis Australia (TA) and Tennis Victoria (TVIC) to help shape the future direction of tennis in Banyule.

The Banyule Tennis Strategy investigates how the Banyule City Council, along with sport, community and private sector partners, can collectively support participation opportunities and improve the sustainability and access to tennis facilities across the municipality.

This document has been prepared following a review of all relevant sport and government policy and planning documents that provide a strategic base for the future direction of tennis in Banyule.

Local demographic and population information, club membership and tennis participation trends, along with a supply and demand assessment of tennis facilities have also influenced the strategic recommendations provided.

Facility issues, club management information and participation data was collected via an audit of all tennis facilities, tennis club survey and local tennis forum. These consultation activities were undertaken to help identify key issues and future program, management and development opportunities for tennis.

Strategic recommendations are aligned with Tennis Australia's key pillars for successful tennis venues.

- **Accessibility**
- **Sustainability**
- **Community benefit**
- **Accountability**



SUMMARY OF ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

A range of issues and opportunities were identified following project research and stakeholder consultation. These have been presented to the Community Tennis Reference Group and Councillors for feedback and form the basis of the strategic recommendations provided in this report. The following issues and opportunities are aligned with the four key pillars of accessibility, sustainability, community benefit and accountability.

Accessibility

- With the trend towards informal and social sport and recreation opportunities, the lack of publicly accessible and free to use community tennis courts in Banyule will impact current and future participation opportunities for residents.
- Monitoring the success of the Karingal Drive Tennis Club in Greensborough and their participation in the 'Opening Up Tennis Program", and introducing free to use public access courts in locations that are accessible to all residents should be explored further.
- Current court to population ratios across six of the seven Council precincts are in line with or fall below the sports recommended guideline of 1 court for every 1,500 residents. The west precinct has a court to population ratio of 0:2867.
- There are 4,608 Tennis Victoria registered tennis players living in Banyule. 3,524 (76%) are registered with clubs based in Banyule, whilst the remaining 24% are members of clubs outside the municipality.

Banyule residents located in the north and north east precincts are choosing clubs located in Nillumbik (Eltham and Research) and Whittlesea (Norris Bank). One reason for this might be the lack of district level (8+ courts) facilities in this part of Banyule.

The highest level of tennis facility provision types in Banyule is district level venues(3 facilities). The absence of large community tennis venues (12+ courts) limits opportunities to host tournaments and events of a local to regional scale.

Sustainability

- The current facility type, mix and court surface provision does not promote participation and club membership growth. This is particularly relevant for the large number of red porous courts across Banyule (63%), which offer little diversity, require a higher cost of maintenance and increased volunteer expertise to maintain them, in addition to the requirement for a continuous water source.
- Cyril Cummins Reserve is the only tennis facility with designated hot shots courts.

Any future court renewal or redevelopment project should consider the provision of hot shots courts to support entry level tennis programs.

The only tennis club in the municipality that is not currently affiliated with Tennis Victoria is the St Francis Xavier (Montmorency) Tennis Club. To adequately monitor club performance and financial stability (via Tennis Australia's Operational Health Check), Council should ensure all clubs remain affiliated and have a current lease agreement (consultation identified four clubs operating without a lease agreement).

Community Benefit

- There is opportunity to investigate the consolidation of courts at Ivanhoe Park, Whatmough Park and Chelsworth Park to provide multiuse sport and recreation opportunities.
- Opportunities to introduce free to use public access courts at Ivanhoe Park and Chelsworth Park (south precinct) and Whatmough Park (north precinct) should be investigated, along with the inclusion of public access courts as part of the Ford Park Master Plan and Seddon Reserve (west precinct).

- The history and uncertainty around the sale of tennis courts located on land owned by the church will need to be addressed to ensure opportunities for residents to participate in the sport is not compromised.

Accountability

- Not all tennis clubs in Banyule are affiliated with Tennis Victoria which may create issues with adequate insurances, minimal support from Tennis Victoria staff or access to state and national programs.
- There is a lack of transparency in relation to club finances and also the percentage of court time being allocated to club coaches. Tennis Australia offer a free operational health check as part of their affiliation fees.
- With the ongoing demand for night tennis Council and clubs will need to work together to ensure existing lights meet minimum standards, and aim to increase the number of floodlit courts (currently 82%) in the future.
- Despite the reasonably good condition of existing tennis facilities, there will need to be an ongoing focus on targeted tennis renewal projects to ensure facilities continue to meet standards.
- Tennis renewal projects should be prioritised in accordance with the tennis facility audit findings, with a focus on high priority court surface renewal identified at De Winton Reserve, Chelsworth Park, Macleod Park and Telfer Reserve. Future court renewal projects should consider the current over provision of red porous courts.
- 61% of clubs do not understand Council's capital works program or funding allocation system and have requested additional information from Council in this area via workshops and seminars.
- Clubs identified the need for facility upgrades and maintenance of facilities as their most significant issue, along with a lack of consistency from Council in regards to occupancy conditions clubs.

TENNIS ACTION PLAN

The following set of tables provide a detailed breakdown of the actions identified for the implementation of the Banyule Tennis Strategy.

The proposed implementation schedule has been developed to not only assist Council but also Tennis Victoria, local tennis clubs and community stakeholders to prioritise, allocate appropriate resources and work collaboratively.

Implementation activities are provided for Critical Actions only to ensure they remain a clear focus for delivery by stakeholders.

The financial impact of implementing proposed actions has not been determined, however it is critical that key stakeholders and potential funding providers adopt a coordinated approach to the scoping and delivery of actions and recognise the need for joint funding and resourcing.

The ongoing ownership and delivery of the Banyule Tennis Strategy and associated recommendations will vest predominantly with Council however will involve a range of state, regional and local stakeholders.

The implementation of proposed Critical Actions and associated recommendations requires stakeholders to play three important roles in their delivery:

INITIATE
Refers to the commencement of planning and coordinating the scope and timing of action(s) to be delivered.

DELIVER
Refers to the on-the-ground delivery of identified actions and the acquisition and management of key partner and stakeholder contributions.

SUPPORT
Refers to the organisational support for action delivery through the provision of resources, people, skills, funding, equipment and/or promotional activities.

The implementation plan outlines a staged approach for the delivery of recommended actions as follows - Stage 1 (0-5 years), Stage 2 (5-10 years) and Stage 3 (10+ years).

SHORT- STAGE 1 (0-5 years)
Important action that contributes significantly to the development, growth and sustainability of tennis in Banyule and which has realistic funding opportunities.

MEDIUM – STAGE 2 (5-10 years)
Action that contributes to meeting overall tennis objectives but may require additional planning, design and development to properly inform its implementation.

LONG – STAGE 3 (10+ years)
Action that contributes to the overall improvement of tennis in Banyule. These actions will require additional planning, design and development work.

ONGOING
Action that will require ongoing commitment from Council and other tennis stakeholders. Actions are aligned with the four key pillars for successful tennis venues as described by Tennis Australia and Tennis Victoria.

- **Accessibility** (physically and economically open to the public).
- **Sustainability** (tennis venues that are not overly reliant on external sources of funding).
- **Community benefit** (allow for community programming and social activity).
- **Accountability** (venue operators in charge of financial forecasting and modelling of their venue).

STRATEGIC PILLAR – ACCESSIBILITY

OBJECTIVE 1: ENCOURAGE INCREASED COMMUNITY ACCESS TO TENNIS FACILITIES ACROSS BANYULE

	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	TIMELINE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
1.1	Support more clubs to **participate in Tennis Victoria's Opening Up Tennis Program** and make this a pre requisite for any future consideration for Council funding.	SHORT	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / CLUBS	TENNIS VICTORIA
1.2	Investigate the feasibility of **converting underutilised courts at Whatmough Park and Chelsworth Park** into 'free to use' public access multi purpose courts.	SHORT	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / CLUBS	CO-TENANTS
1.3	Through current planning consider the development of **'free to use' public access multi purpose courts at Ford Park and Seddon Reserve,** to address the gap in tennis facility provision in the west precinct.	SHORT	COUNCIL	COUNCIL	TENNIS VICTORIA / CO-TENANTS
1.4	Partner and negotiate with clubs and schools on **providing (or at least line mark) dedicated Hot Shots courts** on any future redeveloped or new court surfaces to diversify program opportunities and support entry level tennis.	MEDIUM	COUNCIL / CLUBS	COUNCIL / TENNIS VICTORIA	LOCAL TENNIS ASSOCIATION

STRATEGIC PILLAR – SUSTAINABILITY

OBJECTIVE 2: SUPPORT CLUBS WITH THEIR FUTURE PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	TIMELINE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
2.1	Collaborate with clubs and **support funding applications that deliver the tennis infrastructure renewal recommendations** provided on Page 31 and a range of other tennis related projects provided in the individual site reports (Refer to appendices).	ONGOING	CLUBS	COUNCIL / CLUBS	SPORT AND RECREATION VICTORIA / TENNIS VICTORIA / TENNIS AUSTRALIA COURT REBATE
2.2	**Allocate an annual budget of $50,000 to contribute to future tennis infrastructure renewal programs** and promote the use of Tennis Australia's National Court Rebate Scheme and its requirements to local clubs.	ONGOING	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / CLUBS	TENNIS VICTORIA / TENNIS AUSTRALIA
2.3	**Conduct an audit of all Council owned tennis facilities every 5 years** to guide future renewal and capital works programs, and maintain current data in Council's State of Sport Dashboard.	MEDIUM	COUNCIL	COUNCIL	CLUBS
2.4	Support and work with clubs who wish to **convert red porous courts to hard courts where appropriate**. Prioritise hard court development if clubs are seeking Council funding.	SHORT	CLUBS	COUNCIL / CLUBS	TENNIS VICTORIA
2.5	Support the financial sustainability of tennis clubs by **requiring all clubs to complete Tennis Australia's Annual Operational Health Checks** (via revised venue usage agreements) and ensure a copy is provided to Council on an annual basis.	SHORT	COUNCIL	CLUBS	TENNIS VICTORIA

STRATEGIC PILLAR – SUSTAINABILITY

OBJECTIVE 2: SUPPORT CLUBS WITH THEIR FUTURE PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	TIMELINE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
2.6	Ensure **all future sport and recreation reserve planning projects consider the local needs and participation opportunities** for casual and competition tennis.	ONGOING	COUNCIL	COUNCIL	CLUBS / TENNIS ASSOCIATIONS
2.7	**Review club and coach agreements** and investigate the issues regarding fees, charges and access. **Provide connectivity back to revised club lease agreements and Operational Health Checks** to ensure clubs have an equitable and sustainable business model.	MEDIUM	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / CLUBS / COACHES	TENNIS VICTORIA
2.8	Investigate opportunities and benefits of **consolidating under utilised tennis facilities at Ivanhoe Park and Chelsworth Park.**	MEDIUM	COUNCIL	COUNCIL	CLUBS / CO-TENANTS

STRATEGIC PILLAR – COMMUNITY BENEFIT

OBJECTIVE 3: SUPPORT CLUBS TO DELIVER PROGRAMS FOR THE COMMUNITY THAT IMPROVES SOCIAL INTERACTION

	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	TIMELINE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
3.1	Support and **incentivise tennis clubs** (via a reduction in lease fees) **that offer program and engagement opportunities** with external groups, non members and the broader community.	ONGOING	COUNCIL	CLUBS	CLUBS AND COACHES
3.2	**Ensure tennis clubs are aware of and can access Council's Community Grants Program** to diversify program and participation opportunities and promote existing tennis venues.	ONGOING	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / CLUBS	COACHES
3.3	**Publish and promote best practice case studies** of local club initiatives that showcase positive club and community engagement programs and direct social outcomes.	MEDIUM	COUNCIL / CLUBS	COUNCIL	TENNIS VICTORIA
3.4	Ensure any **future tennis pavilion planning, redevelopment or upgrade project provides opportunities for social interaction,** and use by external community groups.	ONGOING	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / CLUBS	TENNIS VICTORIA / LOCAL COMMUNITY

STRATEGIC PILLAR – ACCOUNTABILITY

OBJECTIVE 4: WORK WITH TENNIS CLUBS TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENT AND REGULAR REPORTING

	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	TIMELINE	STAKEHOLDER RESPONSIBILITY		
			INITIATOR	DELIVERER	SUPPORTERS
4.1	**Support the ongoing operation of the Banyule Tennis Reference Group** and meet on an annual basis to ensure the needs, issues and challenges of tennis clubs are understood, and to guide the implementation of key actions in the Tennis Strategy.	ONGOING	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / TENNIS REF GROUP	CLUBS / TENNIS VICTORIA
4.2	**Monitor tennis participation, membership and the affiliation status of tennis clubs** through ongoing engagement with Tennis Victoria and annual updates of the State of Sport Dashboard.	ONGOING	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / TENNIS VICTORIA	CLUBS
4.3	**Update policies and tennis club lease agreements** to reflect any agreed changes to facility management and operation, and ensure alignment with tennis industry directions.	SHORT	COUNCIL	COUNCIL	TENNIS VICTORIA / TENNIS AUSTRALIA
4.4	**Ensure all tennis clubs have a current venue usage agreement, remain affiliated with Tennis Victoria and maintain a current strategic plan** which responds to the findings from the Club's Annual Operational Health Checks.	SHORT	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / CLUBS / COACHES	TENNIS VICTORIA
4.5	Incorporate clear and concise **venue management and maintenance responsibilities into revised venue usage agreements** to address the current confusion being experienced by some clubs.	SHORT	COUNCIL	COUNCIL / CLUBS	TENNIS VICTORIA / INDUSTRY CONTRACTORS



2. BACKGROUND, RESEARCH AND CONSULTATION

TENNIS IN BANYULE

Registered tennis players within the City of Banyule traditionally participate in tennis through their local club and in competitions convened by a number of local associations.

The City of Banyule currently services 21 tennis clubs that occupy a total of 23 different tennis venues across the municipality. Of the 21 tennis clubs in Banyule, seven occupy venues not owned or managed by Council. These venues will be acknowledged in the strategy, but have not been audited, so no facility information has been included.

The St Francis Xavier Tennis Club is the only club in the municipality not affiliated with Tennis Victoria, as a result, their current membership data has not been considered. No membership data was provided for the St James Ivanhoe and Chelsworth Park Tennis Clubs at the time of writing.

There is a total of 124 tennis courts in the City of Banyule being used for competition tennis (Council and non Council land), of which 108 are floodlit.

The majority of facilities are considered local level as defined by the Tennis Australia Hierarchy, with only the Eaglemont Tennis Club, Bundoora Tennis Club and Viewbank Tennis Club considered to be of district level, due to the number of courts provided (8+).

A total of 77 of the 124 tennis courts being used for competition tennis in Banyule are red porous. Although preferred by some clubs and older tennis players, red porous is not considered the preferred surface under Tennis Australia guidelines. The remaining 47 court surfaces are comprised of cushioned acrylic, synthetic clay and synthetic grass.

The high percentage of red porous competition courts (63%), and the lower number of cushioned acrylic and synthetic grass courts offered by clubs, is likely to impact local player development opportunities in the future.

Traditionally, tennis venues have been considered exclusive use facilities that can only be accessed by members, or through private hire arrangements. This model is currently being applied by Banyule Council across all existing venues, with the exception of the Karingal Drive Tennis Club and the four publicly accessible courts at the Macleod YMCA.

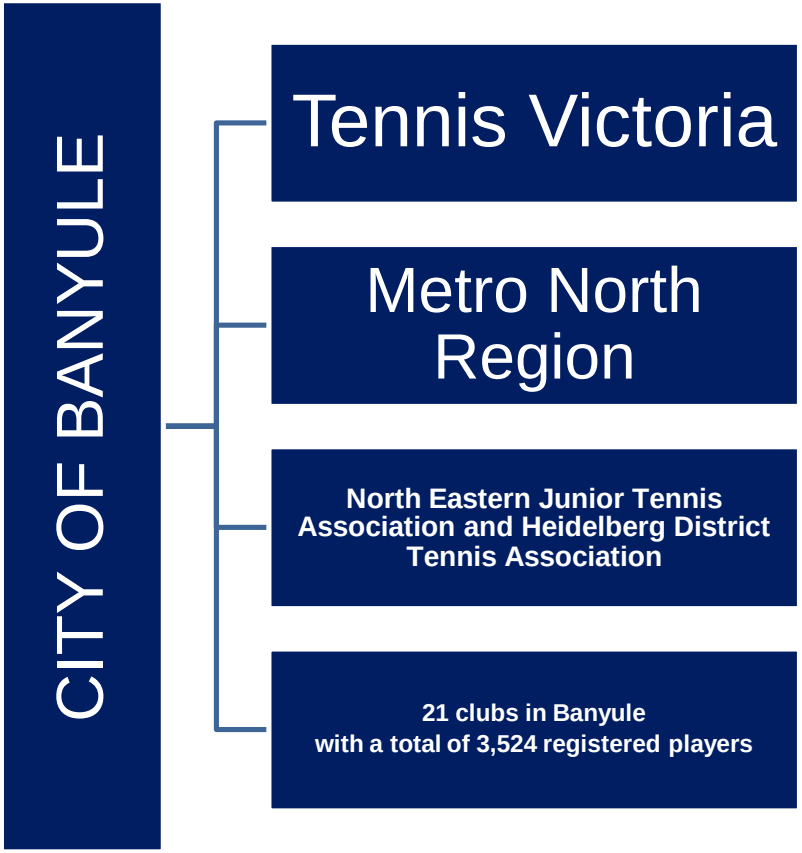
The number of tennis venues in Banyule has been reduced in previous years as the demand for tennis decreases. Some examples of this include the sale of land previously occupied by the Ivanhoe Uniting Church Tennis Club and former courts at the St James Tennis Club at Cyril Cummins Reserve being leased for a plant nursery. There are also two courts at Whatmough Park in Greensborough that are currently not being used for tennis activities.

The potential consolidation of underutilised tennis facilities and provision of more publicly accessible venues will be investigated as part of the overall strategy for tennis.



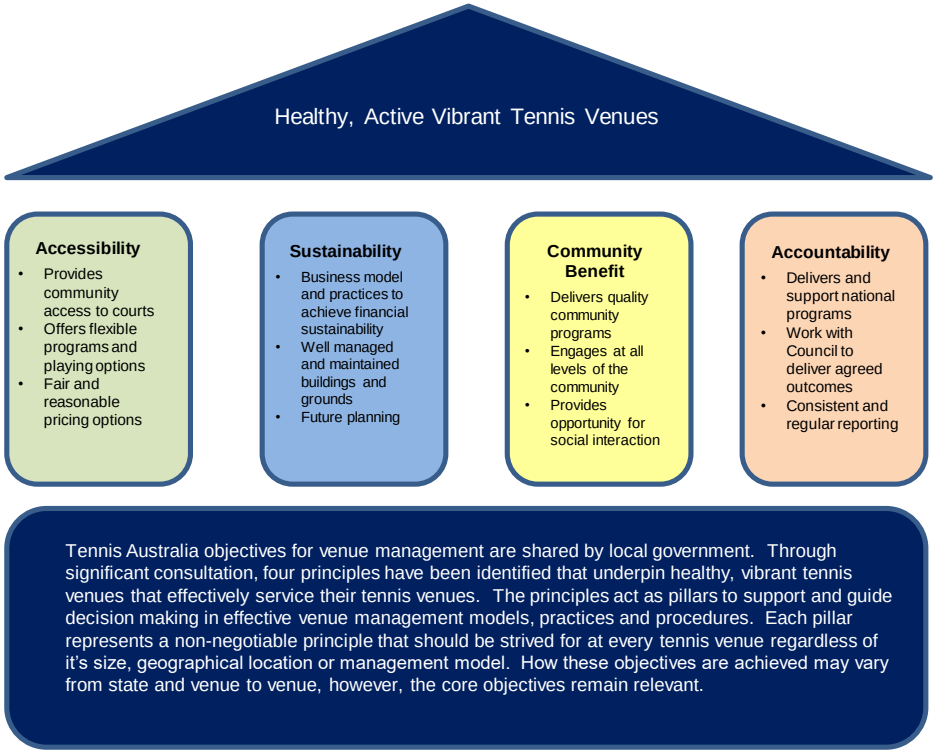
STRUCTURE OF TENNIS

This section of the report provides an overview of the structure of tennis in Banyule, and the relationship with Tennis Victoria as the governing body.



Tennis Victoria (via Tennis Australia) has identified four key pillars to support the development of successful community tennis facility which will be recognised throughout the development of the tennis strategy.

The four pillars include accessibility, sustainability, community benefit and accountability and are represented in the diagram below.



Tennis Australia objectives for venue management are shared by local government. Through significant consultation, four principles have been identified that underpin healthy, vibrant tennis venues that effectively service their tennis venues. The principles act as pillars to support and guide decision making in effective venue management models, practices and procedures. Each pillar represents a non-negotiable principle that should be strived for at every tennis venue regardless of it's size, geographical location or management model. How these objectives are achieved may vary from state and venue to venue, however, the core objectives remain relevant.

CURRENT TENNIS PROVISION

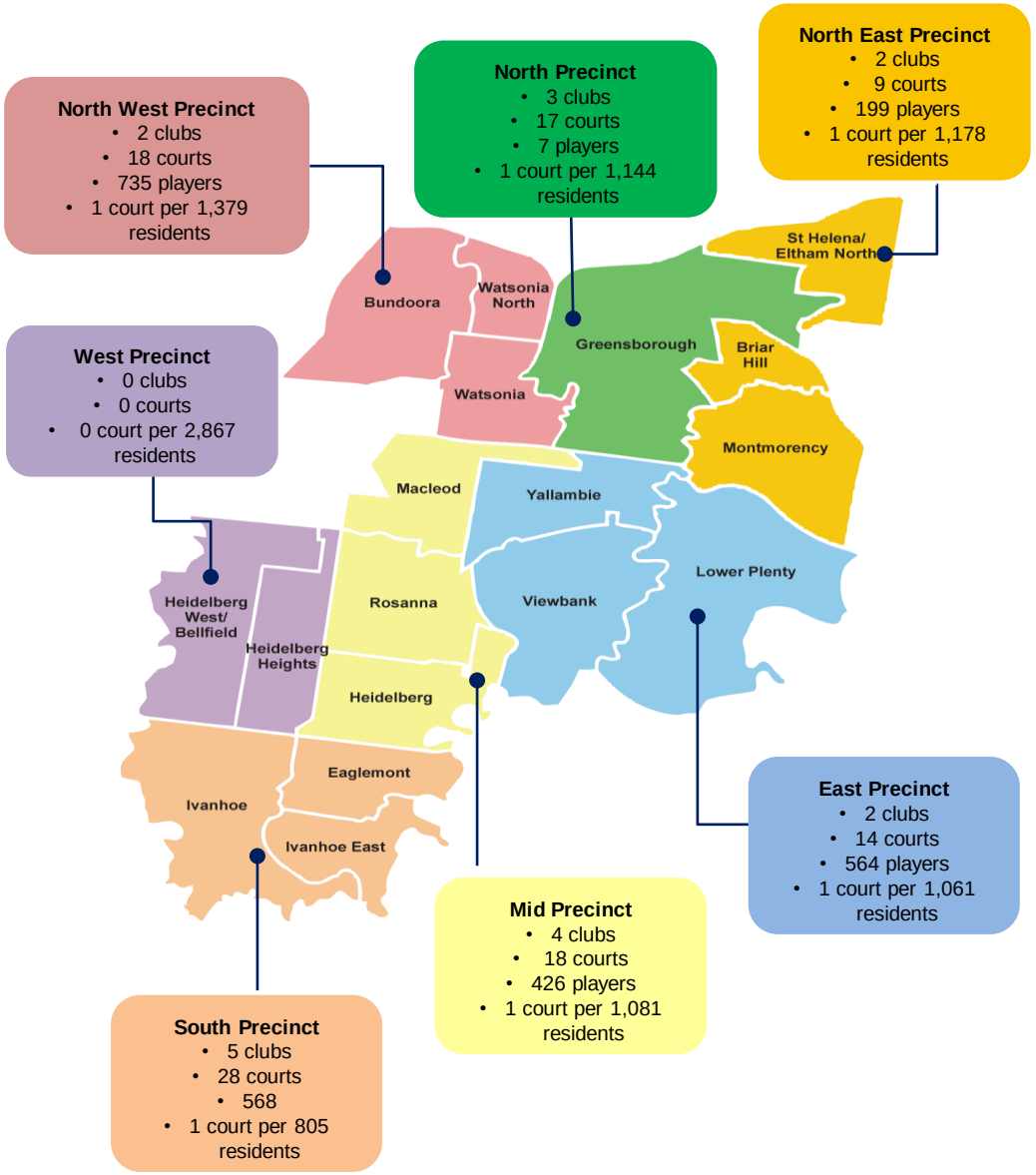
The adjacent map of Banyule City Council planning precincts outlines the number of tennis clubs, courts and registered club members, and provides the current court to population provision ratios within each precinct.

Current Tennis Victoria recommended provision guidelines of one court for every 1,500 residents has been used to determine tennis provision ratios within each precinct. This quick snapshot of existing provision highlights the current supply and location of tennis facilities in Banyule, and identifies where there are gaps in existing provision.

Based on this information all precincts are currently supplying a sufficient number of courts for the current population living in that precinct, with the exception of the west precinct.

It should be noted that despite the west precinct not having any tennis facilities, the St James Tennis Club is located on the border of the west and south precincts and is providing tennis opportunities for these residents.

The use of provision ratios should be used as a guide only as it can be heavily influenced by the type, frequency and duration of use.



Tennis Victoria guidelines recommend one court for every 25 club members. This ratio has been applied to the number of current registered members per club. Clubs that fall outside this recommended threshold are highlighted below.

Banyule based tennis clubs	No. of competition courts	TV registered members	Court-to-member (TVIC) ratio
Banyule Tennis Club	6	105	1:17
Bundoora Tennis Club	8	680	1:85
Chelsworth Park Tennis Club	4 (3 courts leased to Ivanhoe Grammar)	0	n/a
Eaglemont Tennis Club	10	359	1:36
East Ivanhoe Uniting Church Tennis Club	2	41	1:20
Grace Valley Tennis Club	4	117	1:29
Greensborough Tennis Club	6	251	1:42
Ivanhoe Tennis Club	5	122	1:24
Karingal Drive Tennis Club	6	299	1:50
Lower Plenty Tennis Club	8	17	1:2
Macleod Tennis Club	6	150	1:25
Montmorency Tennis Club	6	181	1:30
Rosanna Tennis Club	5	203	1:41
St Francis Xavier	3	0	n/a
St James (Ivanhoe) Tennis Club	4	56	1:14
St Johns Anglican (Heidelberg) Tennis Club	4	60	1:15
St Johns Catholic	3	0	n/a
St Mary's (Greensborough) Tennis Club	4	222	1:55
Viewbank Tennis Club	8	295	1:37
Watsonia Tennis Club	6	197	1:33
Yallambie Tennis Club	6	186	1:31
TOTAL	**124**	**3,524**	**1:29**

KEY DRIVERS FOR TENNIS

The following documents were reviewed and are considered to be still relevant to the current direction for tennis in Banyule.

Banyule Council Tennis Strategy (2005-2010)

The key recommendations identified in this strategy include:

- Develop comprehensive assessment tools to support the operational viability of each club.
- Seek funding from Sport and Recreation Victoria for a Regional Tennis Facility Feasibility Study (undertaken in 2007).
- Assessment and rescheduling of junior competition in order to alleviate demand of court usage time.
- Council to return the Crown Land being used as the Heidelberg Tennis Courts and investigate future use of the land.
- Assess existing and prospective lighting at each tennis facility.
- Current condition of courts surfaces and fences to be reviewed with a new works and services facility upgrade schedule established.
- Generic occupancy agreements negotiated with every tennis club in Banyule with concise maintenance schedules included.
- Strengthen relationships with clubs and establish best practice operations to improve sustainability.
- Invite clubs to development forums on a quarterly basis.
- A biannual newsletter to be developed and circulated in order to keep all clubs up to date with current issues.
- Any new contacts to be provided to Council and added to Council's Get Set Go Guide and website where relevant, in order to increase exposure for each tennis club.

The study indicated that from a provision ratio basis there appears to be an appropriate supply of tennis facilities in the north and central sub-regions of Banyule, an oversupply in the south and undersupply in the west.

The Banyule Regional Tennis Centre Feasibility Study 2007

This study found that compared to other developed municipalities in Melbourne, Banyule has an above average number of tennis clubs and courts for its population. The study found that the development of a regional tennis centre should not be pursued.

In place of a regional facility the following short to medium term recommendations were provided:

- Erect lights at currently unlit courts
- Upgrade courts, possible building of pavilions.
- Convert at least two courts at each tennis venue to a synthetic surface.
- Extending the smaller pavilions to cater for clubs needs.

North West Metro Regional Strategy 2011

This strategy investigated the current and future demand for tennis facilities in the north west metropolitan region, and develop a strategic and regional approach to tennis.

Key recommendations identified for Banyule:

- Increase the carrying capacity of facilities through surface upgrades and installing lighting at courts.
- Seek to retain red porous courts especially in larger club facilities and consider providing more ITF approved surfaces such as hard courts.
- Progressively upgrade club rooms and court areas to make these wheelchair accessible.
- Encourage more clubs to take advantage of various Tennis Australia programs.
- Work with Tennis Victoria to increase the number of club courts available for social tennis.
- Investigate the feasibility of providing additional courts at Viewbank, Eaglemont and Bundoora and potentially upgrading these to medium level facilities.

Tennis Victoria State Facilities Framework

Tennis Victoria's State Facilities Framework drives the development of regional tennis facilities and guides the provision of sustainable tennis clubs. Tennis Victoria identified the North Western Metropolitan Region as a key growth corridor within the Victorian context.

The State Facilities Framework provides an overview of the mix of facility types (mainly based on court numbers) required to match population numbers and tennis participation in various regions. It indicates that in some cases there is an oversupply of tennis facilities.

The State Facilities Framework also highlights the importance of stakeholder relationships and the development of new partnerships in facility planning and the sustainability of the sport.

Tennis Australia Facility Planning Guide

The National Tennis Facility Planning and Development Guide identifies a number of key principles that underpin future tennis facility provision, development and management.

Aligned planning – Projects should align with the strategic directions of the local clubs, Tennis Victoria, Tennis Australia and Council's own strategic planning to build the capacity of sport, recreation and community facilities.

Efficient management – Consider the size and scale of the project and assess the impacts of existing management, committee and governance structures through the development of a schedule of use for the facility.

Research and Design – Involve appropriately qualified professionals, including technical advisors, court developers, centre managers and suppliers to collective document a preferred course of action and suitability of the project.

Financial management – Consider the whole of life financial implications of a new or redeveloped tennis facility and undertake a sound financial and business case for large scale projects.

Environmental sustainability – All tennis projects should consider and incorporate where appropriate ESD principles particularly in regards to water, energy use and waste management.

POPULATION REVIEW

The City of Banyule has a current population of 128,201, with an additional 19,894 new residents expected over the next twenty years to 2036.

Banyule's growth rate will be approximately 0.7% per annum to 2036, with the largest growth areas seen in Heidelberg (3.1%), Heidelberg Heights (1.5%) and Ivanhoe (1.3%). These areas alone will contribute an additional 14,222 people, approximately 57% of the total number of new residents expected by 2036.

In 2011, Banyule had a significantly higher proportion of residents aged 50+ (34.8%) than Greater Melbourne (30.2%) and a lower proportion of residents aged under 29 (37.2%) than Greater Melbourne (40.1%).

The most populous age group in Banyule in 2011 was 35–39 year olds, with 8,692 persons making up this age bracket, followed by 8,524 persons in the 40-44 year age cohort.

Of the additional 19,894 new residents forecasted to reside in the City of Banyule by 2036, the largest growth is expected in the 35 to 39 year old age cohort (+$10,403), followed by 30 to 34 year olds (+10, 225) and 40 to 44 year olds (+10,132).

Source: Profile id.

The adjacent charts provides the population changes to 2036 for specific age cohorts and links this analysis to the following markets for tennis participants.

5 to 9 year olds: Introductory age and core market for ANZ Tennis Hot Shots and coaching programs.

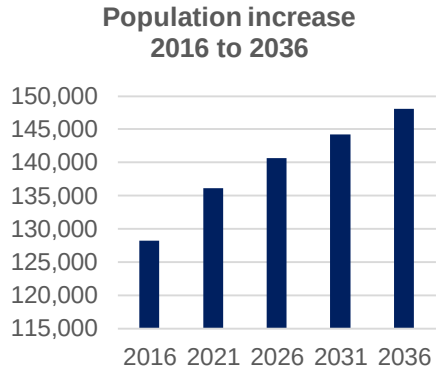
10 to 14 year olds: ANZ Tennis Hot Shots challenges, junior competition / tournaments, Tennis in Schools, Talent ID and coaching programs.

15 to 19 year olds: Tennis in Schools, junior to adult competition transition and tournaments.

20 to 29 year olds: Adult competition, fitness and Cardio Tennis introduction, social and evening tennis, higher performance tournaments, pay-for-play orientated.

30 to 55 year olds: Seeking a full range of competitive and social options, family memberships and activities, club environments and flexible opportunities.

55+ year olds: Surface choice begins to influence participation, social tennis is the driver for participation, lifestyle participation and tennis tourism are important.















TENNIS PARTICIPATION

In 2012, Tennis Australia reported 2.2 million tennis participants nationally. Interesting to note is that 400,000 had participated through coaching programs and 280,000 in formal competition. Of greater interest is that 81% of all participants played socially, including some 474,000 social players across Victoria (source Gemba Dec 2012).

A number of different sources have been used to identify the actual and potential participation rates for tennis within the City of Banyule.

The Victorian Participation in Exercise Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS 15 years+) average participation rates between 2001 and 2010 for organised and non-organised participation in tennis were 8.1% in Victoria, compared with 7.5% nationally.

The Victorian 10 year average of 3.5% for organised tennis activity is equal to the current participation rate in Banyule and has been applied to the current population to determine the current market for tennis. The current market for tennis in Banyule is 4,487 people. This is projected to rise 15% to 5,183 people by 2036 in line with population growth.

Children's national participation rates for tennis (ABS 5 to 14 years 2009) indicates that approximately 11.7% of children in Victoria and 7.9% of children nationally are participating in organised tennis activities

For Victoria, this presents a market for tennis of approximately 117,000 children aged 5 to 14 years and more specifically, 511 children in the City of Banyule.

Of the 4,608 registered tennis players living in the City of Banyule, 1,898 (41%) are female and only 3,524 (60%) are registered with Banyule based tennis clubs (6 registrations were left blank).

Using Banyule's penetration rate for tennis of 3.6% (percentage of tennis players per head of population), a potential future market for tennis participation can be derived. When applying this penetration rate to the additional 19,895 new residents expected to 2036, a total of 696 new tennis players can be expected over this period.

When applying the non-organised ERASS participation rate of 8.1%, the potential market for tennis in Banyule in 2036 will be much higher (11,988). Providing the community with easier access to tennis facilities through the provision of free or online public access courts will be a crucial strategy to capturing the 'non organised' tennis participant.

The largest potential market for tennis in Banyule will be in the South and West Precinct (Heidelberg and Ivanhoe). This area is expected to acquire an additional 584 new participants based on ERASS/ABS rates, and an additional 222 based on Banyule's penetration rate to 2026.

The needs of current and future residents and the preferred sport of choice for new residents in these areas should be considered by Council when planning the future development and enhancement of tennis facilities.

The diagram below provides 2015 membership numbers for registered players by Banyule postcode and by Banyule based clubs as provided by Tennis Victoria. Some clubs have indicated that these numbers are not a true reflection of their overall participation and in some cases does not include all use.

REGISTERED TENNIS PLAYERS THAT LIVE IN BANYULE POSTCODES

- 4,608

TENNIS PLAYERS REGISTERED WITH BANYULE CLUBS

- 3,524

% OF REGISTERED TENNIS PLAYERS LIVING IN BANYULE BUT ARE MEMBERS OF CLUBS OUTSIDE THE MUNICIPALITY

- 24%

Source: My Tennis 2015

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Tennis club membership data presented in this report was collected through the Tennis Victoria MyTennis database (2015), and from information supplied by Council.

Club membership data indicates that Banyule tennis clubs have a total of 3,524 members (176 per club). This number excludes Chelsworth Park, St Francis Xavier and St Johns Catholic Tennis Clubs as membership was not made available. The following table provides an overview of club membership numbers for Banyule tennis clubs from highest to lowest (this includes members living outside Banyule).

Banyule tennis clubs	2015 members
Bundoora Tennis Club	680
Eaglemont Tennis Club	359
Karingal Drive Tennis Club (Greensborough)	299
Viewbank Tennis Club	295
Greensborough Tennis Club	251
St Mary's (Greensborough) Tennis Club	222
Rosanna Tennis Club	203
Watsonia Tennis Club	197
Yallambie Tennis Club	186
Montmorency Tennis Club	181
Macleod Tennis Club	150
Ivanhoe Tennis Club	122
Grace Valley Tennis Club	117
Banyule Tennis Club	105
St Johns Anglican (Heidelberg) Tennis Club	60
St James (Ivanhoe) Tennis Club	56
East Ivanhoe Uniting Church Tennis Club	41
Lower Plenty Tennis Club	17
St John's Catholic Tennis Club	0
Chelsworth Park Tennis Club (no participation data available)	0
St Francis Xavier (no participation data available)	0
TOTAL	**3524**

The top ten clubs with the largest membership of Banyule residents are generally located just outside Council boundaries. These clubs include Eltham, Research and Norris Bank. A breakdown of non-Banyule based tennis clubs with Banyule residents is provided below.

Other clubs	No. of Banyule residents
Eltham Tennis Club	345
Research Tennis Club	205
Norris Bank Tennis Club	203
Plenty Tennis Club	112
Uniting Church Tennis Club	73
Kingsbury Tennis Club	62
Boroondara Tennis Centre	61
Mill Park Tennis Centre	54
Kangaroo Ground Tennis Centre	37
Australian Davis Cup Tennis Foundation	24
Total (includes 110 other clubs)	**1813**

Source: My Tennis 2015

MEMBER CATHMENT

A postcode analysis of registered tennis members in Banyule has been undertaken to identify participation hot spots and the distribution of players across the City.

The following observations were made from the postcode analysis and from the postcode maps provided on the following pages.

- A high number of members live in the North and Central to South East parts of the City and there is a large reduction of registered players in the West of Banyule, with Bundoora the exception.
- The suburbs of Eltham North, Research and Eltham have the highest number of registered members in Banyule, followed by Eaglemont, Banyule, Rosanna, Heidelberg and Viewbank.
- It should be noted that Bundoora and Macleod West share postcodes with the City of Darebin and Greensborough and Eltham North share postcodes with the Shire of Nillumbik.
- It could be assumed that a significant number of members living in the postcodes with bigger numbers (Bundoora and Eltham North) are members of other clubs outside of the Banyule municipality, thus contributing to the discrepancy between the total number of registered members living in Banyule and the total number of Banyule Tennis club members, which was mentioned previously.

The following table outlines the total number of Tennis Victoria registered members in each Banyule postcode from highest to lowest.

Postcode	Suburbs	Members
3095	Eltham North (shared with the Shire of Nillumbik), Research, Eltham	976
3084	Eaglemont, Rosanna, Heidelberg, Viewbank	799
3083	Bundoora (shared with City of Darebin), Latrobe University, Kingsbury	738
3079	Ivanhoe, Ivanhoe East, Ivanhoe North	494
3088	Greensborough (shared with the Shire of Nillumbik), St Helena, Briar Hill	692
3085	Macleod, Yallambie, Macleod West (shared with the City of Darebin)	283
3087	Watsonia North, Watsonia	194
3093	Lower Plenty	156
3094	Montmorency	154
3081	Heidelberg Heights, Bellfield, Heidelberg West, Heidelberg	122

MARKET FOR TENNIS

The following table provides a summary, by local area, of the projected change in market size for tennis between 2016 to 2026, utilising the participation and penetration rates by age provided on the previous page.

Suburb	Growth figures till 2026					
	GEMBA (2015)		ERASS/ABS		Banyule penetration rate (2013/14)	
	number	% change	number	% change	number	% change
Briar Hill	-3	-1.5%	-3	-1.4%	0	-0.4%
Bundoora	-1	-0.1%	3	0.4%	4	1.3%
Eaglemont	-4	-1.6%	-2	-0.7%	2	1.4%
Greensborough	68	6.6%	76	6.8%	36	8.1%
Heidelberg	210	43.4%	231	44.4%	85	42.9%
Heidelberg Heights	89	21.8%	93	20.7%	34	20.1%
Heidelberg West - Bellfield	54	10.6%	57	10.5%	21	9.8%
Ivanhoe	185	22.5%	203	22.6%	82	22.6%
Ivanhoe East	7	2.6%	8	2.8%	4	3.8%
Lower Plenty	-4	-1.7%	-4	-1.4%	-1	-0.5%
Macleod	21	4.7%	22	4.5%	11	5.8%
Montmorency	-35	-6.2%	-36	-5.8%	-7	-2.8%
Rosanna	34	6.9%	38	7.1%	17	7.9%
St Helena - Eltham North	6	1.6%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%
Viewbank	12	2.9%	13	2.8%	7	3.5%
Watsonia	10	2.8%	12	3.3%	8	5.4%
Watsonia North	5	2.1%	2	0.7%	1	0.9%
Yallambie	-2	-0.7%	-6	-2.1%	-2	-1.5%
Total	651	8.1%	709	8.13%	303	8.61%

Source: Population estimates derived from Profle.id

The table provides an indication that the market for tennis in Banyule, based on a population growth (9.7%), is expected to increase only marginally to 2026 when using ERASS an ABS figures. It is anticipated there will be a growth of 8.13% (an additional 709 players) in tennis participation across Banyule between 2016 to 2026. When using GEMBA figures a very similar result is found by way of percentage of players increase (8.10%) which suggests an increase of 651 players.

The largest potential market for tennis will be in the South West area in Heidelberg and Ivanhoe, this area (across 4 suburbs) is expected to grow by an additional 548 (GEMBA), 584 (ERASS/ABS) and 222 members (penetration rate) people to 2026.

Greensborough is still the biggest suburb in terms of tennis participation, however, Ivanhoe is a close second.

The needs of current and future residents and the preferred sport of choice for new residents in these areas should be considered by Council when planning the future development and enhancement of tennis facilities.

FUTURE DEMAND

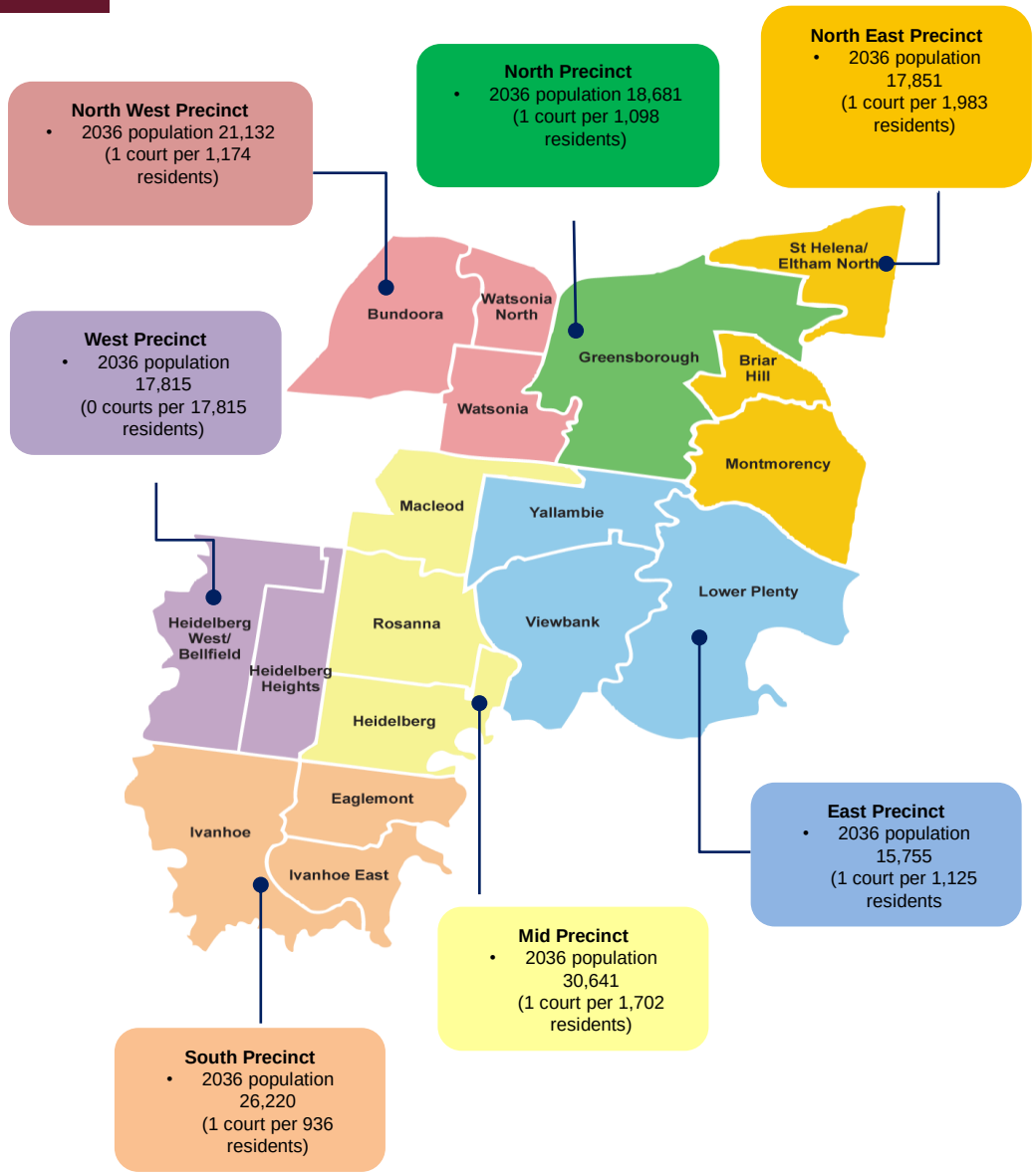
Tennis Victoria's guideline of providing one court for every 1,500 residents has been applied to Banyule's forecast population projections to 2036 within each Council precinct.

The aim of this task is to provide an indication of the future demand for tennis based on population growth and current court provision.

The majority of precincts will continue to be reasonably well serviced by current court provision, with the exception of the west precinct which will require more courts to encourage participation within these communities in the future.

The use of provision ratios to determine future demand should be used as a guide only. It can be heavily influenced by the type, frequency and duration of use and may not be applicable to every venue.





STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Council Sporting Club Survey

Council delivered a survey to all sporting clubs in November 2015 to gain an understanding of the current and future issues and needs specifically surrounding occupancy agreements.

Survey responses provided by tennis clubs have been summarised below to assist in the development of the tennis strategy.

Clubs who provided a response to the survey included Viewbank, Greensborough, Macleod, Montmorency, Eaglemont, St Mary's, Ivanhoe, Bundoora, Yallambie, St Johns Catholic, St Francis Xavier, St James and Rossana.

Club membership information indicated there were 1640 senior tennis players with an average of 126 per club. The majority of the senior participants were from Greensborough Tennis Club (250), Bundoora Tennis Club (235) and Eaglemont Tennis Club (193). These three clubs make up approximately 41% of all senior tennis players across Banyule.

There are 1042 junior players with an average of 80 per club. Approximately one fifth of the junior players are registered with Montmorency (215) followed closely by Bundoora Tennis Club (208). Junior numbers were generally lower than senior figures, with the exception of Viewbank, Montmorency and Yallambie, which has more junior participants.

The lowest ratio of juniors to seniors was at Eaglemont, St Francis Xavier and Macleod (all in the range of 3-4 seniors for every junior).

The number of volunteers at each club varied with the lowest figure (2) recorded at Eaglemont. This equates to 1 volunteer for every 92 players. The largest club (Bundoora) has 1 volunteer for every 5 participants.

Eight clubs (66.67%) that responded to the question regarding management of facilities, are currently on a lease agreement, the other 4 (33.3%) have no agreement (one club identified that their agreement expired more than 20 years ago).

Regarding capital works projects, there was some confusion amongst clubs with more than 61% indicating that they did not understand the current process for applying or seeking out capital works projects.

Ideas around addressing this issue were varied with a greater understanding of the Council process for allocating funding for capital works projects the main aim. Suggestions provided included requirements for clearly written guidelines, information sessions / seminars and an online process for capital works projects.

Issues and topics that clubs believe Council should include in future club seminars and workshops were capital works processes, maintenance procedures and information on statutory compliance. The least interesting topics to clubs were coaching seminars and volunteer recruitment.

The first preference for how the clubs would like to receive information from Council was via email. Every club preferred this method over other forms of information delivery.

The other options for second preference were:

- Mail (4)
- SMS (4)
- Council Leisure Newsletter (3)
- Council Newsletter (2)

Survey responses signified that current processes for sports ground allocation were typically not an issue, with only 30% of tennis clubs suggesting that their current process does not suit their needs. Of this 30%, the main issues identified a lack of information about the process of ground allocation and a lack of communication. Tennis clubs also expressed feeling that they were a low priority sport in Banyule.

With regards to club occupancy agreements; more than half believe their current occupancy met the needs of their club, and almost 75% believe that the length of occupancy is satisfactory, the current level of fees and charges are sustainable to their club and the fees and charges provide value for money to their club.

There were several comments from tennis clubs for new leases to be created and signed, and a request for Council to be consistent across all tennis clubs with their occupancy conditions. Tennis clubs were asked to select their top 5 issues. Responses are displayed on the adjacent graph.

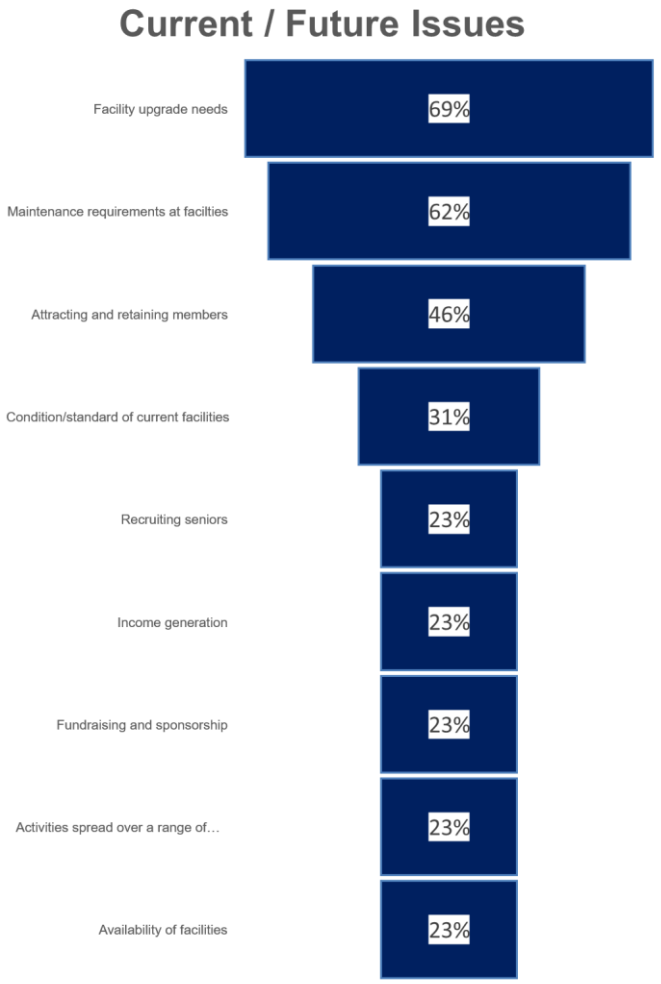
Every club surveyed identified interest in receiving assistance from Council in the future. All clubs suggested the provision of funding programs for the upgrade and improvement to existing sport and recreation facilities was most crucial.

Other areas that clubs require assistance with are:

- Grants to conduct club/organisation activities (61.5%).
- Assistance with facility maintenance (38.4%).
- Incentives to clubs which encourage participation - reduced fees and charges (30.7%).
- Workshops or seminars to assist with developing skills of club volunteers, recruiting and attracting members, grants, sponsorship and fundraising (23%).
- Support in promotion and marketing of club activities (23%).

The following additional comments were provided:

- Council not being proactive regarding the facilities.
- Development of websites and consolidation of utilities payment could assist improved rates.
- Clearer understanding of capital works funding plus simpler guidelines and processes for applying for funding.
- Clarification around lease situations.
- Parking issues at Telfer Reserve with not enough spaces for all users.
- A church club feeling as though they are overlooked by Council and would like to know what is possible by way of grants or funding.



Local Government Tennis Forum 2016

A representative of the project team attended the Parks and Leisure Australia Vic / Tas Tennis Forum held in May 2016.
Learnings from this forum include: The direction that tennis is heading in is based heavily on participation in order to make tennis the sport for everyone. Increasing participation in tennis requires suitable venues to handle the growth of the sport. In order to effectively provide courts, Tennis Victoria have identified 4 pillars to successful venues are:

1. **Accessibility (physical)**
2. **Sustainability**
3. **Community benefit**
4. **Accountability**

The lack of community access to courts is negatively impacting participation figures across Banyule. This will have implications for the remaining three pillars of club sustainability, community benefit and accountability for each court.

To counter issues with accessibility, the 'Opening Up Tennis' program offers facility owners the chance to improve the way players access their courts. This Tennis Victoria led program links online court booking software to gate and lighting hardware, which allows both club members and casual users to book their court conveniently online and independently manage the court facilities.

The program has broad community benefits and provides better access for casual and informal tennis players. The program allows communities to be provided with greater opportunities to participate and clubs involved in the program, receive additional revenue and club exposure through non-traditional court hire.

Karingal Drive Tennis Club in Banyule is currently one of 10 clubs across Victoria registered to participate in the program. Hardware technology was installed at Karingal Drive in December 2015 and the program is being piloted and monitored to determine its level of success, with a key objective of getting more people active and participating in tennis.

Initial development costs to install the hardware and set up the program online is approximately $10,000, Tennis Victoria is providing support through provision of free software and generate a small return by charging a 'gateway fee' of 3% for each booking. There is also a charge of $30 per month in administrative and data costs.

The Karingal Drive Tennis Club were interviewed in regards to their Opening Up Tennis Program and provided the following comments and performance data.

- Approximately 50 individuals have registered to use the system in the first six months (approximately 45 of these are club members).
- The system recorded 513 bookings since December 2015. The club estimate that approximately 98% of these are from existing club members.
- There has been three bookings from the general public to use the courts.
- The clubs has received six new members and $136 of 'hire' revenue as a result of the new system.

If 'Opening Up Tennis' proves successful and is rolled out across more clubs, clubs will benefit through increased revenue stream, long term sustainability and the program will support court maintenance obligations. This will be particularly important for clubs with red porous courts. The impact of higher maintenance surfaces such as red porous will impact the sustainability of clubs and put further pressure on Council's capital works budget.

In regards to sustainability, there are opportunities for Banyule to develop new standard lease agreements with their existing tennis clubs. The current trends across some LGAs (Kingston and Casey) is to introduce strict maintenance policies that specifies the responsible authority. This approach aims to minimise issues of clubs not maintaining the facilities to a level expected by the landlord (Council) as the policies are clear and easy to follow.

Kingston is considered a worthwhile case study for Banyule as 90% of tennis courts in Kingston are red porous. Kingston developed and implemented standard lease agreements for clubs for a term of nine years with a new standard fee structure of $100 per court. This amount allows for future surface replacement to be covered by the clubs with no reliance on Council.

The City of Casey has 14 tennis clubs that are now required to sign up under four year lease agreements. The clubs must be affiliated with Tennis Victoria and each club is required to have a strategic business plan and must contribute 15% of all ongoing maintenance and improvements recommended by Council.

Tennis Victoria has also increased their focus on the standard of club coaching. Club coaches are now required to increase their qualifications and sign contracts with their local club for longer terms i.e. 5 years, with incentives offered if this is achieved.

Additionally, only qualified coaches are allowed to offer Tennis Australia accredited hot shots and cardio tennis programs. It is also necessary for coaches to contribute financially with the amount of usage they add to the court taken into account in the operational health check benchmarks for each tennis club, which was previously not necessary.

The Issues and Opportunities Paper and proposed strategic recommendations were presented to Banyule Councillors and the Tennis Reference Group for review and feedback prior to developing the Draft Tennis Strategy.



FACILITIES

Tennis in Banyule is well serviced with 23 venues and 124 courts distributed across the municipality being used for local competition. These venues are being used by organised tennis clubs and offer a range of tennis experiences for club members, visitors and residents.

The majority of facilities are considered 'local level' as defined by the Tennis Australia Hierarchy, with only the Eaglemont Tennis Club, Bundoora Tennis Club and Viewbank Tennis Clubs recognised as district level due to the number of courts provided (8+).

Existing courts and facilities were assessed as being in reasonable condition, following a detailed audit of approximately 70% of existing tennis venues (please note - courts on non Council owned land were not audited).

Surfaces are being well maintained and are safe for play, and the standard of court lighting was considered high with 82% of all courts floodlit.

A large majority of court surfaces (63%) are red porous. Red porous is not the sports preferred playing or coaching surface, particularly at the community level, due to the ongoing reliance on water and maintenance requirements to keep the surface safe and playable.

Council should aim to provide a mix of court surfaces to cater for beginners to advanced players and support entry level tennis programs.

The following information provides a summary of facility information including a full inventory of existing competition tennis facilities, and a preliminary renewal and improvement program for all on-court infrastructure.

A location map of tennis facilities is also included to identify the geographical spread of facilities across Banyule.

Tennis Audit Summary

- On-site audits of 16 tennis facilities conducted in 2015.
- Customised audit program used to assess current facilities against guidelines for tennis.
- Total of 95 courts audited.
- 16 clubrooms and pavilions assessed.
- No non-Council owned tennis venues were inspected.
- Majority of venues are local level (three district level - 8+ courts).
- 4 dedicated hot shots courts.
- One venue participating in the 'Opening Up Tennis' Program.

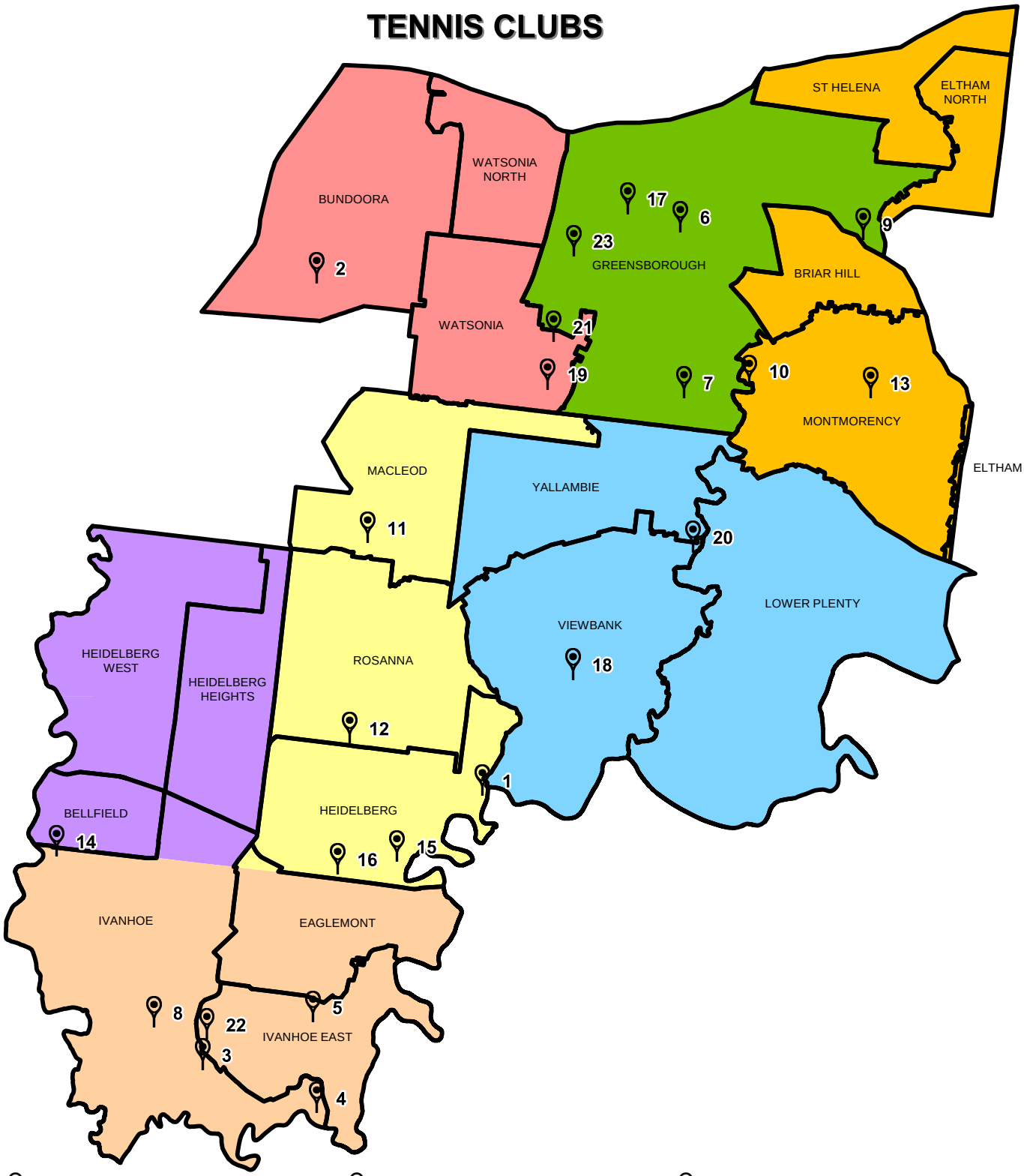




Map reference no.	Clubs on Council land	Facility location	No. of courts	Floodlit courts	Surface type
1	Banyule	Warringal Park	6	6	Red porous (6)
2	Bundoora	Telfer Reserve	8	8	Red porous (4), Cushioned acrylic (2), Synthetic grass (2)
3	Chelsworth Park Tennis Club	Chelsworth Park	7 (4 under management of Ivanhoe Grammar)	4	Red porous (4), Synthetic grass (3)
4	Eaglemont	Burke Road North Tennis	10	4	Red porous (6) Synthetic clay (4)
6	Greensborough	Greensborough Park	6	4	Red porous (2) Synthetic clay (4)
7	Grace Valley	Central Park	4	4	Red porous (4)
8 / 22	Ivanhoe	Ivanhoe Park / John Street	2 / 3	0 / 3	Red porous (2,3)
9	Karingal Drive	Malcolm Blair Reserve	6	6	Red porous (2) Synthetic grass (4)
10	Montmorency	Montmorency Park	6	6	Red porous (6)
11	Macleod	Macleod Tennis Park	6	6	Red porous (2), Synthetic clay (2), Synthetic grass (2)
12	Rosanna	De Winton Park	5	5	Red porous (3) Synthetic clay (2)
14	St James (Ivanhoe)	Cyril Cummins Reserve	4	4	Red porous (4)
17	St Mary's Greensborough	Kalparrin Gardens	4	4	Red porous (4)
18	Viewbank	Viewbank Reserve	8	8	Red porous (4) Synthetic clay (4)
19	Watsonia	Elder Street Reserve	6	6	Red porous (2) Cushioned acrylic (4)
20	Yallambie	Yallambie Park	6	6	Red porous (6)
SUB TOTAL			**97**	**84**	

Map reference no.	Clubs on non-Council land	Facility location	No. of courts	Floodlit courts	Surface type
5	East Ivanhoe Uniting	King Street, Ivanhoe East	2	2	Red porous (2)
13	St Francis Xavier	Mayona Road, Montmorency	3	3	Red porous (3)
15	St Johns Anglican (Heidelberg)	Vine Street, Heidelberg	4	4	Red porous (4)
16	St Johns Catholic	Yarra Street, Heidelberg	3	3	Synthetic (3)
21	Greensborough Tennis Club	Nepean Street, Watsonia	4	4	Red porous (4)
23	St Mary's Greensborough	St Mary's Primary School	3	0	Synthetic (3)
N/A	Lower Plenty	Palimino Court Lower Plenty	8	8	Unsure (private courts)
SUB TOTAL			**27**	**24**	
TOTAL			**124**	**108**	

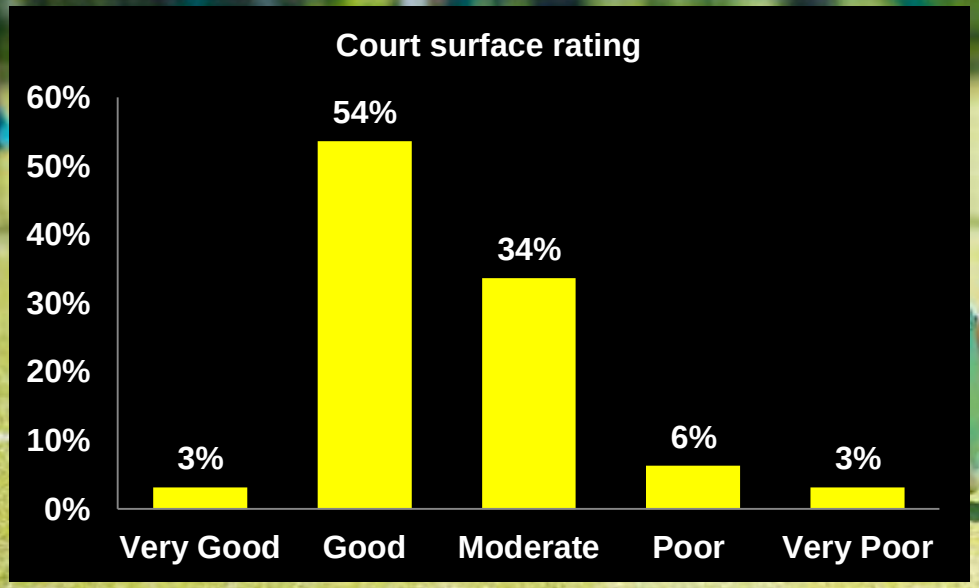
TENNIS CLUBS



1 - Banyule Tennis Club
2 - Bundoora Tennis Club
3 - Chelsworth Park Tennis Club
4 - Eaglemont Tennis Club
5 - East Ivanhoe Uniting Church Tennis Club
6 - Greensborough Tennis Club
7 - Grace Valley Tennis Club
8 - Ivanhoe Tennis Club
9 - Karingal Drive Tennis Club
10 - Montmorency Tennis Club
11 - Macleod Tennis Club
12 - Rosanna Tennis Club
13 - St Francis Xavier Tennis Club
14 - St James Tennis Club
15 - St Johns Anglican Church Tennis Club
16 - St Johns Catholic Church Tennis Club
17 - St Marys Tennis Club
18 - Viewbank Tennis Club
19 - Watsonia Tennis Club
20 - Yallambie Tennis Club
21 - Greensborough Tennis Club (additional courts)
22 - Ivanhoe Tennis Club (additional courts)
23 - St Marys Tennis Club (additional courts)

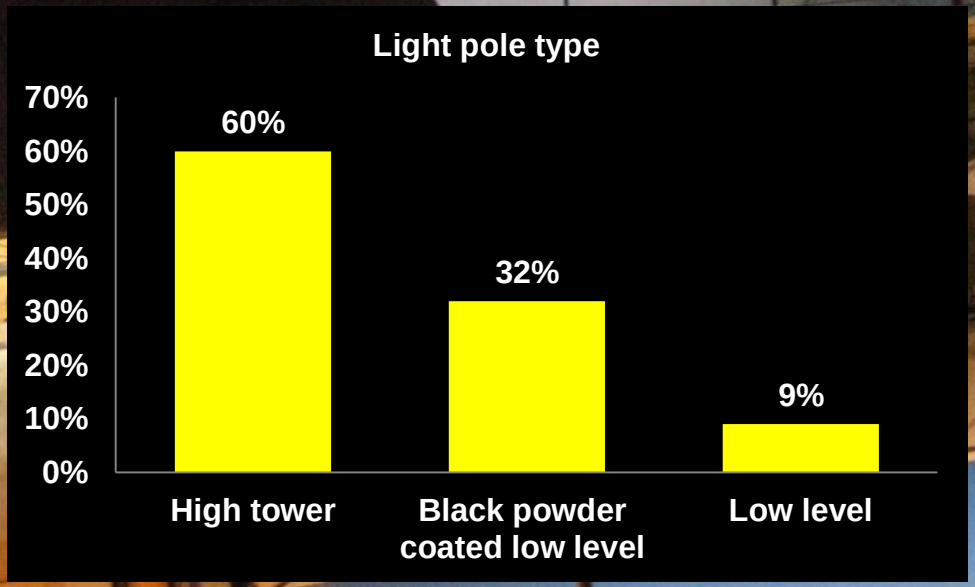
COURT SURFACE SUMMARY

- 66.3% red porous
- 14.95% synthetic clay
- 7.48% synthetic grass
- 7.48% surface acrylic
- 3.74% cushioned acrylic



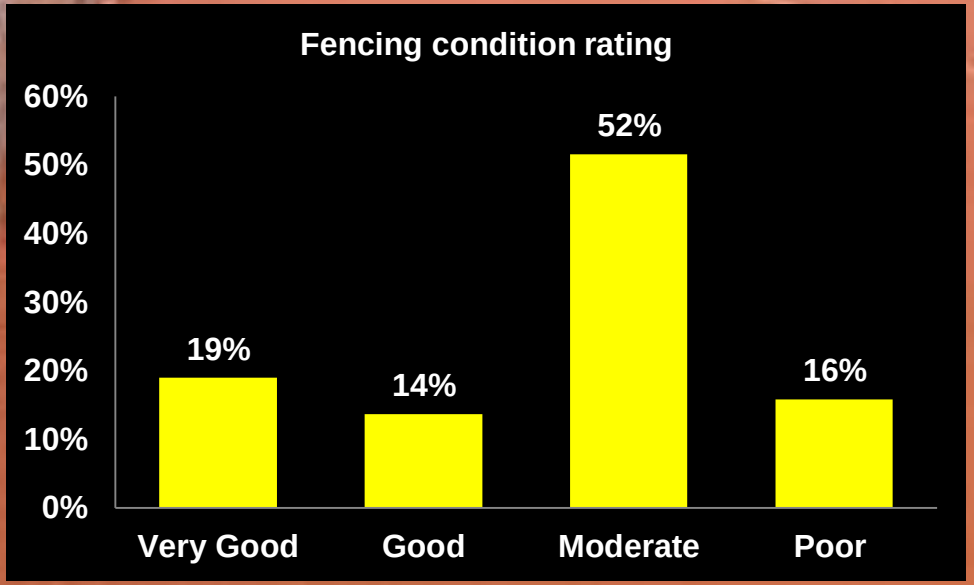
LIGHTING

- 80% of courts have floodlighting
- Standard of lighting infrastructure is high
- No lux level testing undertaken



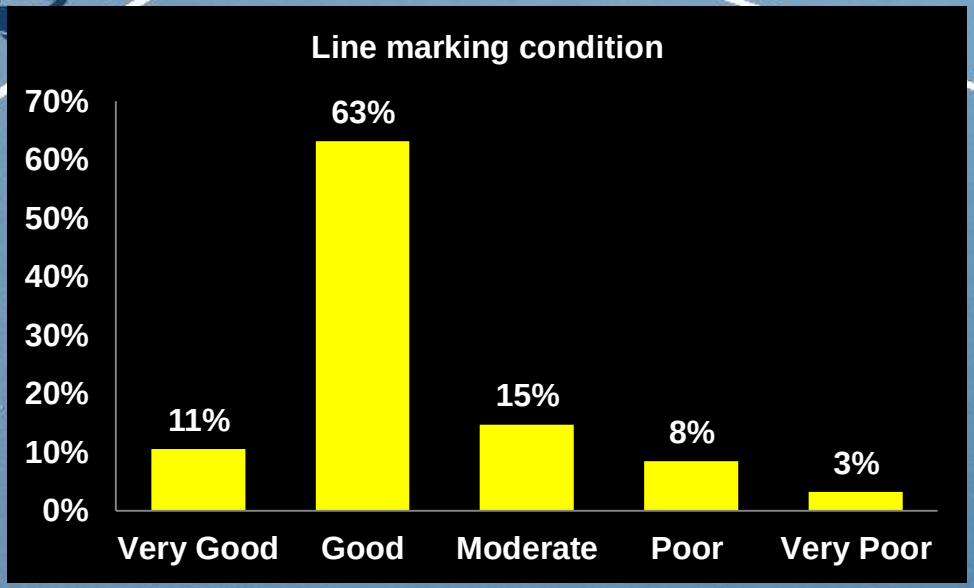
FENCING

- 62% Galvanised chain mesh
- 38% Black PVC chain mesh
- 3% Green PVC chain mesh
- No immediate upgrade requirements identified



LINE MARKING

- 98% tennis only lines
- 2% combined tennis / netball lines



CONDITION RATINGS SUMMARY

LOCATION			2016 PROVISION			INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO 2026				
Facility location	Suburb	Club name	Total No. courts	Total No. Floodlit courts	Hierarchy	Lighting renewal	Surface renewal	Fencing renewal	Net posts to replace	Recommended future strategic direction
Council owned land										
Warringal Park	Heidelberg	Banyule	6	6	Local	6	6	6	6	Retain as local club facility.
Telfer Reserve	Bundoora	Bundoora	8	8	District	4	2	4	2	Retain as district facility and consider additional hot shots courts in line with the reserve master plan.
Chelsworth Park	Ivanhoe	Chelsworth Park	7	4	Local	4	3	7	4	Investigate opportunities to convert underutilised courts to free to use public access courts.
Burke Road North Tennis	Eaglemont	Eaglemont	10	4	District	4	4	10	10	Provide additional court lighting to increase participation oportunities
Whatmough	Greensborough	Greensborough	6	4	Local	4	6	4	2	Investigate opportunities to convert underutilised courts to free to use public access courts.
Central Park	Greensborough	Grace Valley	4	4	Local	4	4	4	4	Retain as local club facility.
Ivanhoe Park	Ivanhoe	Ivanhoe	2	0	Local	0	2	2	2	Investigate opportunities to consolidate facilities with Chelsworth Park
John Street	Ivanhoe	Ivanhoe	3	3	Local	3	3	3	3	Retain as local club facility.
Malcolm Blair Reserve	Greensborough	Karingal Drive	6	6	Local	6	6	6	6	Retain as local club facility and monitor success of the Open Up Tennis Program.
Montmorency Park	Montmorency	Montmorency	6	6	Local	6	6	6	6	Investigate opportunities to convert some court surfaces to hard courts.
Macleod Park	Macleod	Macleod	6	6	Local	6	2	6	6	Retain as local club facility.
De Winton Park	Rosanna	Rosanna	5	5	Local	5	2	1	5	Retain as local club facility.
Cyril Cummins Reserve	Ivanhoe	St James	4	4	Local	4	4	4	4	Retain as local club facility.
Kalparrin Gardens	Greensborough	St Mary's	4	4	Local	4	4	4	4	Retain as local club facility.
Viewbank Reserve	Viewbank	Viewbank	8	8	District	8	4	8	8	Retain as district facility.
Elder Street Reserve	Watsonia	Watsonia	6	6	Local	6	2	6	6	Retain as local club facility.
Yallambie Park	Yallambie	Yallambie	6	6	Local	6	6	6	6	Investigate opportunities to convert some court surfaces to hard courts.
Non Council owned land										
East Ivanhoe Uniting Church	Ivanhoe East	East Ivanhoe Uniting	2	2	Local					Facility not audited
St Francis Xavier	Montmorency	St Francis Xavier	3	0	Local					Facility not audited
St Johns Anglican Church	Heidelberg	St Johns Anglican	4	4	Local					Facility not audited
St Johns Catholic Church	Heidelberg	St Johns Catholic	3	3	Local					Facility not audited
Greensborough College	Nepean Street, Watsonia	Greensborough	4	4	Local					Facility not audited
St Mary's Primary School	Greensborough	St Mary's	3	0	Local					Facility not audited
Private residents	Lower Plenty	Lower Plenty	8	8	Local					Facility not audited
		Totals	124	105						Facility not audited

within 3 years
within 4-5 years
within 6-10 years
no specific action within 10 years

Note: numbers refer to the number of courts requiring priority works

COURT SURFACE INFORMATION

There are six surface type categories, however only four are used widely across the tennis industry, with each providing different playing characteristics and suitability. These include: acrylic hard court (cushioned or non-cushioned), clay, synthetic grass and synthetic clay.

The performance, aesthetics and longevity of each surface is dependent on the level of use, maintenance regimes and weather conditions. A brief summary of the playing characteristics, benefits and suitability of each surface is provided below.

Acrylic hard court (cushioned / non-cushioned)

Suitable for all levels of coaching, training, social and competition play. These surfaces are popular for club level competition. Acrylic surfaces generally require recoating every 7-10 years and the surface must be kept clean to prolong the life of the court.

Clay

Often referred to as red porous, however there are distinctions that must be made: En Tout Cas, however, is not a Tier 1 clay based surface. The Tier 1 varieties of clay include: Italian clay, Conipur clay and Har Tru. Drought conditions and the availability of a reliable water source impacts provision and maintenance.

Synthetic clay

Similar to clay, however, these surfaces are becoming more and more popular due to their lower maintenance.

Synthetic grass

Synthetic surfaces are popular with tennis coaches and clubs due to their efficient drainage capabilities and ability to be played on when damp. Playability is dependent on an effective maintenance regime including regular grooming. Resurfacing should occur every 8 – 12 years depending on use, maintenance and manufactures warranties.

Selecting a suitable court surface can be difficult and subjective. Council should consider the following key criteria when selecting the most appropriate court surface to be provided.

- Member and user preference
- Intended use and level of play
- Future club directions
- Coaching and tournament requirements
- Site conditions

Considering the standard and level of play, current usage, and the tennis development opportunities present in Banyule, the most appropriate court surface for any new tennis facilities would either be acrylic or sand filled artificial grass.

These surface are generally accessible in all conditions, support a range of ability levels and promote introductory tennis programs and social play.

An acrylic surface is preferable for any future development of multi-purpose public tennis facilities being planned by Council and should also include provision for Hot Shots courts to enhance community use.

PUBLIC ACCESS COURTS

Similar to the increase in popularity of night tennis, there is a growing trend towards more social and informal tennis activity that is accessible to the community.

The number of publicly accessible tennis courts has increased across the state in the past few years which has coincided with a decline in tennis club membership. Councils are recognising the important role public tennis facilities can play in contributing to the physical health and well being of their communities.

There are currently no free to use public access tennis courts in Banyule. The Macleod YMCA promotes public access to their synthetic courts for a small fee.

The majority of Banyule clubs provide court hire to non-members outside of club competition and coaching times. Court hire fees vary and the process for a member of the public to gain access through a club can be challenging, resulting in minimal public use of club venues.

Traditionally tennis clubs have been reluctant to provide free access to tennis courts due to the potential impact on membership revenue, increased facility maintenance and loss of venue control.

The following information provides a summary of public access tennis facility models for consideration by Council.

Free to use public access courts

Generally provided in an area of high community use, such as a park or playground precinct with suitable vehicle and pedestrian access and in a highly visible location with good public surveillance.

The Yarraville tennis courts on Williamstown Road are popular free use courts that are located adjacent to a sports oval, skate park and school. These courts are maintained by Council and are available for social tennis on a casual basis at no cost to the community.

Mixed club and public access courts

Public access tennis courts can also be provided at existing club venues. The City of Greater Geelong introduced a policy that all tennis venues across the municipality must provide at least two free to use public access courts for community use. Clubs are able to use the public courts during their allocated times but they remain open and accessible to the community at no charge outside of club times.

Under this arrangement Council is responsible for all asset renewal including court resurfacing, nets and fencing, with the tenant club responsible for lighting upgrades and maintenance. Usage across public access tennis courts in Geelong is unknown, however, Council will continue to implement this policy to provide the greatest opportunity for the community to access tennis facilities.

Paid public court hire

As previously mentioned there are a number of tennis clubs in Banyule that offer paid public court hire through the clubs administration, but this can prove difficult and can limit community access to the facility.

The ‘Opening Up Tennis Program’ currently being offered at Karingal Drive is the preferred model for providing paid public court hire. It is recommended that Council continue to monitor the success of this program and encourage other clubs to provide greater access to their tennis facilities through revised lease arrangements.

The introduction of free use multi-purpose courts should be considered by Council to encourage new players to the sport and to respond to the growing demand for more social and informal leisure activities and participation opportunities.