

7.2.3 DRAFT MONASH CRICKET PARTICIPATION PLAN

Responsible Manager:	Tony Oulton, Manager Active Monash
Responsible Director:	Russell Hopkins, Director Community Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the Draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan for community consultation.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with the updated draft Cricket Participation Plan for Monash and seek endorsement of its release for community consultation.

COUNCIL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Inclusive Services

Fostering an equitable, just and inclusive Monash.

Enhanced Places

Improving open spaces, bushland and street trees, including prioritising biodiversity and community engagement.

Improve public spaces and local employment by revitalising our employment hubs, activity centres and neighbourhood shops.

BACKGROUND

The draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan (attachment 1) has been developed as the result of extensive consultation and work with cricket clubs in Monash to strategically address key issues for the sport.

At its Meeting held on 30 October 2018, Council endorsed a plan to conduct a series of club forums with major sporting codes to identify and potentially address issues and opportunities for each sport. The major sporting codes identified were tennis, football, Australian rules football and cricket.

An online forum with all cricket clubs and Cricket Victoria was held on 8 September 2020. Opportunities and challenges for the sport that were nominated by clubs at the forum, as well as facility condition and participation data gathered by officers through this period informed the development of the Cricket in Monash Discussion Paper, which was subsequently released for public exhibition between 6 May and 19 June 2021. A total of 74 responses were received to the Discussion Paper, the findings from which can be viewed in the Community Consultation Report (attachment 2).

A draft Cricket Plan was presented to Councillors in 2021. Of note is Council's continued investment into a sport that, despite having an overall growth trend in participation, had not seen a commensurate increase in adult female participation over the previous five seasons. The question of 'equity' of spend across sporting codes has been further investigated, subsequently placing the draft Monash Cricket Plan on hold as Officers undertook a broader participation study.

The Sports Participation Study was undertaken throughout 2022 and delved into participation levels across different sports in Monash, including female and CALD participation trends, as well as historical and current investment data across sporting codes in Monash. This work has been used to inform strategic priorities for cricket participation in the updated plan.

In August 2022, the State Government announced the *Fair Access Policy Roadmap* as a resource for improving gender equitable access and use of publicly owned community sports infrastructure. This is particularly relevant to the sport of cricket in Monash and is now represented in the updated plan.

Overall, there is less burden on Council by way of infrastructure investment in the updated plan, with more focus on sustainable participation actions and inclusive cricket clubs.

The Cricket Participation Plan is an aspirational plan and the priorities identified may be subject to project prioritisation, budget approval and/or external funding, and are intended to remain relevant up to 10 years after adoption.

DISCUSSION

The draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan has been developed having regard to the key issues arising from the Cricket in Monash Discussion Paper (2021), Cricket Wicket Policy (2021), Monash Sports Participation Study (2022) and principles of the State Government's Fair Access Policy Roadmap.

Infrastructure

With almost 40 cricket grounds, including nine with turf wickets, and 25 practice facilities, six with turf training facilities, Monash has a lot of cricket infrastructure, much of which does not meet preferred standards. More than 80% of respondents to the Discussion Paper nominated improvements to cricket nets as a priority. Approximately two-thirds of Council's cricket practice facilities do not meet preferred standards. The draft cricket participation plan therefore seeks to address this issue by prioritising renewal projects for clubs with women and girls' teams and only for clubs that meet the mandatory requirements under the Sports Club Framework.

Participation

Female participation accounts for less than 5% of total cricket participation in Monash, including just three senior women's teams. Men aged between 18-44 years of age account for more than 60% of total cricket participation in Monash. The draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan attempts to address this issue by prioritising access to cricket facilities and targeting participation initiatives towards clubs with women and girls.

Sustainable Clubs

The Monash Sportsclub Framework recognises that sustainable clubs need to be inclusive and offer a range of opportunities to meet the needs of the community. The draft plan seeks to put mechanisms in place whereby officers can better support clubs willing to address the imbalance in participation by prioritising support to address the significant gender imbalance and subsequent distribution of resources that currently go toward cricket.

In total, 16 actions have been identified in the draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan. Relevant stakeholders have been identified for each action, with priority level listed for each action highlighted. If required, an anticipated budget has been identified to deliver each action.

Next Steps

Subject to Councillor support, officers will publicly exhibit the draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan (as detailed in Attachment 1) for community feedback during the 2023/24 cricket season, before presenting a final version for Council consideration and endorsement at a future Council meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any of the actions documented in the plan reliant on Council funding will be subject to priorities set within Council's annual capital works budget.

Any actions in the plan that are reliant on funding may be subject to project prioritisation, budget approval and/or external funding, and are intended to remain relevant up to 10 years after adoption.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Monash Health and Wellbeing Plan, 2021 – 2025 outlines Council's commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of the Monash community. Council's continued commitment to gender equity improvements across community sporting venues will deliver on a Monash community that is *Active and Healthy and Engaged, Confident and Connected*.

CONSULTATION

Findings from the Monash Cricket Forum and Monash Cricket Discussion Paper Survey have been used to inform key priorities that are listed in the draft plan.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This plan will greatly support Council's broader social agenda for creating a healthy and resilient Monash community that is active, healthy and connected through sport.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no human rights implications attached to this report.

GENDER IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Gender Equity in the sport of cricket is a huge focus of the Draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan. Several actions listed in the plan seek to address the historical imbalance of female non-participation in the sport of cricket in Monash. Gender Equity and alignment with the State Government's Fair Access Policy Roadmap is listed as a key objective of the plan.

CONCLUSION

Officers seek approval to publicly exhibit the draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan (as detailed in Attachment 1) for community feedback during the 2023/24 cricket season, before presenting a final version for Council consideration and endorsement at a future Council meeting.

ATTACHMENT LIST

1. Draft Monash Cricket Participation Plan [7.2.3.1 - 16 pages]

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2. Cricket in Monash Discussion Paper Community Consultation Report Attachment 2 [7.2.3.2 - 9 pages]



MONASH CRICKET PARTICIPATION PLAN

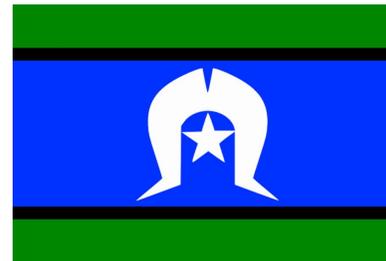
2024 - 2034
(Draft)





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Monash acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong People, and recognises their continuing connection to the land and waterways. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend this to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.





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VISION

A Monash Cricket Community that is upheld by healthy and vibrant clubs that reflect the Monash community and participate at high quality and safe cricket facilities.

Why develop this plan?

The Monash Cricket Participation Plan has been developed by Council in collaboration with Monash cricket clubs and Cricket Victoria, and establishes key principles to strategically address important issues in the sport. This includes the development of an action plan to prioritise and guide the future development and provisions standards for cricket in Monash.

How will this plan be used?

It is envisaged that the Monash Cricket Plan will be used to support clubs and identify investment priorities for cricket facilities and infrastructure in Monash. This plan sees Monash well-placed to attract external funding and support cricket clubs to be healthy, inclusive and vibrant places to play.

Objectives

- Identify short, medium and long term actions for cricket participation in Monash.
- Ensure that cricket is a sport that is available and accessible for the whole Monash community to enjoy.
- Continue to service different levels, formats and standards of cricket in Monash.
- Ensure that Monash cricket clubs support active participation and community health and wellbeing.
- Gender Equity - Support cricket clubs to achieve standards and requirements that are specified in the *Fair Access Policy Roadmap*.



STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Monash Council Plan 2021-2025

The Monash Cricket Participation Plan has been developed with strong links to the four strategic objectives of the Monash Council Plan 2021-2025.



Sustainable City



Inclusive Services



Enhanced Places



Good Governance



STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Sport and Recreation Victoria - Fair Access Policy Roadmap

The *Fair Access Policy Roadmap* has been developed in partnership with local governments, the state sport and active recreation sector and other key stakeholders to improve gender equitable access and use of publically owned community sports infrastructure across Victoria.

The following Fair Access Principles have been developed to guide local governments and other public land management groups to achieve gender equitable access and use of community sports infrastructure:

1. Community sports infrastructure and environments are genuinely welcoming, safe and inclusive
2. Women and girls can fully participate in all aspects of community sport and active recreation, including as a player, coach, administrator, official, volunteer and spectator
3. Women and girls will have equitable access to and use of community sport infrastructure
4. Women and girls should be equitably represented in leadership and governance roles
5. Encourage and support all user groups who access and use community sport infrastructure to understand, adopt and implement gender equitable access and use practices
6. Prioritise access, use and support to all user groups who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to gender equitable access and use of allocated community sport infrastructure

ACTIVE
MONASH

CITY OF
MONASH



Fair Access Policy Roadmap

Supporting gender equitable access to and use of community sports infrastructure in Victoria

CHANGE
THE
GAME

VicHealth

VICTORIA
State Government



STRATEGIC CONTEXT

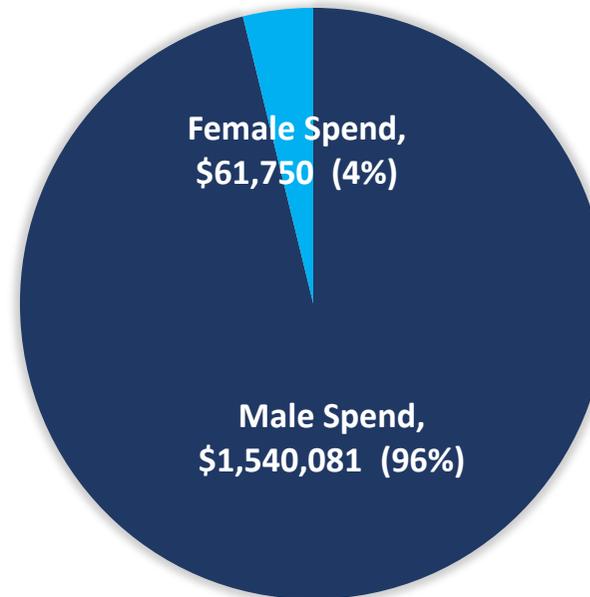
Female Cricket In Monash

When considering capital and operational investment into all cricket facilities and applying this investment across gender, an average annual spend of approximately \$1.5 million directly benefits male cricket participants in Monash. Using the same methodology, just \$60,000 of Council’s annual spend benefits female cricket participation.

Female cricket participation rates in Monash are behind other major sporting codes, such as Soccer, Australian Rules Football and Tennis. When comparing with national participation rates via Sport Australia’s *Ausplay State of Play Report*, Monash sits lower than national averages for female participation. Over a period of several years, approximately 5% of cricket teams in Monash have been designated female teams.

We have heard very clearly from several cricket clubs in Monash that they are very eager to develop or grow a female cricket program within their club, but would benefit from Council leadership and strategic direction to achieve this.

Figure 1: Average Annual Spend by Council across all cricket venues (Capital and Operational), 2010-2022

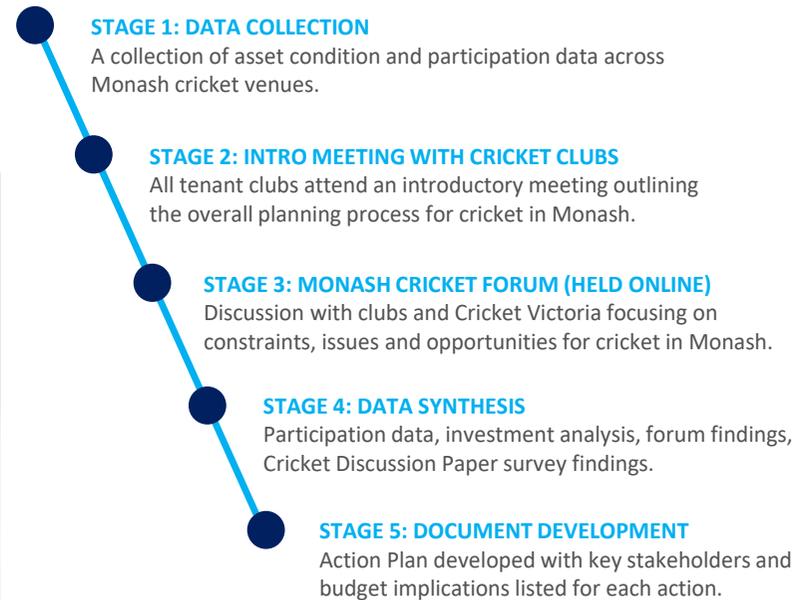




STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Methodology

The development of the *Monash Cricket Participation Plan* has followed a five stage process:





KEY FINDINGS

INFRASTRUCTURE

- 7 out of 30 or 23% of all synthetic cricket wickets currently do not meet preferred Cricket Victoria standards.
- 2 out of 9 or 22% of all turf wicket tables in Monash are categorised as 'over-used.'
- 16 out of 25 or 64% of synthetic cricket net facilities do not meet preferred Cricket Victoria standards.
- When combining operational and capital investment, turf cricket currently costs Council approximately \$2,000 per turf cricket participant, compared to \$300 for each synthetic cricket participant each season.



MONASH CRICKET FORUM

The most popular future directions for cricket in Monash as nominated by club representatives at the Monash Cricket Forum were:

- "Increased participation for juniors and senior females."
- "Shared vision and strategic direction for the sport."
- "*Condition of Facilities and Participation Rates* are the most critical issues facing clubs."

PARTICIPATION

- Females currently make up less than 5% of cricket participation in Monash.
- Female participation is split across 11 girls' teams and 3 senior women's teams.
- 66% of cricket participants in Monash are aged between 18-44 years.
- Cricket is one of few sports in Monash that demonstrates above average representation from culturally diverse participants when compared with the national averages.

DISCUSSION PAPER RESPONSES

- 84% support investment into cricket net improvements as a priority.
- 68% supported the proposed measures introduced via the Cricket Wicket Policy (2021).
- *Safe and High Quality Facilities, Female Participation and Growth of Junior Cricket* were the top 3 most popular investment principles.

ACTION PLAN



STRATEGIC PILLARS

The following strategic pillars have been used to develop actions for the Monash Cricket Participation Plan:



Increased Cricket Participation

Inclusive and diverse cricket participation formats, including greater opportunities for social and modified play, as well as increased female and junior participation.



Quality & Safe Cricket Venues

Cricket training and playing facilities that are safe, welcoming, fit-for-purpose, inclusive and durable. Where suitable, explore flexible cricket facilities that can provide shared and multi-purpose use.



Sustainable Clubs

Monash cricket clubs that are committed to serving the broader Monash community, including growth for female cricket.



1. Increased Cricket Participation

	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	PRIORITY	BUDGET	RESPONSIBLE Lead in bold
1.1	Leverage Monash's Active Communities program and partner with local clubs, schools and Cricket Victoria to grow junior participation and non-traditional modes of the sport with a focus on inclusion.	2	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council Cricket Clubs Cricket Victoria
1.2	In accordance with the State Government's Fair Access Policy Roadmap, all Monash cricket clubs to commit to increased opportunities for women and girls to participate.	1	Existing operating budgets	Cricket Clubs Monash Council
1.3	Develop a plan for multi-use facilities that can accommodate cricket training at venues that have women's and girls' teams.	2	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council Cricket Clubs Cricket Victoria
1.4	Subject to site suitability, engage with local schools to explore greater cricket participation at school ovals, including scheduling and facility development opportunities where feasible.	3	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council SRV Cricket Victoria
1.5	Deliver two Community Cricket Days each summer season through Monash's Active Communities Program, in partnership with Monash cricket clubs and Cricket Victoria. For more information, visit: www.monash.vic.gov.au/Things-to-Do/Active-Communities	1	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council Cricket Clubs Cricket Victoria



2. Quality and Safe Cricket Venues

	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	PRIORITY	BUDGET	RESPONSIBLE Lead in bold
2.1	In preparation for summer season 2025/26, plan for Monash Cricket Clubs to be allocated use of two new cricket venues in Monash: <i>The Ashes</i> and <i>The Oaks</i> - Jells Park, Wheelers Hill. This includes running an EOI process with existing Monash cricket clubs and considers winter cricket opportunities.	1	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council Cricket Clubs
2.2	Explore external funding opportunities for community cricket net facilities at venues that are allocated to cricket clubs that achieve <i>Fair Access</i> for women and girls. Renewal of cricket nets across Monash will be delivered in accordance with the provision standards that are specified in the Monash Cricket Wicket Policy: www.monash.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Corporate-Strategies-Plans/Plans-and-Strategies/Cricket-Wicket-Policy	1	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council SRV Cricket Victoria
2.3	All synthetic match-day cricket wickets in Monash to meet preferred Cricket Victoria standards by 2030.	2	\$250,000 to be staged	Monash Council SRV
2.4	Central Reserve to service the Monash community as Council's only Premier Cricket venue, with supporting match day and training infrastructure that is in accordance with facility standards for premier cricket venues.	2	Existing operating budgets External Funding	Monash Council
2.5	Prioritise cricket infrastructure upgrades and asset renewal of cricket facilities at community cricket venues that are allocated to cricket clubs with female teams and can demonstrate alignment with the <i>Fair Access Policy Roadmap</i> .	1	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council Cricket Clubs

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2. Quality and Safe Cricket Venues (continued)

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	PRIORITY	BUDGET	RESPONSIBLE Lead in bold
2.6 Subject to site investigations and parameters stipulated in the Monash Sports Floodlighting Policy, explore the feasibility of night-match standard lighting installations at Central Reserve, Mount Waverley Reserve and DW Nicoll Reserve.	3	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council SRV
2.7 *Explore external funding opportunities for pavilion amenity upgrades at priority sites that are identified in the Active Monash Capital Works Priorities Framework, such as D.W. Nicoll Reserve, Jingella Reserve, Ashwood College, Princes Highway East Reserve and Southern Reserve.	2	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council

*Depending on site suitability, pavilion amenity upgrades can include modular redevelopments and/or internal refurbishments for gender neutral change rooms and amenities.



3. Sustainable Clubs

	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	PRIORITY	BUDGET	RESPONSIBLE Lead in bold
3.1	To be eligible for future Council investment, cricket clubs must participate in the Active Monash Sports Club Framework and achieve mandatory level.	2	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council Cricket Clubs
3.2	Allocate cricket matches in accordance with the wicket usage parameters that are outlined in the Monash Cricket Wicket Policy: www.monash.vic.gov.au/About-Us/Corporate-Strategies-Plans/Plans-and-Strategies/Cricket-Wicket-Policy	1	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council
3.3	Review and monitor the adopted Monash Cricket Wicket Policy, with updates made to the policy if necessary.	3	Existing operating budgets	Monash Council
3.4	Prioritise the allocation of cricket facilities to clubs that can demonstrate an ongoing commitment to equitable access in accordance with the Fair Access roadmap.	1	Existing operating budgets	Cricket Clubs Monash Council



RELATED DOCUMENTS

Active Monash Capital Works Priorities Framework

www.monash.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/edms/things-to-do/sport-recreation/active-monash-capital-works-priorities-framework.pdf

Active Monash Sports Club Framework

www.monash.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/edms/things-to-do/sport-recreation/active-monash-sports-club-framework-2022-2027.pdf

Cricket In Monash Discussion Paper

<https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/cricket>

Monash Cricket Wicket Policy

www.monash.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/edms/things-to-do/sport-recreation/monash-cricket-wicket-policy.pdf

Monash Sportsground Floodlighting Policy

www.monash.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/edms/things-to-do/sport-recreation/monash-sports-floodlighting-policy.pdf

Victorian Government's Fair Access Policy Roadmap

<https://changeourgame.vic.gov.au/leadership-centre/fair-access>

ATTACHMENT 2

CRICKET IN MONASH DISCUSSION PAPER - COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT 2021

The Cricket In Monash Discussion Paper was developed after consultation with Monash cricket clubs and Cricket Victoria at the Monash Cricket Forum held 8 September 2020. At the 27 April 2021 meeting, Council agreed to publicly exhibit the Cricket In Monash Discussion Paper and encourage community and club submissions to the questions posed in the paper.

Community consultation on the Cricket In Monash Discussion Paper included:

- **A community survey**, completed on Council's Shape Monash webpage, which was open from 6 May to 19 June 2021. The following survey link was circulated to all Monash cricket clubs. <https://shape.monash.vic.gov.au/cricket>
- **Emails and phone calls** with cricket clubs that sought further information and clarification on questions posed in the paper.
- **May 2021 edition of the Monash Bulletin** – an article in the Monash Bulletin, distributed to all households in Monash, encouraging broader community responses on the questions posed in the paper.

At the completion of the consultation period, a total of 74 submissions were received in response to the Cricket In Monash Discussion Paper, but not every question was answered by all 74 respondents.

A summary of who responded is shown below:

Respondent User Type – What best describes you?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Club committee member	41.67%	30
- Cricket player	23.61%	17
- Parent of cricket player	11.11%	8
- Not involved in a club, but wanted to have a say	9.72%	7
- Cricket coach	6.94%	5
- Non-playing cricket club member (social member)	6.94%	5
- Other	0%	0
Total	100%	72

Respondent gender

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Female	7.04%	5
- Male	88.73%	63
- Prefer not to say	4.23%	3
- Other	0%	0
Total	100%	71

A summary of responses to Issue 1 is shown below:

Q1. In the interest of growing junior skill development and training opportunities, is shared access of cricket training nets between clubs an opportunity that Council should further explore?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	61.64%	45
- No	38.36%	28
Total	100%	73

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Better use of existing training assets
- Would increase participation opportunities for juniors, but only at sites that are underutilised and can accommodate additional training on nights that are currently not used
- Opportunities to develop better training facilities if there is broader benefit

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- This will not work at sites that are already at full capacity
- Belief that nets allocated to just 1 home club is a better model and creates a sense of ownership
- Concerns over wear and tear of nets from additional use
- Concerns about travel distances

Q2. Is shared access to designated junior cricket training and match venues, whereby several clubs will have access rights to the facility, something that Council should further explore?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	63.01%	46
- No	36.99%	27
Total	100%	73

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Greater flexibility of match-day scheduling
- Better opportunities for player development
- Potential of greater access to better facilities that service multiple clubs
- Strong potential in sites that are not a designated home ground to one club

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- This will not work at sites that are already at full capacity
- Dilutes the vibes of playing at a home ground
- Concerns about junior players being poached
- Too much wear and tear to outfield

Q3. Council's current fees and charge policy does not recognise the additional resources and costs required for the preparation and maintenance of turf wickets.

- a) **Should this be amended so that relevant clubs are charged for the use of these exclusive use assets?**

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	35.14%	26
- No	64.86%	48
Total	100%	74

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Yes, so long as charges are proportionate with usage levels and standard played
- Yes, so long as the charge was much less than that of a centre turf wicket
- User pays approach is fair if clubs wish to access exclusive use assets

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Council should be prepared to invest in the sport by providing these assets
- Local turf clubs will not have the financial capacity, especially through Covid
- Clubs would be better allocating their funds to equipment and programs
- Increasing costs will be too much of a burden to turf clubs

b) If yes, what do you feel is an appropriate percentage to recoup from clubs for the maintenance and preparation of these exclusive use assets?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- 0-10%	23.08%	6
- 11-20%	23.08%	6
- 21-50%	0%	Nil
- Greater than 50%	0%	Nil
- Did not answer	53.85%	14
Total	100%	26

Q4. There are already usage arrangements between some Monash cricket clubs and Council for the use of some government school ovals. Is this something that Council should explore further at additional school sites in Monash, with a focus on identifying suitable facilities that can accommodate junior participation?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	93.24%	69
- No	6.76%	5
Total	100%	74

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Good opportunities for junior participation, so long as the venues are suitable and adequate
- More venues will alleviate pressures at existing sites that are at capacity
- Strong linkages between junior participation and school settings

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- School ovals are largely unsuitable

Q5. In the interest of greater participation opportunities through night cricket, do you support having a designated lit cricket venue in Monash that can host evening matches and training?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	93.24%	69
- No	6.76%	6
Total	100%	74

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Meets a growing trend and would be a great spectacle for cricket in Monash
- Great for T20 cricket matches and marquee events
- Better use of existing ovals

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Daylight savings mean most cricket can be played in summer under natural light
- Belief held that only very few clubs/players would benefit

A summary of responses to Issue 2 is shown below:

Q1. What action can Council take to support cricket clubs who may be declining in numbers and/or are struggling to attract new volunteers?

Common responses include:

- Reduced and simplified admin expectations placed on clubs from Council
- Greater promotion and marketing opportunities for clubs
- Volunteer training opportunities
- Greater collaboration between clubs, Council and schools
- Council endorsed and supported events/tournaments
- Greater maintenance and development of cricket facilities

Q2. Given what we know about the condition of some turf wickets in Monash, as well as the resources required to maintain and prepare these assets, should Council introduce prioritisation and monitoring measures around the use of turf wickets?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	59.15%	42
- No	40.85%	29
Total	100%	71

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Poor quality pitches are a blight on the game and measures should be in place
- Having a standard to work towards will be beneficial in terms of clarity and consistency
- If underprepared or poor quality due to overuse, pitches can be a safety issue
- Any measures to enhance the standard of turf pitches should be encouraged

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Belief that turf wicket usage should be maximised to reach as many participants as possible
- Belief that clubs should decide how to use their turf wickets and the above could be harmful to participation
- Every venue is different. Usage on turf wickets should be considered and allocated on a case-by-case basis

Q3. A draft Cricket Wicket Policy has been developed. Do you support the introduction of such a policy to manage practice and centre wickets consistently across Monash?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	67.61%	48
- No	32.39%	23
Total	100%	71

Q4. Please provide any other comments or feedback in relation to what is proposed in the draft Cricket Wicket Policy.

Common supportive responses include:

- Good to have a consistent approach across Monash turf wickets

Common unsupportive responses include:

- Grave concerns about the increase in fees that may be a result of introducing such a policy
- Worries about the impact of introducing an overs cap, especially for juniors who currently play on turf
- Belief that U/17s should not be considered in the overs cap at all, given that the lighter bodies have less impact on the pitch surface

Q5. At the forum, ‘increased participation of juniors and senior females’ was the most popular club response when clubs were asked what the sport will ideally look like in 10-15 years from now. Is it reasonable to expect that all cricket clubs in Monash commit to this at governance level and in their strategic plans?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	82.43%	61
- No	17.57%	13
Total	100%	74

If yes, what do clubs need to support this outcome? Common responses include:

- Give every member (including juniors and women) access to turf cricket, not just senior male teams
- Better coaching support and appoint a dedicated female coordinator
- Greater promotion of female cricket opportunities
- Quality facilities that cater to female participants, especially change rooms

Q6. Do you support the opportunity for more formal, possibly hierarchical partnerships between Monash cricket clubs whereby players can potentially progress from one club to another in the interest of player development? It is possible that partnerships can also include formal or informal relationships between a club and local schools.

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	68.49%	50
- No	31.51%	23
Total	100%	73

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Mutually beneficial partnerships between clubs should be encouraged
- Support for more localised pathways and progression opportunities
- School affiliations would be highly beneficial
- Yes, but informal relationships would work better

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Concerns that only bigger clubs would benefit and poaching of players would increase
- This already occurs and Council has a limited role to play in implementing this
- Not Council’s role

A summary of responses to Issue 3 is shown below:

Q1. 'Progression and retention of juniors' was identified by clubs at the forum as a key priority area over the next 10 years. What do you feel needs to occur for cricket clubs in Monash to achieve this?

Common responses include:

- Inclusive club cultures increase the likelihood of long-term participation
- More local cricket venues in Monash
- Good coaching and clear pathways for juniors
- Do not place a cap on turf wicket usage
- Closer collaboration between Council, clubs and Cricket Victoria

Q2. Cricket in Monash is currently below national rates for female participation. In your opinion, what are the primary barriers to female participation in cricket in Monash?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Gender neutral facilities	56.76%	42
- Lack of small-sided participation opportunities in the event that a club may not have enough girls/women to establish a full team of 11	55.41%	41
- Lack of marketing and promotion of female cricket opportunities	43.24%	32
- Lack of club resources and volunteer support	39.19%	29
- Lack of adequate coaching programs for girls	35.14%	26
- Club culture	32.43%	24
- Time constraints	28.38%	21
- Lack of progression opportunities for girls at Monash clubs	27.03%	20
- Other (please specify)	6.76%	5

Q3. Are cricket participation programs in primary schools, led by Cricket Victoria and supported by Council, something that you feel we should strive towards enhancing and increasing?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	100%	74
- No	0%	0
Total	100%	74

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Schools can be a great starting point for developing a pathway
- Yes, so long as local clubs also play a role in these opportunities

Q4. To continue to grow participation opportunities in Monash, should Council seek to formally allocate cricket grounds to non-traditional and emerging formats of cricket, such as 'Social Sixes' or 'Last Man Stands'?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	60.81%	45
- No	24.32%	18

- Other	14.86%	11
Total	100%	74

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- A great idea to link these new participation formats to existing clubs

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Grounds are already at capacity accommodating traditional forms of cricket
- More teams through these new formats would increase ground costs and burden on clubs

A summary of responses to Issue 4 is shown below:

Q1. Should Council establish a clear set of funding criteria to facility improvements and principles for future investment into cricket facilities?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	100%	74
- No	0%	Nil
Total	100%	74

For those who responded 'Yes', the most popular investment principles were:

- Investment that supports the growth of female cricket in Monash
- Investment that supports the growth of junior cricket in Monash
- Safe and high quality cricket facilities (training and match day)
- Invest in clubs who have strong memberships and a commitment to growing participation

Q2. With regard to investment into projects and/or initiatives that support the participation of cricket, where do you think Council should prioritise future investment into community cricket?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Cricket nets	83.78%	62
- Change rooms	78.38%	58
- Centre wickets (turf and synthetic)	63.51%	47
- Club development programs, such as volunteer mentoring, governance training or inclusivity training	45.95%	34
- Cricket outfielders	43.24%	32
- Other	16.22%	12

Q3. Should Council prioritise investment into multi-use synthetic training facilities that more people can use and have a broader community benefit?

Answer choices	Percent	Count
- Yes	87.84%	65
- No	12.16%	9
Total	100%	74

Supportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Yes, can be used all throughout the year, even in wet weather
- Sharing with other sports can raise awareness for cricket
- Increased participation opportunities
- Broader community benefit for locals

Unsupportive reasons provided by respondents include:

- Too much congestion and not tailored enough to cricket
- Cricket should only be accommodated on grass
- Should not be a high priority