

Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy

Background Report

May 2021



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Electra Reserve

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy aims to provide the community with access to more opportunities to be physically active in local parks, reserves and open spaces.

This Background Report establishes the strategic context for the Strategy, community profile of the City of Monash, current state of active recreation infrastructure in parks and reserves, and current active recreation planning and delivery practices in local government via benchmarking.

There is strong strategic support from government for better planning, increased funding and implementation of active recreation opportunities. The Active Victoria Framework identifies one of its six key strategic directions as “an additional focus on active recreation”.

The Active Monash Vision and Active Communities Framework builds on this strategic imperative, encouraging the Monash community to participate in their way.

This strategic direction is supported by policy and research from other government agencies, identifying the importance of active recreation in increasing levels of physical activity.

Data from the Ausplay 2019-2020 survey and 2015 and 2017 Victorian Health Indicators Surveys highlight that active recreation activities such as walking, running and cycling produce the highest participation rates across all sport and recreation activities. Monash residents participate in more non-organised physical activity than organised sport or fitness.

While the City of Monash is an active community, the levels of inactivity and obesity in the City highlights the need for more support for increasing physical activity. The Victorian Health Indicators Survey (2015) found that 52.7% of residents are not active enough to meet physical activity guidelines and 43% of residents are classed as overweight.

The closure of indoor spaces and cancelling of organised sport during 2020 due to COVID-19 increased reliance on outdoor space for exercise and recreation.

The City of Monash has an extensive network of open space parks and sporting reserves that support communities to be physically active. Facility audits conducted at 50 sites across the City found a wide array of infrastructure that supports people of all ages and abilities to improve their health through physical activity.

While active recreation has always represented a large proportion of the physical activity in the community, local government is now prioritising more planning, infrastructure development and program initiatives that support active recreation.

Offerings such as outdoor fitness pods, mountain bike trails and disc golf courses are examples of facilities that are engaging people in a different ways, with more flexibility and fewer barriers to participation.

Some councils have even begun providing sports field lighting for general community use to provide more flexible times for physical activity.

The development of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy shows a commitment to the health and wellbeing of City of Monash. This Background Report sets the foundation for the engagement of the Monash Community in the second stage of the project and represents the first step towards the delivery of the Strategy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

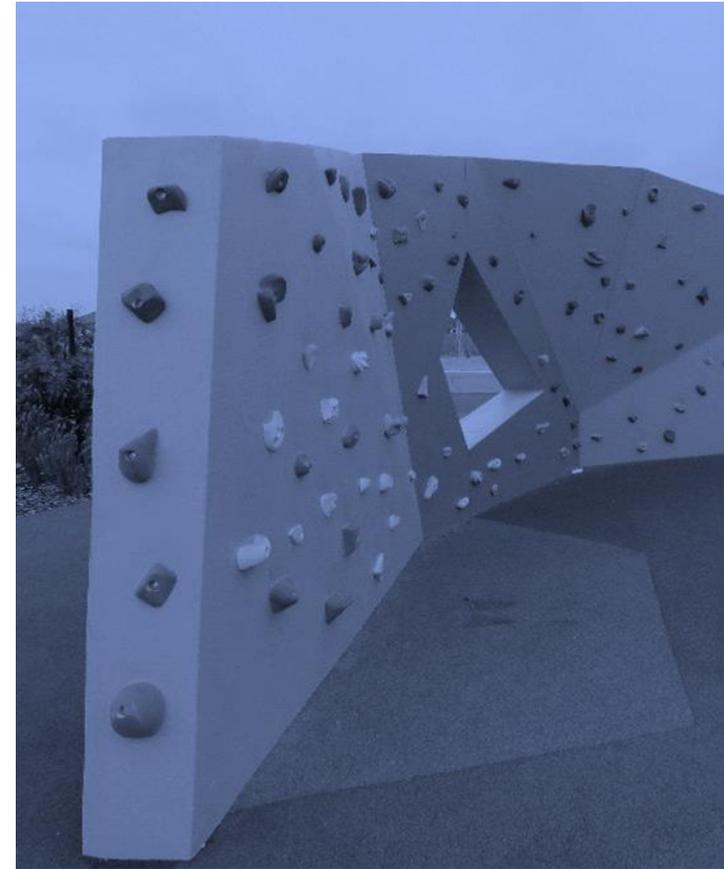
The Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy – Background Report was developed by *insideEDGE* Sport and Leisure Planning on behalf of Monash City Council.



Additional support for the development of the Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy – Background Report was provided by Playce.



The development of the Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy was funded in partnership with the Victorian Government.



ABOUT THE STRATEGY

The Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy aims to increase community health and well-being through access to places, spaces and initiatives that encourage people to be active “in their way”.

The Active Communities Framework 2020-2025 identifies increased physical activity as a pathway for improved physical and mental health, social connection and economic development.

The development of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy is comprised of five project stages:



ABOUT THE BACKGROUND REPORT

This Background Report summarises the data and information collected during the first stage of development of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy.

The data and information summarised in this Background Report includes:

- Strategies, plans, policies and research
- Master plans and integrated site plans
- Demographic and population data
- Facility audit data analysis
- Spatial data
- Local government benchmarking

The Background Report will be expanded following the completion of Stage 2: Stakeholder Collaboration & Engagement and Stage 3: Data Synthesis and Needs Analysis.



Essex Heights Reserve

Definition, Objectives & Scope

ACTIVE RECREATION

Active recreation is defined as physical activity that is generally non-competitive, unstructured and outside of organised sport.

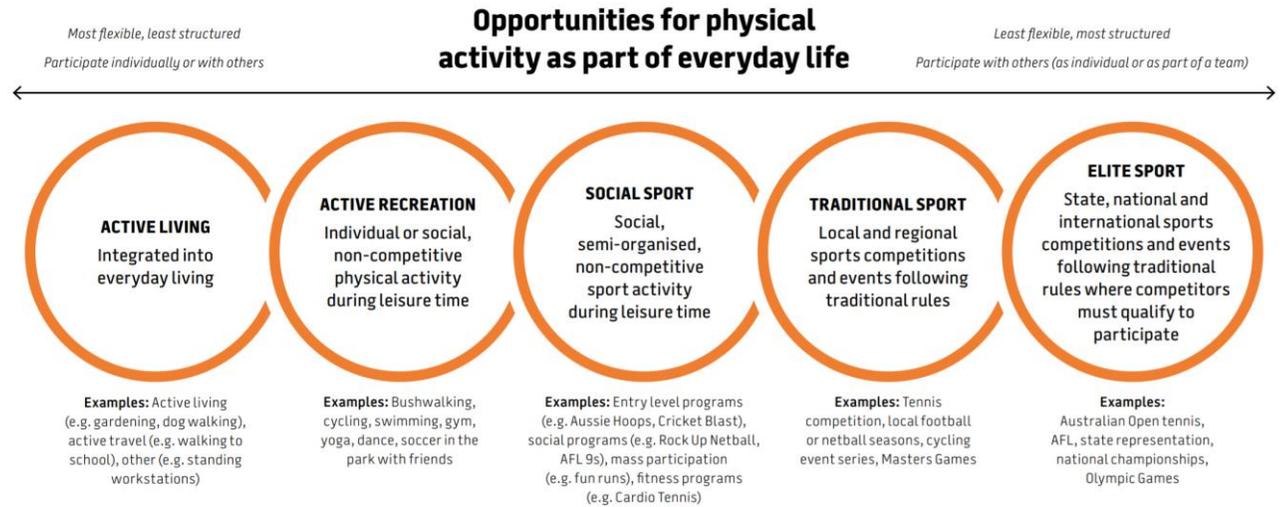
Active recreation is located on the continuum of physical activity between active living and sport, and accounts for a high proportion of the physical activity in parks and reserves.

An estimated 80% of physical activity in the community is defined as active recreation (Active Victoria Framework 2017-2021).

Increased rates of active recreation are linked to changes in lifestyle, employment and social behaviours, with less time for structured sport and the need for flexible ways to participate.

An expanded active recreation definition and framework will be established during Stage 3 of the development of Strategy.

VicHealth Definitions of Physical Activity Types (Doing Sport Differently, 2020)



OBJECTIVES & SCOPE

The objectives of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy are to:

- Inform future planning, programming and infrastructure priorities to support community participation in physical activity
- Enable Council to better plan and advocate for funding for the development of new and improved outdoor recreation infrastructure
- Reduce barriers to participation by providing flexible, accessible and free opportunities for the community, especially those who are most disadvantaged
- Support inactive (or active) individuals to become physically active (or more physically active)
- Identify priority sites and explore the feasibility of upgrading existing and developing new outdoor recreational facilities to further enhance activation
- Better activate local parks and reserves by identifying potential partners to deliver programs targeting disadvantaged or inactive members of the community
- Explore the potential to expand existing Council exercise programs
- Support and encourage physical activity and active recreation which creates economic growth and jobs, and improve health, social cohesion and liveability

Project Scope

For the purpose of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy, active recreation is limited to facilities, programs and initiatives within parks and reserves.

Facility audits at 50 sites across the city include the general characteristics of parks and reserves, as well as outdoor exercise equipment, paths and trails (within reserves), basketball/netball courts, cricket practice facilities, public tennis courts, bocce courts, skate and BMX facilities, and climbing walls.

While outside of the scope of facility audits, trails and paths in linear reserves, cycling connections and active transport, and use of playing fields for non-competitive activities will be considered during the development of the Strategy.

The following facilities are outside the scope of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy:

- Indoor facilities and leisure centres
- Playgrounds
- Sports fields and facilities for the purpose of organised sport



Freeway Reserve

Strategic Context & Trends

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy is influenced by a range of strategies, plans, policies and research developed by Monash City Council, and government authorities and agencies.

The strategic context outlined in this Background Report establishes the core strategy and policy drivers that influence the development of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy.

Further strategy, policy and research documentation may be added to the Background Report as identified through consultation with community, government, agencies and other key stakeholders during stage two of the development of the Strategy.

Pages 10 – 28 of this report summarise the following policies, strategies, plans and research.

A reference list is provided as an appendix.

MONASH CITY COUNCIL	STATE & FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Plan 2017-2021 • A Healthy and Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan 2017-2021 • Active Monash Vision • Active Monash Active Communities Framework • Open Space Strategy 2018 • Playground and Playspace Strategy 2020 • Walking and Cycling Strategy • Gender Equity Strategy • Melbourne East Regional Sport and Recreation Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Victoria Framework 2017-2021 • Victorian Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019 -2023 • Safe and Strong – A Victorian Gender Equity Strategy • VicHealth Physical Activity Strategy 2019 -2023 • Economic Impacts of Active Recreation in Victoria • Victorian Public Health Surveys 2015 & 2017 • Ausplay 2019-2020 • Value of Community Sport and Active Recreation Infrastructure



Fregon Reserve

MONASH CITY COUNCIL

The strategic direction for Monash City Council relating to health and well-being is outlined in the Council Plan 2017-2021 and A Healthy and Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan 2017-2021.



Council Plan 2017-2021

The Council Plan 2017-2021 outlines the strategic direction for City of Monash, with four strategic objectives :

1. A liveable and sustainable city
2. Inviting open and urban spaces
3. An inclusive community
4. Responsive and efficient services

While the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy delivers on all four of Council's strategic objectives, the Strategy will have the most significant impact on **strategic objective two: Inviting open and urban spaces.**

Specifically, the Strategy will contribute to the following focus areas within strategic objective two:

- Ensuring the walkability of the city
- Improving green open spaces and linking up bicycle trails
- Committing to long term infrastructure and asset management planning
- Renewing and maximising use of our community and sporting facilities
- Preserving and expanding our bushland and passive open spaces.

A Healthy and Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan 2017-2021

The Healthy and Resilient Monash: Integrated Plan 2017-2021 represents Monash City Council's commitment to support the community to lead healthy, happy and fulfilled lives.

The framework established within the Plan identifies three key pillars:

1. **Active & healthy** – A city dedicated to optimal health and wellbeing for its community
2. **Engaged, confident & connected** – A city which actively listens, engages and values community wisdom in shaping its own future
3. **Safe & respectful** – A city where every single member of the community is important

The Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy primarily delivers on focus areas within the Active & healthy pillar:

- **Healthy Lifestyles:** Physically active, nourished, prevention from harm
- **Healthy minds:** Early life, strong families, resilient young people, as we age
- **Healthy environments:** Built spaces, open spaces, liveability

ACTIVE MONASH

Active Monash establishes Monash City Council's vision and aspirations to develop a healthy community through physical activity.

Active Monash incorporates a series of frameworks and initiatives that aim to deliver on the vision and aspirations of Monash City Council, including:

- Active Communities Framework (Draft)
- Active Monash Action Plan
- Sports Club Framework and Guiding Principles
- Fees and Charges Policy
- Capital Works Priorities Framework

These frameworks provide strategic and operational guidance to ensure that Monash City Council delivers on the goals of Active Monash and ultimately improves the health of the residents.

The Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy will form part of the Active Monash suite of initiatives once completed.

PURPOSE

To improve the health and wellbeing of our community by supporting and encouraging our community to be physically active and providing opportunities for everyone to participate in sport and active recreation

VISION

Enabling you to participate your way

PROMISE

Working to provide everyone with more flexible, accessible and localised sport and physical activity participation opportunities that enhance overall health and well-being

ASPIRATIONS

Active Monash facilities , places and spaces to be:

- Welcoming & Inclusive – Feeling valued, connected and 'well' beings.
- Quality Experiences – A place that makes us proud.
- Celebrate Diversity – Reflective of our community.
- Universally Accessible – Flexible, inclusive spaces that are easy to use.
- Industry Leadership – Respected experts leading the way.
- Affordable for All – Supportive of those who need it most.



Waverley Park Reserve

ACTIVE MONASH ACTIVE COMMUNITIES FRAMEWORK

The Active Communities Framework aims to support Council’s priorities for enhancing the health, happiness and wellbeing of the Monash community.

The Framework is underpinned by research relating to the benefits of physical activity, the barriers to being physical active, and the impact that the provision of facilities, services and programs (current and future) has on the health of the community.

Monash City Council plays an important role in supporting physical activity through existing services and programs:

- **Facilities** – places and spaces for community members to practice healthy behaviours
- **Program delivery** – programs that promote health, wellbeing and social inclusion
- **Partnering and facilitation** – funding support for community initiatives that support physical activity

The Active Communities Framework is one of the primary strategic drivers of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy.

Active Communities Priorities

The priorities of the Active Communities Framework to maximise participation opportunities and physical activity are:

- Improving accessibility and knowledge of facilities and services
- Establishing resources and developing partnership opportunities
- Widening participation through targeted cohort participation
- Sustainability

Active Recreation will play an increasingly important role in delivering opportunities for physical activity, particularly for under-represented communities.

Building opportunities for physical activity that are inclusive, diverse and sustainable is a key driver for this Strategy and will be at the core of the implementation plan.

Active Communities Framework

AWARENESS & RESILIENCE

Promote and educate, to build health resilience in the Monash community

INCLUSIVE & RESPECTFUL

Providing services where every participant has the same access opportunities and is treated equally

DIVERSE & SUSTAINABLE PARTICIPATION

Delivering a breadth of opportunities leading to ongoing participation

COMMUNITY ACTIVATION & PARTNERSHIPS

Strengthening relationships and partnering with others to facilitate participation opportunities

LEADING THE WAY

Passionate people focused on providing quality participation opportunities for the Monash community

ACTIVE MONASH ACTIVE COMMUNITIES ACTION PLAN

Within the Active Communities Framework, an annual action plan is developed to guide the delivery of physical activity programs and initiatives.

The action plan aims to leverage off existing programs and events, as well as delivering programs with local providers.

Monash City Council have built partnerships with peak sporting bodies, local clubs and program deliverers to ensure that participation opportunities are sustainable.

COVID-19 has created some complexity for the delivery of the annual action plan, with a shift to online and self-led activities becoming more prominent and the need to continually improve awareness and communications more important than ever.

A copy of the 2020-2021 Action Plan is provided adjacent, with Active Monash Month (November 2020), Australian Open & T20/Test Cricket (January 2021) and the Tokyo Olympics (2021) identified as key opportunities to promote physical activity and leverage promotion.

ACTIVE COMMUNITIES 2020-2021 ACTION PLAN			
	Nov 2020 Active Monash Month	Jan 2021 Australian Open & T20/Test Cricket	June 2021 Tokyo Olympics
TARGET COHORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CALD Youth & Families Entry Level Participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kids Youth (12-17) CALD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CALD Kids (Under 10) Youth (10-16)
FOCUS AREAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Spaces Reserves Sports Facilities Leisure Centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Come 'n' Try Tennis/Cricket Activate open spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activate open spaces 6-month program post Olympics to highlight and promote sports
PROJECTED PARTICIPATION	400 Community Members	School Holiday Programs	School Holiday Programs
ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch pad to program Provide introduction to services Create ongoing pathways into future programs Incentivised passport program to win a prize 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Clubs invited to engage with community Tennis clubs in line with Australian Open Cricket clubs in line with Test/T20 Competition Sports Locker to activate open spaces, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soccer club engagement Basketball club engagement BMX/Skateboard Come 'n' try opportunities Female from CALD Group

CITY OF MONASH STRATEGIES

Monash Open Space Strategy

The Monash Open Space Strategy (2018) outlines the vision, principles and priorities for the management and development of open space across the city, as well as defining the classification, hierarchy, function and settings of the various types of open space.

The principles established in the Open Space Strategy closely align with the Active Communities Framework:

- Equitable Access
- Diversity of opportunities and experiences
- Quantity – appropriate provision for all residents
- Quality (fit for purpose) – function meets requirements of use
- Sustainability – design, development and management of open space
- Dependency – open space should support activities and users who are dependent on it
- Environmental protection, enhancement and appreciation

The key directions for good quality future open space (page 32 of the Open Space Strategy) includes the following recommendations relevant to active recreation:

- Promote the development of multi-use social family recreation and migrate selected spaces to social /family recreation sites.
- Ensure that a range of facilities are provided in parks. Examples of facilities may include playground, kick-about areas, small court areas (i.e. basketball half-courts), low level casual hard-courts or sports provision, exercise equipment, skate, BMX, dog off-leash.

For the purpose of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy, the suburb precinct catchments from the Open Space Strategy will be mirrored to allow for integration of analysis and recommendations between the two strategies.

The precinct specific directions and recommendations will be referenced in the needs analysis (Stage 3) and implementation plan (Stage 4) for the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy.

Open Space Provision by Catchment

PRECINCT	OPEN SPACE (Ha)			
	All	Council/ Public Access Land	Monash Communi- nity	Per 1,000 Residents
Ashwood / Burwood	53.9	43.4	42.6	4.2
Chadstone	38.2	30.4	17.8	2.0
Clayton	39.5	12.0	12.0	0.6
Glen Waverley	256.6	228.4	106.7	2.5
Hughesdale	5.5	4.5	4.5	0.6
Mount Waverley	198.0	130.1	129.3	3.6
Mulgrave	95.4	79.5	64.9	3.2
Notting Hill	5.9	1.7	1.7	0.5
Oakleigh South	144.4	16.3	16.3	3.0
Oakleigh	34.3	33.0	33.0	4.0
Oakleigh East / Huntingdale	12.1	10.6	10.6	1.2
Wheelers Hill	250.1	202.6	72.8	3.5
Total	1134	792.4	512.1	2.7

CITY OF MONASH STRATEGIES

Playground and Playspace Strategy

The Monash Playground and Playspace Strategy (2020) was developed to ensure a “planned, equitable and sustainable approach to the provision and management of playgrounds and playspaces in the City of Monash”.

While the scope of the strategy is centrally focused on playgrounds, it also includes recommendations for outdoor recreation infrastructure given the relationship between play and active recreation in parks and reserves.

The vision of the Strategy is:

The City of Monash will provide a diverse range of quality, fun, accessible, well designed and maintained playspaces that assist children’s physical, cognitive, emotional and social development as well as providing a community meeting point that encourages interaction, understanding, physical activity and community wellbeing.

Recommendations from the Strategy that relate to outdoor recreation infrastructure as outlined on page 30 of the Strategy summary are:

- **Consider integrating outdoor recreational facilities** in future designs for regional and district scale playground projects.
- **Consider integrating fitness and exercise equipment in large scale playspace developments** with an intergenerational design focus.

- **Exercise and fitness stations**, whilst not considered in the scope of the Strategy, **featured in the top three things that playground survey respondents** would like to see changed or improved in Monash playgrounds. Further work should be undertaken to identify priority sites for the future development of stand-alone fitness stations and/or the creation of spaces for active recreation and physical activity with the view to:
 - Exploring the feasibility of installing **new fitness stations along significant trails**
 - Exploring the feasibility of installing **new fitness stations along existing circuits paths**
 - **Upgrading old fitness stations** approaching the end of their useful life
 - **Activating local parks and outdoor fitness equipment by developing partnerships with service providers** to deliver outdoor exercise programs targeting inactive older adults with the view to encouraging participants to learn how to exercise on their own and provide pathways to low-cost programs
 - **Exploring the potential to expand existing Council exercise programs** (e.g. Active Monash, Social Inclusion etc.) into parks to take advantage of outdoor fitness stations and equipment and extend these services reach into the community.



Talbot Park

CITY OF MONASH STRATEGIES

Walking and Cycling Strategy

Council's vision for walking and cycling is for Monash to be a city where "people embrace walking and cycling as part of their lifestyle and enjoy walking and cycling because it provides the opportunity to connect with nature, friends and family".

The Strategy outlines recommendations under the following categories:

- Creating and maintaining a well connected walking and cycling network
- Effective signage and pathway markings
- Ensuring consistent design standards
- Effective planning for walking and cycling
- Incorporating walking and cycling into our lifestyle
- Sharing our pathways and roads
- An informed community
- Strengthening partnerships

Walking and cycling will feature in the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy, as they are two of the highest participation activities across all levels of sport and recreation, and form a key opportunity to increase physical activity.

Gender Equity Strategy

The Monash Gender Equity Strategy 2015-2020 establishes Council's commitment to promoting equity between all genders.

The Strategy identifies five key priorities:

- 1. Leadership** – Council will provide leadership to our community and partners on gender equity. We recognise that to affect community change, we need to ensure our own workplace culture, practice, policy, planning and programs demonstrate gender equity and respect. We will ensure that the experiences of males, females and gender diverse people are considered in our consultation and decision making.
- 2. Research** - Routinely collect and analyse gender disaggregated data and use it to inform our decision making.
- 3. Partnerships** - Partner with other organisations and key stakeholders to promote gender equality and respect.
- 4. Advocacy** - Advocate for gender equity and the prevention of violence against women at a local, regional, state and national level.

- 5. Building capacity** - Support staff, partners and the Monash community to understand how they can promote gender equity in their everyday work and lives.

The Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy provides an opportunity to address gender equity issues relating to recreation and physical activity.

The Strategy will focus on minimising barriers to physical activity, increase access to new participation opportunities and address issues that limit the ability of communities to participate in their way, particularly relating to women and girls.

REGIONAL PLANNING

Melbourne East Regional Sport and Recreation Strategy (2016)

The Melbourne East Regional Sport and Recreation Strategy (MERSRS) was developed in partnership between Melbourne East Councils, Sport and Recreation Victoria and Regional Development Victoria to provide strategic direction for regional-level sport and recreation facilities and initiatives.

The councils involved in the development of the plan were: Monash City Council, Maroondah City Council, Knox City Council, Yarra Ranges Council, Manningham City Council, Whitehorse City Council and Boorondara City Council.

The MERSRS established a governance structure for the development of regional priorities, as well as a planning framework to guide the development of regionally significant projects.

For Monash City Council, the high priority facility development projects relate to the development of a regional gymnastics facility and projects relating to the regional trail network (Glen Waverley Rail Trail and Scotchman's Creek Trail).

For the purpose of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy, regional trail network priorities will be referenced to support the increased walking, running and cycling, as well as a connected active transport network.

The MERSRS governance structure may also provide a forum for sharing the Monash Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy and raising the potential for regionally significant active recreation facilities and initiatives.



ACTIVE VICTORIA FRAMEWORK

The Victorian Government has established a strategic direction for sport and recreation through the Active Victoria Framework 2017-2021.

Importantly, the Active Victoria Framework identifies the role of active recreation in increasing the health of all Victorians and the opportunities to support and encourage physical activity in non-competitive and unstructured formats.

The Active Victoria Framework establishes the context for sport and active recreation in Victoria and the range of changes and challenges facing the sport and recreation industry.

The framework identified sport as 'structured, competitive activity', whereas **active recreation is 'leisure time, non-competitive, physical activity'**.

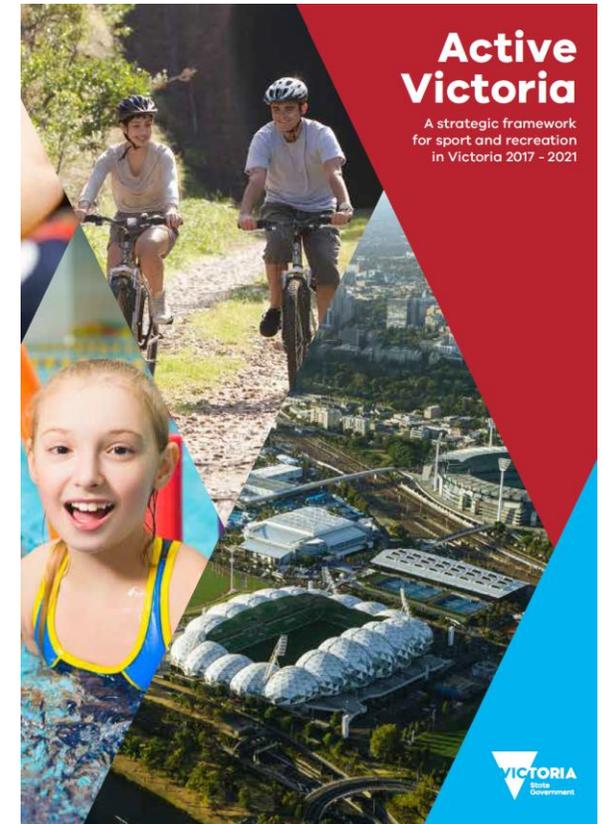
The Active Victoria vision describes communities that are:

- More active,
- More diverse and inclusive,
- Collaborative,
- Robust, flexible, sustainable and affordable, and
- Broad-based and connected

To achieve this vision, the framework identifies six strategic directions that contribute to a healthier, more active state:

1. Meeting demand
2. Broader and more inclusive participation
3. **Additional focus on active recreation**
4. Build system resilience and capacity
5. Connect investment in events, high performance and infrastructure
6. Work together for shared outcomes

Further detail relating to 'Strategic Direction Three: Additional focus on active recreation' is provided on the following page.



ACTIVE VICTORIA FRAMEWORK

Active Victoria Framework - Strategic Direction Three: Additional focus on active recreation

The Active Victoria Framework identifies the need for an additional focus on active recreation, with 80 percent of the 736 million hours spent on physical recreation, exercise and sport by Victorians each year classified as active recreation.

The three most common activities – walking, fitness/gym and jogging/running – make up 44 percent of all recorded sport and recreation activity.

Key areas of change relating to active recreation are:

- **More focus on active recreation from all levels of government**, to improve active recreation opportunities, programs and infrastructure
- **Engagement of health and mental health providers** to improve health and wellbeing of Victorians
- **School-based actions** to improve children’s physical literacy and levels of physical activity
- The development of **agreed priorities for investment** across both government and non-government sectors to support the growth of active outdoor play

- **More information and encouragement** of Victorians to participate in unstructured and non-organised recreation activities
- **Increased capacity of stakeholders to respond to demand** with a wide range of safe, accessible and high-quality active recreation opportunities
- Planning for active recreation infrastructure connected to **other community uses and urban development**
- Connecting planning and development of outdoor recreation to **nature-based tourism** opportunities, with particular emphasis on potential benefits to regional economies
- **Maximising the potential of existing spaces** to be used for active recreation
- **‘Incidental’** use for active recreation of other infrastructure (such as footpaths, roads, tracks and trails) considered in the planning of that infrastructure

The Active Victoria Framework will act as a primary strategic driver for the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy, both in its development and implementation.



Galbally Reserve



80 percent of the 736 million hours spent on physical recreation, exercise and sport by Victorians each year are classified as active recreation

OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2019-2023

The Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan aims to achieve the highest attainable standards of health, wellbeing and participation at every age.

The Plan establishes objectives across a wide range of public health priorities. While active recreation delivers against a number of these priorities, it directly aligns with the aim of “increasing healthy living”.

The Plan identifies the following target achievements for active living:

- **Improve neighbourhood and precinct planning** to better support active living
- **Increase accessible and adaptable spaces** for active living, ensuring compliance with appropriate state and national regulations and standards
- **Increase socio-cultural norms** reinforcing active living
- **Increase capacity** to be more physically active and less sedentary
- Improve integration and accessibility of **public transport**

- **Increase active transport**
- **Increase participation** in sport and active recreation activities
- **Decrease sedentariness in workplaces, schools and early learning centres** and during leisure time

The Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy will deliver against these target achievements, with a focus on encouraging active lifestyles and making physical activity more accessible for the Monash community.



Safe and Strong: Victorian Gender Equality Strategy

The Victorian Gender Equality Strategy establishes the vision for all Victorians to live in a safe and equal society.

The Strategy outlines a series of reforms for governments to deliver and identifies sport and recreation as a key setting to deliver change.

The Strategy identifies that:

- Sport is a powerful vehicle for change
- Sport is critical to female empowerment and good health
- Gender gaps persist in sport and recreation

A key early action from the Victorian Gender Equity Strategy is to “work with local government and State Sporting Associations to promote equitable treatment of men and women in the provision of and access to infrastructure and facilities”.

The Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy will improve equitable access to active recreation facilities for men and women, and promote initiatives that remove barriers to participation, particularly for women and girls.

VALUE OF ACTIVE RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

The Value of Community Sport & Active Recreation Infrastructure (2020)

Sport and Recreation Victoria engaged KPMG to articulate the value that community sport and active recreation infrastructure adds to the state of Victoria.

The report focuses on the economic, health and social benefits sport and active recreation infrastructure delivers in communities across Victoria and builds on a similar piece of work delivered by KPMG for Sport Australia at a national level.

The infrastructure examined within the report includes indoor sport and recreation facilities, indoor and outdoor aquatic facilities, outdoor sport and recreation facilities, multi-use sporting hubs, and amenities and facilities associated with sport and active recreation infrastructure.

Key findings:

- Community sport and active recreation infrastructure delivers \$2.1 billion economic impact, \$2.3 billion health benefit and \$2.6 million social benefit to Victoria annually
- Economic impact is driven by increased economic activity (\$2.078 billion) and in event-related tourism expenditure (\$14 million)
- Health benefits accrued include reduce risk of chronic disease (\$1.184 billion), improved mental health (\$848 million), increased productivity (\$270 million), reduced risk of falls (\$33 million) and reduced risk of drowning (\$1 million)
- Social benefits include human capital uplift (\$1.441 billion), volunteering (\$596 million) and green space (\$579 million)



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF ACTIVE RECREATION

Economic Impacts of Active Recreation in Victoria (2018)

Sport and Recreation Victoria commissioned a report by Marsden Jacobs in 2018 to examine the economic impact of active recreation across Victoria.

The report identified the following headline numbers relating to Victorian participation (persons aged 15+) in active recreation in 2017:

- Victorians aged 15+ participated in active recreation 725 million times, for an equivalent 612 million hours
- 81% of the physical recreation time was spent on active recreation
- 37% of total physical activity hours were spent walking
- The estimated total spend on active recreation was \$8.3 billion
- 51,000 full-time equivalent jobs can be attributed to active recreation
- Making physically inactive Victorians active would save \$245 million in lifetime avoided healthcare costs and produce a \$3.1 billion lifetime workplace productivity impact

The report also established that 2.85 million Victorians are not participating in enough physical activity.

The report establishes a strong economic case for increasing the level of active recreation participation in communities across Victoria, and also highlights unquantified impacts such as social cohesion and education as also contributing to economic outcomes.

The report supports further investment into infrastructure, programs and initiatives that continue to increase rates of active recreation.

The Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy will outline the best investments to capitalise on the economic impact that active recreation can make within the City of Monash.



Herriots Boulevard Reserve



Making physically inactive Victorians active would save \$245 million in lifetime avoided healthcare costs and produce a \$3.1 billion lifetime workplace productivity impact

VICHEALTH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY 2019-2023

In 2013, Vichealth set the 10-year goal that 300,000 more Victorians would be physically active by 2023. The Vichealth Physical Activity Strategy 2019-2023 establishes strategic directions for over the four years of the strategy to deliver on this goal.

Between 2019-2023, Vichealth is aiming to increase physical activity levels of people who are less active, with a focus on:

- Fear of judgement experienced by women
- Social sport, active recreation and play
- Walking and active travel

All three focus areas relate to active recreation and support an increased focus on physical activity that is non-competitive and unstructured.

FOCUS AREA 1: FEAR OF JUDGEMENT EXPERIENCED BY WOMEN

Empower more women to feel comfortable in their bodies and in public spaces, and inspire them to become more active.

What does success look like: More women and girls are physically active.

FOCUS AREA 2: SOCIAL SPORT, ACTIVE RECREATION AND PLAY

Continue to champion social and informal (or less structured) versions of sport and active recreation through to 2023.

What does success look like: A greater number of people who are less active participating in social versions of sport and active recreation.

FOCUS AREA 3: WALKING AND ACTIVE TRAVEL

Continue to help create a culture and environments that normalise active travel and encourage short neighbourhood trips to be active ones.

What does success look like: An increase in the proportion of Victorians walking and participating in active travel.



AUSPLAY

AUSPLAY 2019-2020

The 2019-2020 Ausplay survey results for adult participants in Victoria showed that eight of the top ten activities are classed as active recreation, with walking (47.4%), fitness/gym (38.4%) and athletics/track and field (including jogging and running) (18.5%) representing the highest proportions of physical activity.

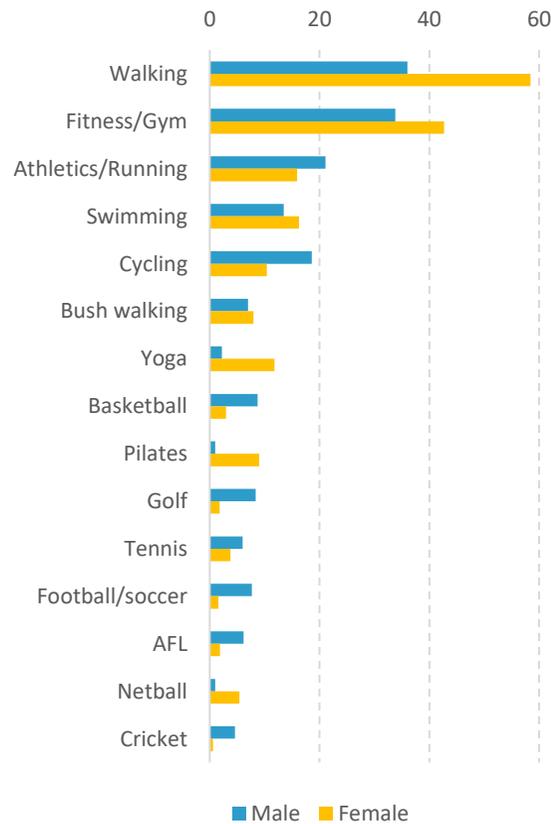
While walking and fitness/gym are the highest participation activities for both males and females, preferences for activity types do differ between the two genders.

Males have higher participation rates in athletics/running (male 21.1%, female 15.9%), cycling (male 18.6%, female 10.4%), and all organised sports represented in the top 15 activities, other than netball.

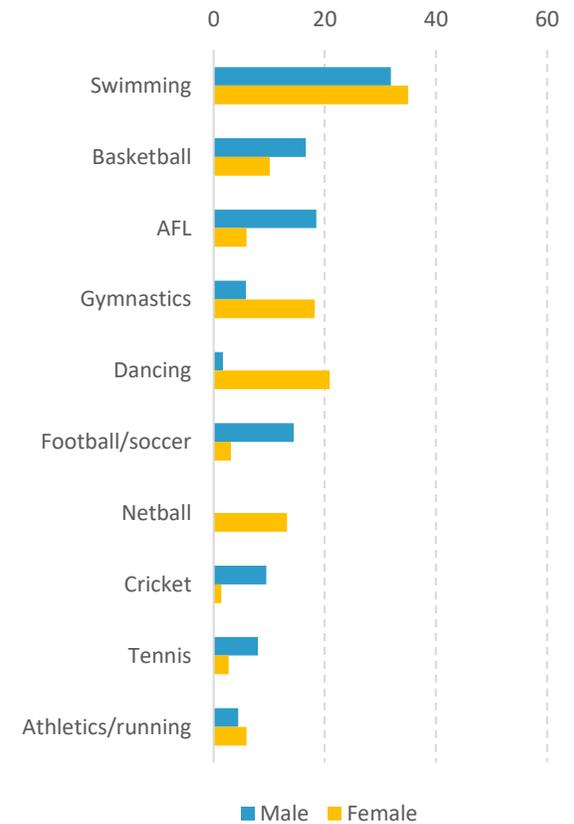
Females have higher rates of walking (female 58.4%, male 36%), fitness/gym (female 42.7%, male 33.8%), yoga (female 11.8%, male 2.2%) and pilates (female 9%, male 1%).

Children generally participate in more organised sport and activities than adults. Swimming, dance and athletics/running can be considered active recreation, but are primarily attended by children in organised sessions or lessons.

Top 15 Activities (Adults – Victoria)



Top 10 Activities (Children - Victoria)



PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN MONASH

The Victorian Population Health Survey (2017) and Vichealth Indicators Survey (2015) provide insights into the amount and types of physical activity being undertaken within local government authorities.

The Victorian Population Health Survey (2017) is the latest iteration of the survey to provide local government level analysis.

The Vichealth Indicators Survey (2015) complements the Victorian Population Health Survey and provides additional data relevant to active recreation and physical activity.



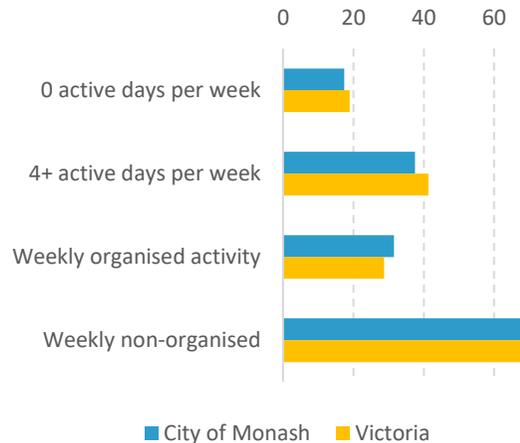
The 2015 VicHealth Indicators Survey found 69.8% of Monash residents had participated in non-organised physical activity, with walking (45.6%), and jogging/running (17.6%) the highest participation activities

Physical Activity in Monash

Based on the 2015 VicHealth Indicators Survey results for Monash, rates of physical activity are generally aligned to state averages. Compared to the Victorian averages, a slightly smaller proportion of residents are active 4 or more days per week (37.5%), but there is also slightly smaller proportion with no physical activity at all (17.4%).

The survey results reported a slightly higher level of weekly organised activity (31.5%) and weekly non-organised activity (69.8%) is aligned to the state average.

Physical Activity Snapshot

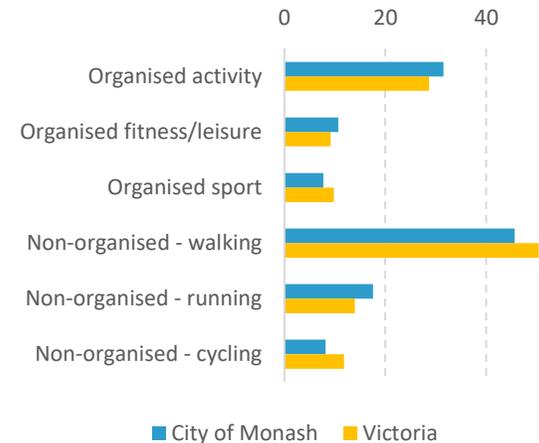


Activity Type

Monash residents reported higher levels of walking (45.6%) and running (17.6%) than the Victorian averages (43% and 14%). The proportion of Monash residents that cycle (8.2%) is lower than the Victorian average.

Monash residents reported lower levels of organised activity (14%) compared to the Victorian average (17.4%), with both organised fitness/leisure (26.6%) and organised sport (7.7%) lower than the Victorian average (32.5% and 9.8% respectively).

Organised vs Non-organised Activity



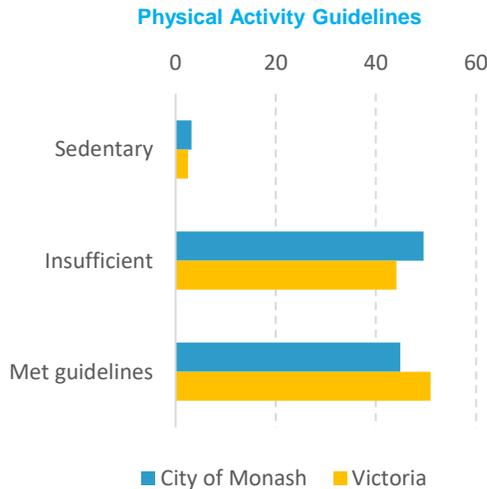
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN MONASH

Physical Activity Guidelines

The 2017 Victorian Population Health Indicators Survey results for Monash indicate that residents of Monash are less active than the average for Victoria.

While the amount of sedentary people is similar, the proportion of people that do not meet physical activity guidelines is higher, with 52.7% not meeting physical activity guidelines (Victoria – 46.6%)

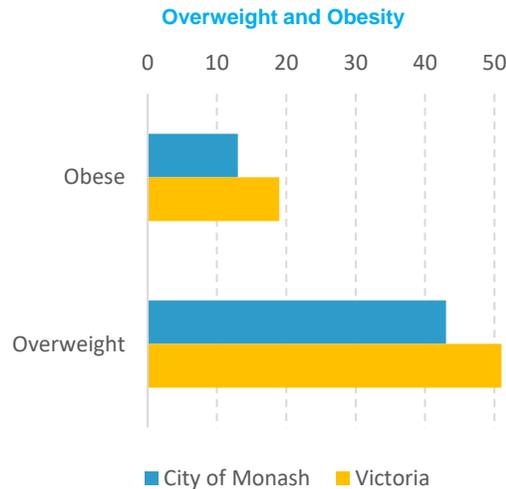
The number of people that meet physical activity guidelines in Monash (44.9%) is below the Victorian average (50.9%).



Overweight and Obesity

Overall levels of overweight and obesity are below the Victorian averages, with 43% of residents (18+) overweight (Victoria – 51%) and 13% classed as obese (Victoria – 19%).

While it is encouraging that the overall level of overweight and obesity is below the averages for Victoria, these levels still represent a significant challenge that will impact on the health and wellbeing of the community.



Waverley Park Reserve



The 2017 Victorian Population Health Survey found that 52.7% of Monash residents are not active enough to meet Australian physical activity guidelines

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Funding opportunities for active recreation specific projects are available from the Victoria Government, with funding streams focused on park revitalisation and encouraging physical activity in targeted communities.

While active recreation is relevant across a range of funding opportunities, the following funding programs are particularly aligned with delivering facilities that cater for active recreation in local parks and reserves.

Local Sports Infrastructure Fund: Facilities for Active Seniors Stream

The Local Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSIF) provides funding for community sport and active recreation infrastructure in partnership with local government, clubs and associations, schools, and community organisations.

The **Facilities for Active Seniors** stream provides up to \$200,000 for projects, with a dollar-for-dollar local contribution required in metropolitan councils.

Projects that support the implementation of strategies, policies and initiatives that demonstrate a sustained commitment to the physical activity of older adults will be prioritised by the Victorian Government.

The Facilities for Active Seniors stream references active recreation infrastructure such as outdoor fitness/exercise facilities as being eligible for funding.



Parks Revitalisation Grants Program

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning provide funding via the Parks Revitalisation Grants Program for projects that increase opportunities for recreation and provide increased amounts of high-quality open space across metropolitan Melbourne.

Grants of up to \$300,000 are available for projects, with a dollar-for-dollar local contribution required.

Projects including the upgrade of supporting infrastructure such as toilets, seating and shade, water treatment, landscaping, playgrounds, paths, lighting and other infrastructure are eligible for funding.



Integrated Site Plans & Master Plans



INTEGRATED SITE PLANS AND MASTER PLANS

Detailed site planning has been completed for a number of reserves within the City of Monash.

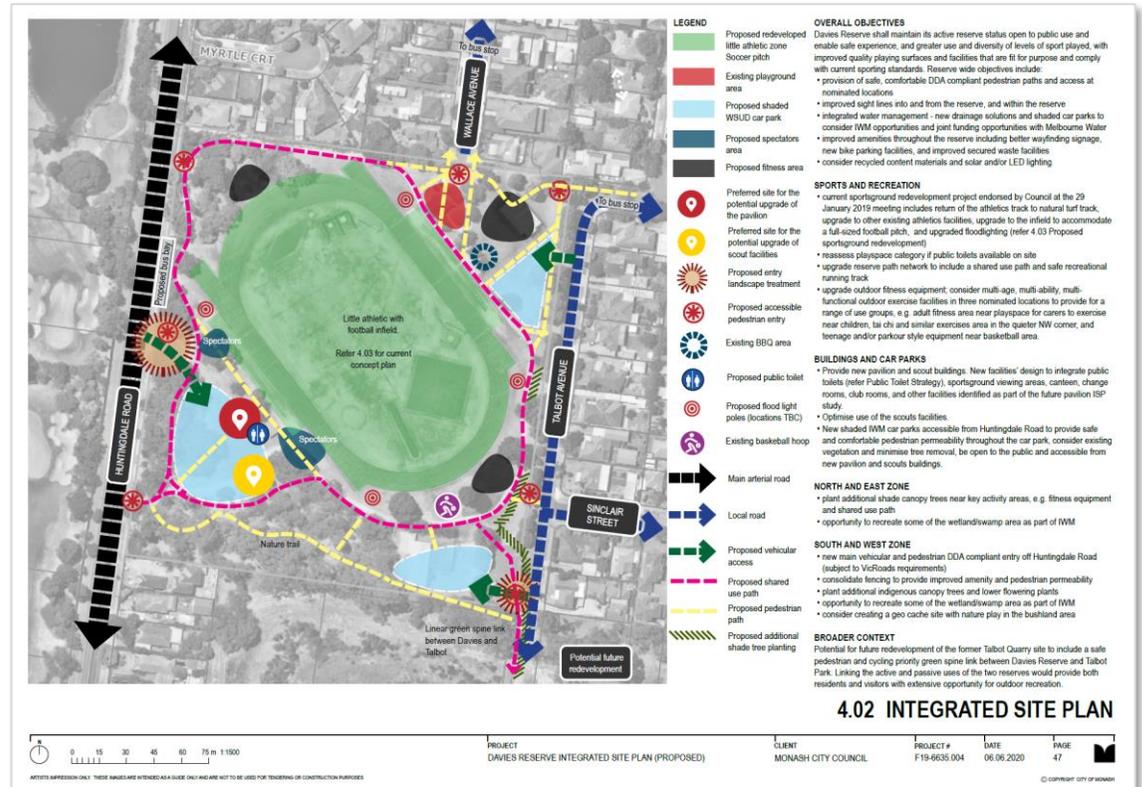
This site planning establishes the infrastructure and facilities to be delivered based on in-depth consultation and analysis of the issues and opportunities at each site.

Integrated Site Plans (ISP) and Master Plans (MP) have been developed for:

- Ashwood Reserve – ISP
- Carlson Reserve – ISP
- Central Reserve – ISP & MP
- Davies Reserve – ISP
- Electra Reserve – ISP
- Holmesglen Reserve/Jingella Reserve – ISP
- Mount Waverley Reserve – ISP & MP in development
- Mulgrave Reserve – ISP & MP
- Waverley Women’s Softball Centre – ISP & Precinct Plan

ISP and MP recommendations will be considered in detail in the Needs Analysis (Stage 3) and development of the Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy (Stages 4 and 5).

Example of an Integrated Site Plan – Davies Reserve



Community Profile



COMMUNITY PROFILE

This section of the Background Report summarises the community profile of the City of Monash based on demographic and population data.

Profile.id has been used as the primary data source for the purpose of developing the community profile of the City of Monash to ensure that data aligns with other plans and strategies developed by Monash City Council.

The community profile outlined in this section of the Background Report establishes characteristics of the City of Monash. Further analysis at a suburb catchment level will be undertaken during Stage 3: Data Synthesis and Needs Analysis.

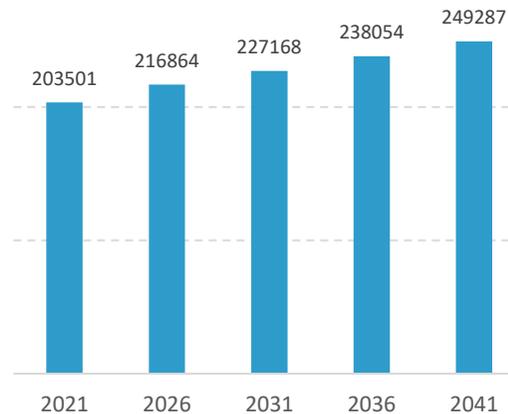
The profile.id demographic profile for the City of Monash is generally based on data obtained during the 2016 ABS Census.

Population Growth

The City of Monash is continuing to grow, with the population forecast to grow from 203,501 in 2021 to 249,287 by 2041, representing 22.5% growth in the next two decades.

The land area of the City of Monash is 81 square kilometres (8,144 hectares), representing a population density of 24.91 persons per hectare.

Population Forecast



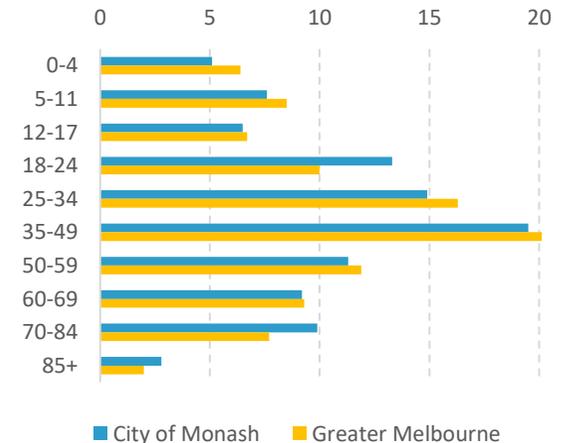
Service Age Groups

The majority of the age service groups in the City of Monash are within 2% (total population) of the averages for Greater Melbourne, with two exceptions.

The proportion of 18-24 year-olds (tertiary education and independence) is 13.3% (10% - Greater Melbourne). This is largely due to the location of Monash University within the municipality.

The other exception is the Seniors category (70 – 84 years), comprising 9.9% of the total population (7.7 - Greater Melbourne).

Service Age Groups (%)

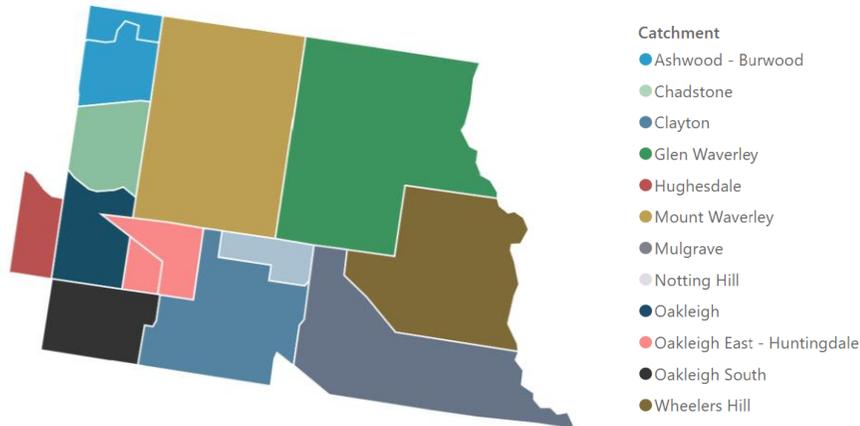


COMMUNITY PROFILE

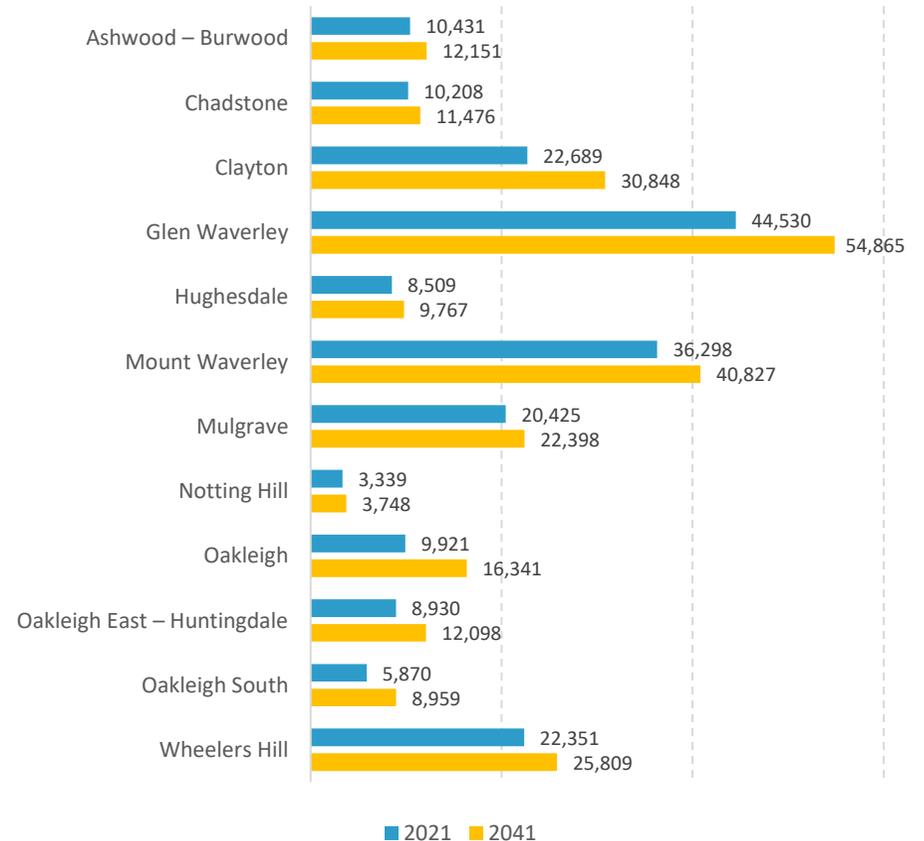
For the purpose of detailed analysis in subsequent stages of this project, the City of Monash will be divided into suburb level catchments to allow for examination of the characteristics of these communities at a local level.

The Active Recreation Opportunities Strategy will provide a summary of each suburb catchment, including catchment characteristics, facility provision and strategic recommendations.

The suburb level catchments align to the catchments established in the Monash Open Space Strategy.



Suburb Catchment Population Forecast 2021 – 2041



COMMUNITY PROFILE

Ancestry

Ancestry defines the cultural association and ethnic background of an individual going back three generations and represents a measure of the total size of cultural groups regardless of where they were born or the language they speak.

The City of Monash is a culturally diverse city, with communities with Chinese, Greek, Indian and Sinhalese ancestry well above the average for Greater Melbourne. The proportion of persons of Australian or British ancestry is below the average for Greater Melbourne.

Birthplace

A higher proportion of Monash residents were born overseas (48.9%) when compared to Greater Melbourne (33.8%).

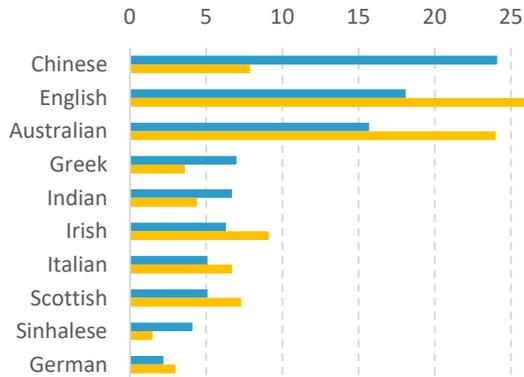
The birthplace of people born overseas correlates with highest proportion ancestries, with China, India, Sri Lanka and Malaysia being higher than the average for Greater Melbourne.

Language Spoken at Home

Aligning with the cultural diversity of the City of Monash, the proportion of persons that speak a language other than English (LOTE) at home (50.1%) is significantly higher than the average for Greater Melbourne (32.3%).

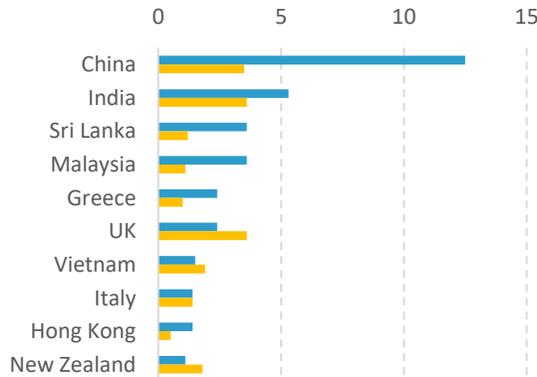
As expected, the LOTE that are spoken at home include high proportions of Mandarin, Greek, Cantonese and Sinhalese.

Top 10 Ancestries (%)



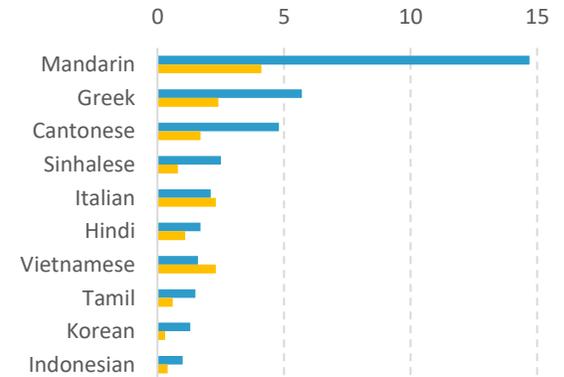
■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

Top 10 Non-Australian Birthplaces (%)



■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

Top 10 LOTE (%)



■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

COMMUNITY PROFILE

Employment Status

The City of Monash has a total labour force of 87,325, with 80,375 employed (92%) and 6,950 unemployed (8%). The unemployment rate is slightly higher than that of Greater Melbourne (6.8%).

Within the total labour force, 55.6% are working full-time, 34.8% are working part-time, 1.7% are working but did not state their hours worked, 3.4% are looking for full-time work and 4.6% are looking for part-time work.

Industries of Employment

The industries of employment generally skew towards white-collar industries. Industries such as professional s/scientific/technical, education, financial services above the average for Greater Melbourne, while construction and manufacturing are below the average for Greater Melbourne.

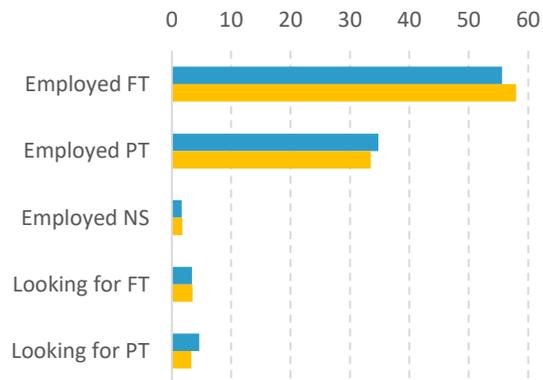
Health care and social assistance (12.1%) is the highest industry of employment, followed by professional/scientific/technical (11.1%), retail (10.7%), education and training (9.9%) and manufacturing (7.1%).

Occupation Type

The occupation type also skews towards white-collar positions, with a higher proportion of managers, professionals, administration and sales positions than the Greater Melbourne average. Occupations such as technicians/trades, drivers/machinery operators and labourers are generally below the average for Greater Melbourne.

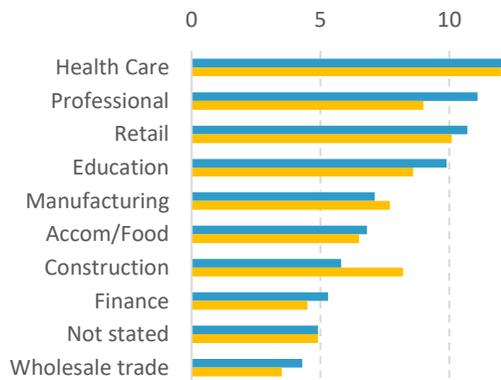
The top occupation types in Monash are professionals (30.4%), administration (14.2%), managers (13.7%) and technicians/trades (12.6%).

Employment Status



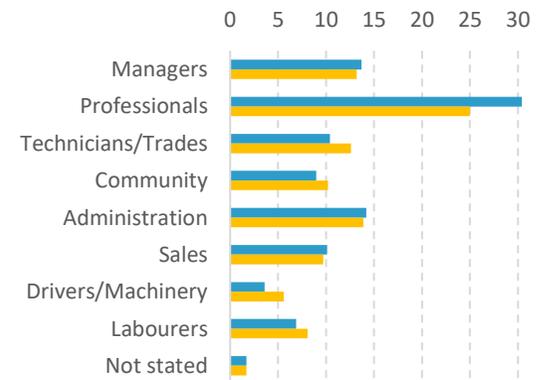
■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

Top 10 Industries of Employment



■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

Occupation Type



■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

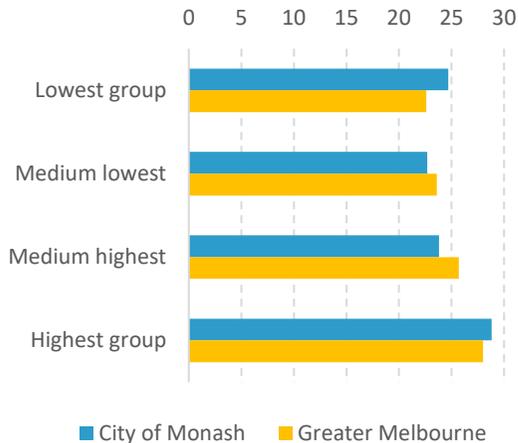
COMMUNITY PROFILE

Household Weekly Income Quartiles

The household weekly income quartiles show a general alignment to the averages for Greater Melbourne, but closer examination shows a slight trend towards income inequality.

Monash has higher proportions in the lowest (24.7%) and highest quartiles (28.8%) and lower proportions in the medium lowest (22.7%) and medium highest quartiles (23.8%).

Household Weekly Income Quartiles



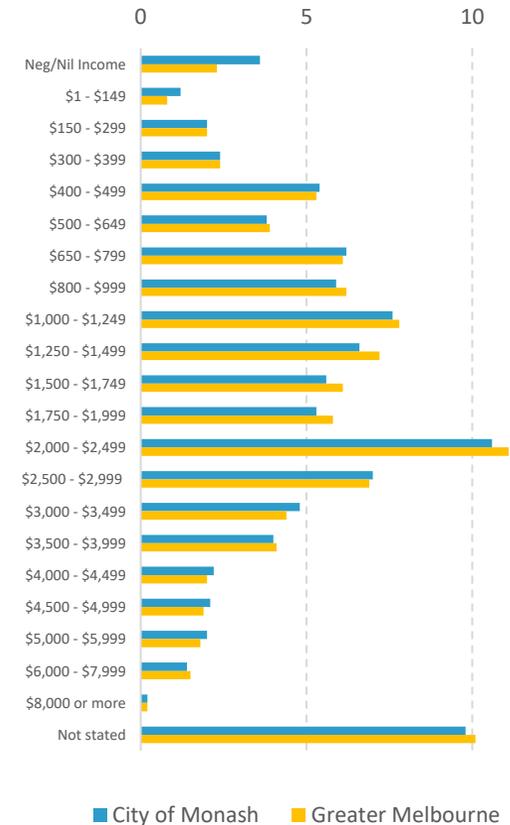
Household Weekly Income

The household weekly income generally aligns to the household weekly income quartiles:

- The percentage of residents with negative/nil income (3.6%) is higher than Greater Melbourne (2.3%).
- All income categories from \$0 - \$799 show a higher percentage of households compared to Greater Melbourne, except for \$500-649 which is 0.1% lower.
- All income categories from \$800 - \$2,499 show a lower percentage of households compared to Greater Melbourne.
- All income categories \$2,500 - \$5,999 show a higher percentage of households compared to Greater Melbourne.

It should be noted that the differences in household income categories compared to Greater Melbourne were relatively minor, with the main differences in the categories between \$800 - \$2,499 in which Monash was below the Greater Melbourne average.

Household Weekly Income (%)



COMMUNITY PROFILE

Household Type

Household types are generally aligned to the Greater Melbourne averages.

Couples with children (36%), couples without children (23.6%) and group households (6.1%) are slightly above the Greater Melbourne average, and one-parent families (10.1%), “other” (18.9%) and visitor only (3.3%) are slightly below the Greater Melbourne average.

Highest Qualification

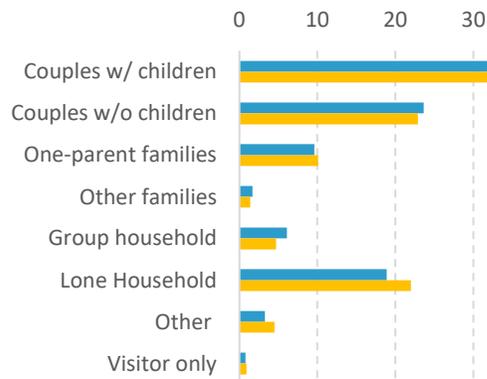
The City of Monash shows high levels of qualification attainment, with 34.8% of the workforce having a bachelor degree or higher (27.5% Greater Melbourne). Only 10.4% have attained a vocational qualification (15.3% Greater Melbourne), while the percentage of the workforce with a diploma/advanced diploma (9.3%) or no qualification (37.4%) is consistent with the average for Greater Melbourne.

Disability

The percentage of Monash residents that require assistance in their day-to-day lives due to disability is 4.8%. This is closely aligned to the average for Greater Melbourne of 4.9%.

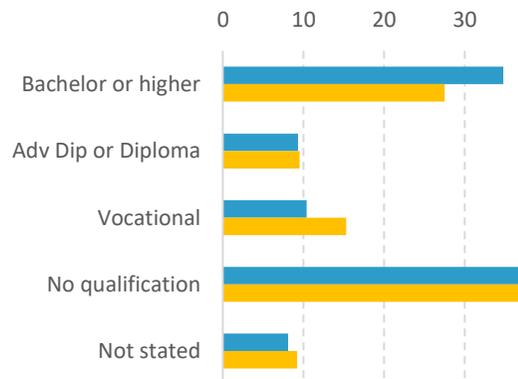
While the level of disability in each age group is generally lower than the average for Greater Melbourne, the trend shows that the proportion of people with a disability rises sharply for older adults, which has implications for keeping older people engaged in healthy physical activity.

Household Type



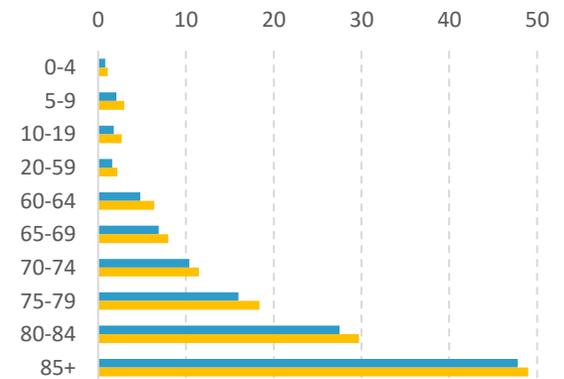
■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

Highest Qualification



■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

Disability



■ City of Monash ■ Greater Melbourne

COMMUNITY PROFILE

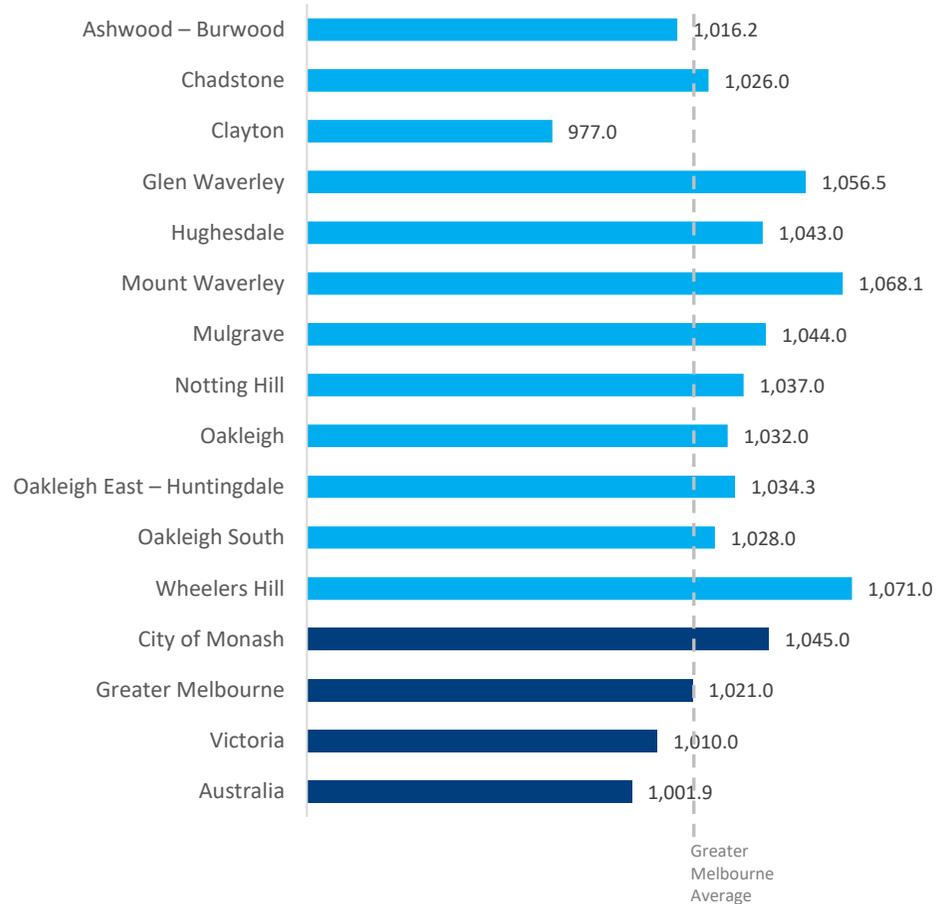
SEIFA Index

The SEIFA index of relative socio-economic disadvantage (IRSD) provides an indicator of the comparative level of disadvantage in an area. Higher scores indicate lower levels of disadvantage and lower scores indicate higher levels of disadvantage.

The City of Monash has a lower level of disadvantage than the Greater Melbourne, Victorian and Australian averages, and is in the seventy-third percentile nationally.

Comparing suburbs within the City of Monash, Clayton has the highest level of disadvantage with a score of 977 (32nd percentile), with Ashwood-Burwood the only other suburb under average for Greater Melbourne.

Wheelers Hill has the lowest level of disadvantage with a score of 1071 (87 percentile), followed by Mount Waverley with 1068.1 (86 percentile) and Glen Waverley (80 percentile).



Facility Audit Analysis



FACILITY AUDITS

Facility audits of 50 parks and reserves in the City of Monash were completed using the *insideEDGE* Sports Facility Auditor application during December 2020 and January 2021.

Reserves were selected for auditing based on facility size and hierarchy, existing facilities and potential for the future development of active recreation infrastructure.

While the auditing of small local parks was not within the project scope, they will be considered during the development of the Strategy. Paths and trails in linear reserves were not audited but will also be considered within the Strategy.

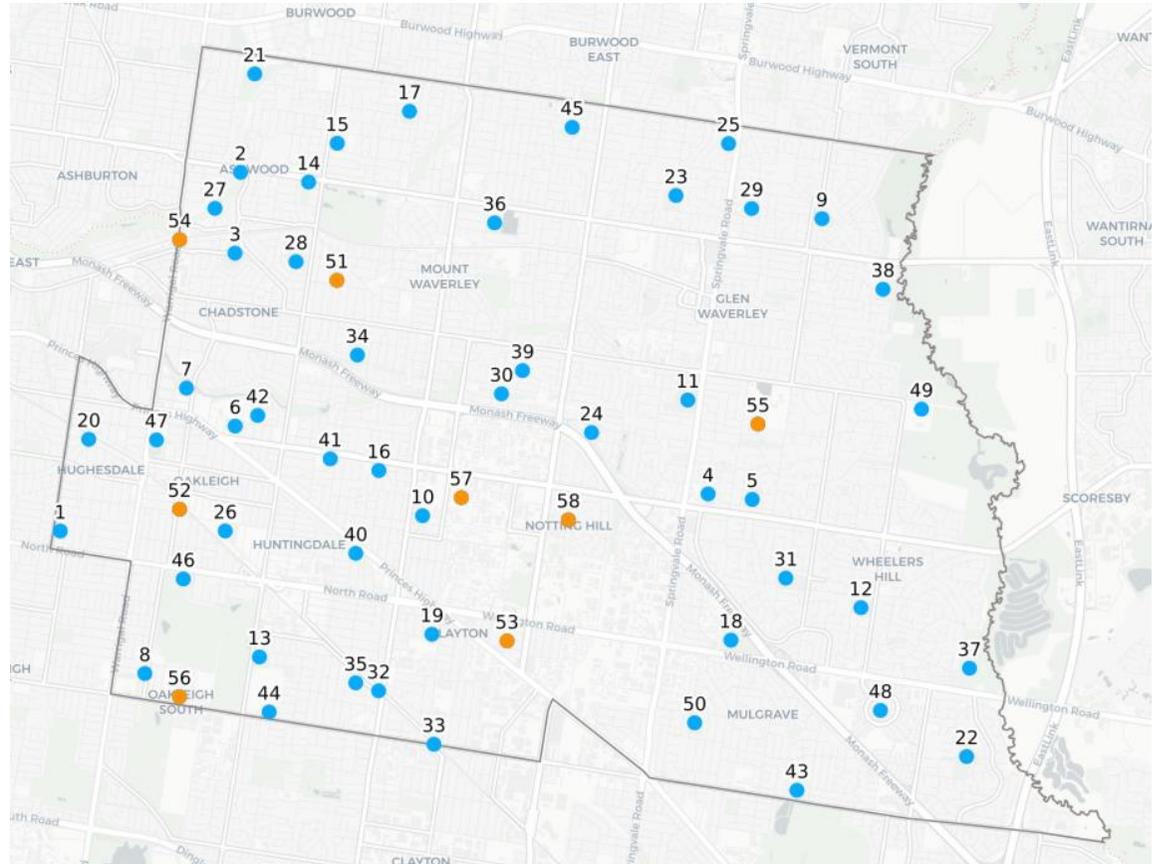
Each facility audit included assessments of :

- Site location and characteristics
- Assessment of active recreation infrastructure, including outdoor fitness equipment, paths and trails, basketball/netball courts, public tennis courts, cricket nets, bocce courts, futsal goals, skate parks, BMX tracks and climbing walls
- Supporting infrastructure such as toilets and park furniture
- Safety and accessibility

ASHWOOD – BURWOOD (4 SITES)	MULGRAVE (5 SITES)
Ashwood Reserve, Electra Reserve, Gardiners Reserve, Holmesglen Reserve/Jingella Reserve	Freeway Reserve, Gladeswood Reserve, Southern Reserve, Waverley Park Reserve, Wellington Reserve
CHADSTONE (2 SITES)	NOTTING HILL (0 SITES)
Batesford Reserve, Jordan Reserve	Nil
CLAYTON (5 SITES)	OAKLEIGH (5 SITES)
Carlson Reserve, Fregon Reserve, Level Crossing Removal Area (Centre Road), Level Crossing Removal Area (Clayton Road), Meade Reserve	Brickmakers Park, Caloola Reserve, Jack Edwards Reserve, Scotchmans Run Reserve, Warrawee Park/DW Nicholl Reserve/Pioneer Park
GLEN WAVERLEY (9 SITES)	OAKLEIGH EAST – HUNTINGDALE (3 SITES)
Brandon Park Reserve, Brentwood Reserve, Capital Reserve, Central Reserve, Glen Waverley North Reserve, Herriots Boulevard Reserve/Callaghan Avenue Reserve, Highview Park, Larpent Reserve, Napier Park,	FE Hunt Reserve, Princes Highway Reserve, Reg Harris Reserve
HUGHESDALE (2 SITES)	OAKLEIGH SOUTH (4 SITES)
Argyle Reserve, Galbally Reserve	Cameron Ave Reserve/Stan Riley Reserve, Davies Reserve, Talbot Park, WA Scammell Reserve
MOUNT WAVERLEY (7 SITES)	WHEELERS HILL (4 SITES)
Essex Heights Reserve, Federal Reserve, Legana St Reserve, Mayfield Park, Mount Waverley Reserve, Pinewood Reserve, Tally Ho Reserve	Columbia Park Reserve, Lum Reserve, Mulgrave Reserve, Waverley Women’s Softball Centre

SITE MAP

No.	Site Name	No.	Site Name
1	Argyle Reserve	30	Legana Street Mt Waverley
2	Ashwood Reserve (North)	31	Lum Reserve
3	Batesford Reserve	32	LXRA (Clayton Road)
4	Brandon Park Reserve	33	LXRA (Centre Road)
5	Brentwood Reserve	34	Mayfield Park
6	Brickmakers Park	35	Meade Reserve
7	Caboola Reserve	36	Mount Waverley Reserve
8	Cameron Ave Reserve (inc. Stan Riley)	37	Mulgrave Reserve
9	Capital Reserve	38	Napier Park
10	Carlson Reserve	39	Pinewood Reserve
11	Central Reserve	40	Princes Hwy Reserve
12	Columbia Park Reserve	41	Reg Harris Reserve
13	Davies Reserve	42	Scotchmans Run Reserve
14	Electra Reserve	43	Southern Reserve
15	Essex Heights Reserve	44	Talbot Park
16	FE Hunt Reserve	45	Tally Ho Reserve
17	Federal Reserve	46	WA Scammell Reserve
18	Freeway Reserve	47	Warrawee Park
19	Fregon Reserve	48	Waverley Park
20	Galbally Reserve	49	Waverley Women's Softball Centre
21	Gardiners Reserve	50	Wellington Reserve
22	Gladeswood Reserve	51*	Bayview Reserve
23	Glen Waverley North Reserve	52*	Cambridge Street Reserve
24	Herriots Blvd Reserve (incl. Callaghan Avenue Reserve)	53*	Dennis Street Reserve
25	Highview Park	54*	Holmesglen Bouldering Wall
26	Jack Edwards Reserve	55*	Mannering Drive Reserve
27	Jingella Reserve (inc. Holmesglen)	56*	Murumba Drive Reserve
28	Jordan Reserve	57*	Notting Hill Business Park
29	Larpen Reserve	58*	Samada Street Reserve



Note: Sites that were not audited are indicated with an asterisk in the table and orange marker on the site map

FACILITY INVENTORY

The facility audits conducted at 50 parks and reserves across the City of Monash identified a range of active recreation facilities that are accessible for use by the community.

The following pages provide a high-level analysis of the primary active recreation infrastructure categories, examining key characteristics such as provision, type, size, condition and others as relevant.

Further examination of the facility audit data will be undertaken in Stage 3 (Data Synthesis and Needs Analysis) as opportunities are identified during the development of the Strategy at the suburb catchment level.

No. of Sites with Active Recreation Infrastructure

14			41			15		
Outdoor Exercise Equipment			Paths/Trails			Circuit Paths		
25			3			3		
Cricket Practice Facilities			Public Tennis Courts			Tennis Hit-up Walls		
18			6			1		
Basketball/Netball Courts			Bocce Courts			Futsal		
2			1			3		
Skate Parks			BMX Tracks			Climbing Walls		



WA Scammell Reserve

OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Eleven sites were identified as having outdoor fitness equipment.

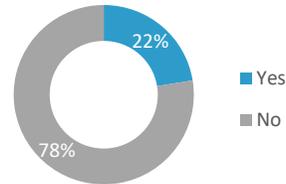
The majority of outdoor fitness equipment in parks and reserves is static equipment (91%), with only 9% of equipment classed as dynamic (moving components).

Assessment of the condition of fitness equipment showed an even split between excellent condition (45%) and good condition (55%). The majority of outdoor fitness equipment installations in parks are relatively new, while older static equipment was generally found to be in good condition.

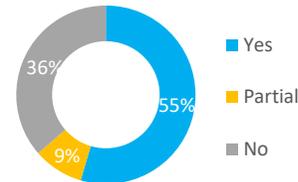
55% percent of the outdoor fitness equipment had instructional signage for each piece of equipment on site, while 9% had partial signage and 36% had no signage.

73% of the sites had mulch as the surface type, with the other 27% having rubber surfacing. Mulch is a lower cost surface but is generally not as accessible and requires regular topping up to ensure that it is suitable for use.

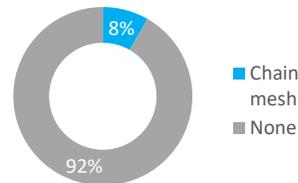
Does the site have outdoor fitness equipment?



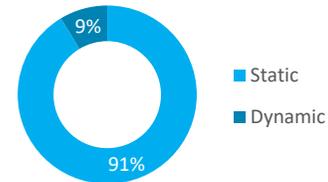
Instructional signage



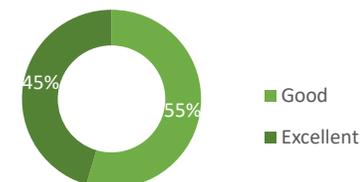
Fencing Type



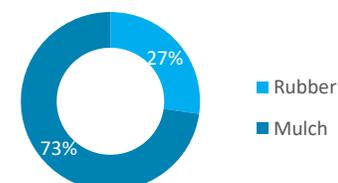
Equipment type



Outdoor fitness equipment condition

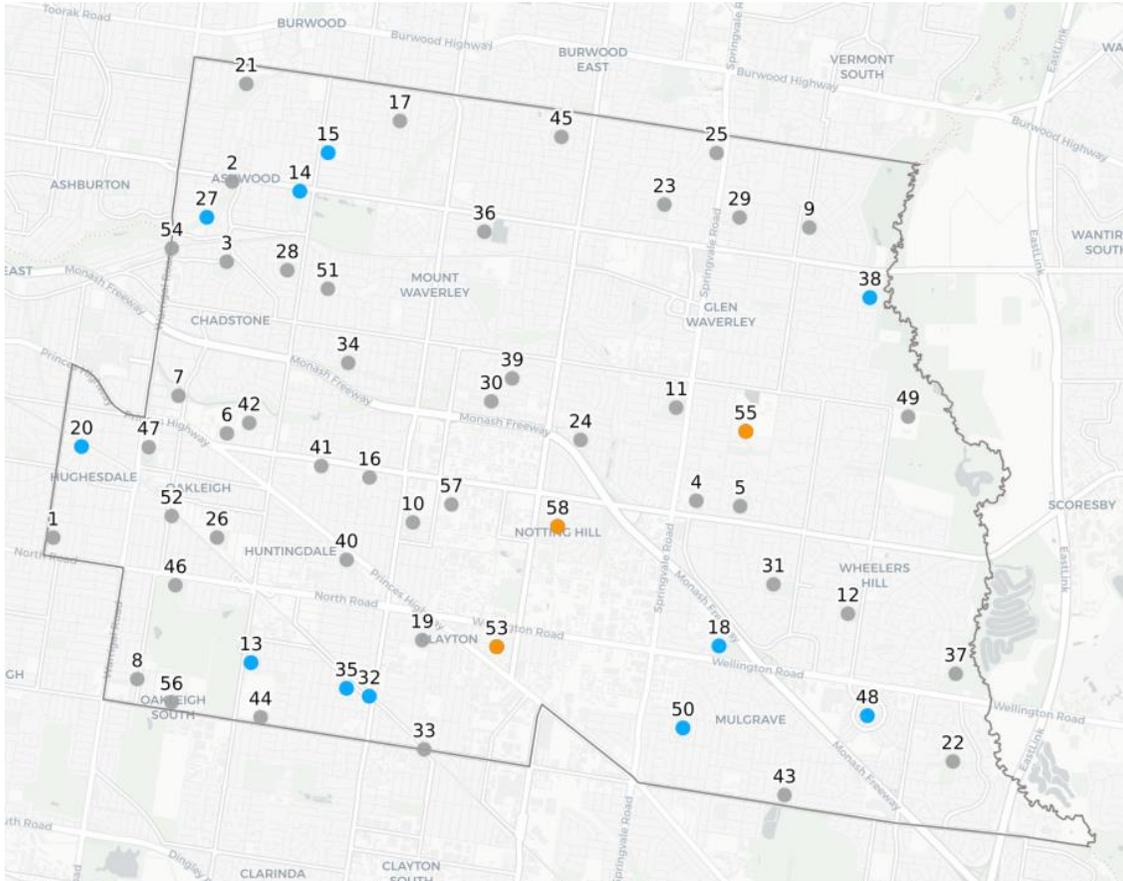


Surface type



Waverley Park Reserve

DISTRIBUTION OF OUTDOOR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT



No.	Site Name
13	Davies Reserve
14	Electra Reserve
15	Essex Heights Reserve
18	Freeway Reserve
20	Galbally Reserve
27	Jingella Reserve (inc. Holmesglen)
32	LXRA (Clayton Road)
35	Meade Reserve
38	Napier Park
48	Waverley Park
50	Wellington Reserve
53*	<i>Dennis Street Reserve</i>
55*	<i>Mannering Drive Reserve</i>
58*	<i>Samada Street Reserve</i>

PATHS AND TRAILS

Facility audits identified paths and/or trails at 41 sites, representing 82% of all parks and reserves. Circuit paths were identified at 15 sites.

For the purpose of auditing, paths were audited in 106 segments, representing separate paths in reserves and changes in surface type within a single path.

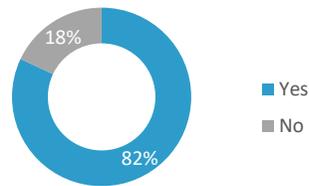
Footpaths represent the majority of path types (89% of path segments), with 9% shared paths and 2% other.

Concrete is the primary path type, representing almost half of the path segments (49%), followed by crushed rock (33%), asphalt (11%) and other surfaces (7%).

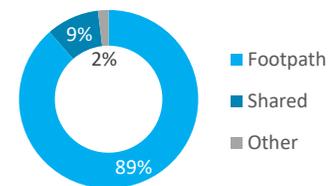
Path conditions were generally favourable, with almost two-thirds (65%) in either excellent or good condition. Only one path segment was identified in poor condition.

A range of path widths were observed, with approximately half of paths audited being two or more metres wide.

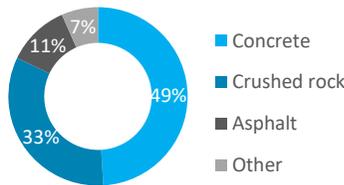
Does the site have paths / trails?



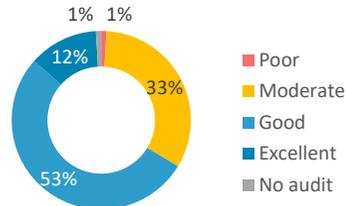
Path type



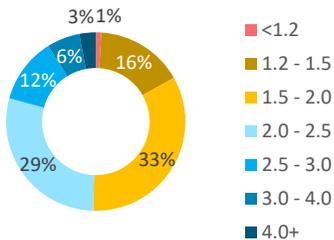
Surface type



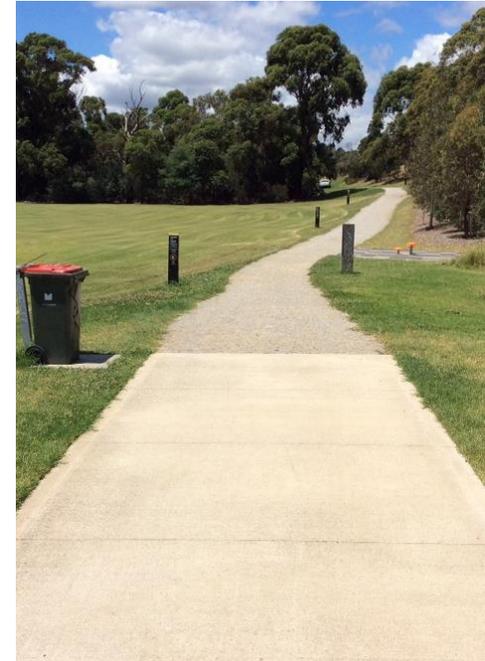
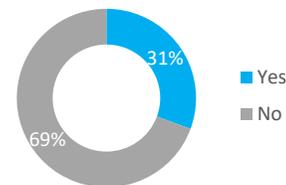
Path condition



Path width

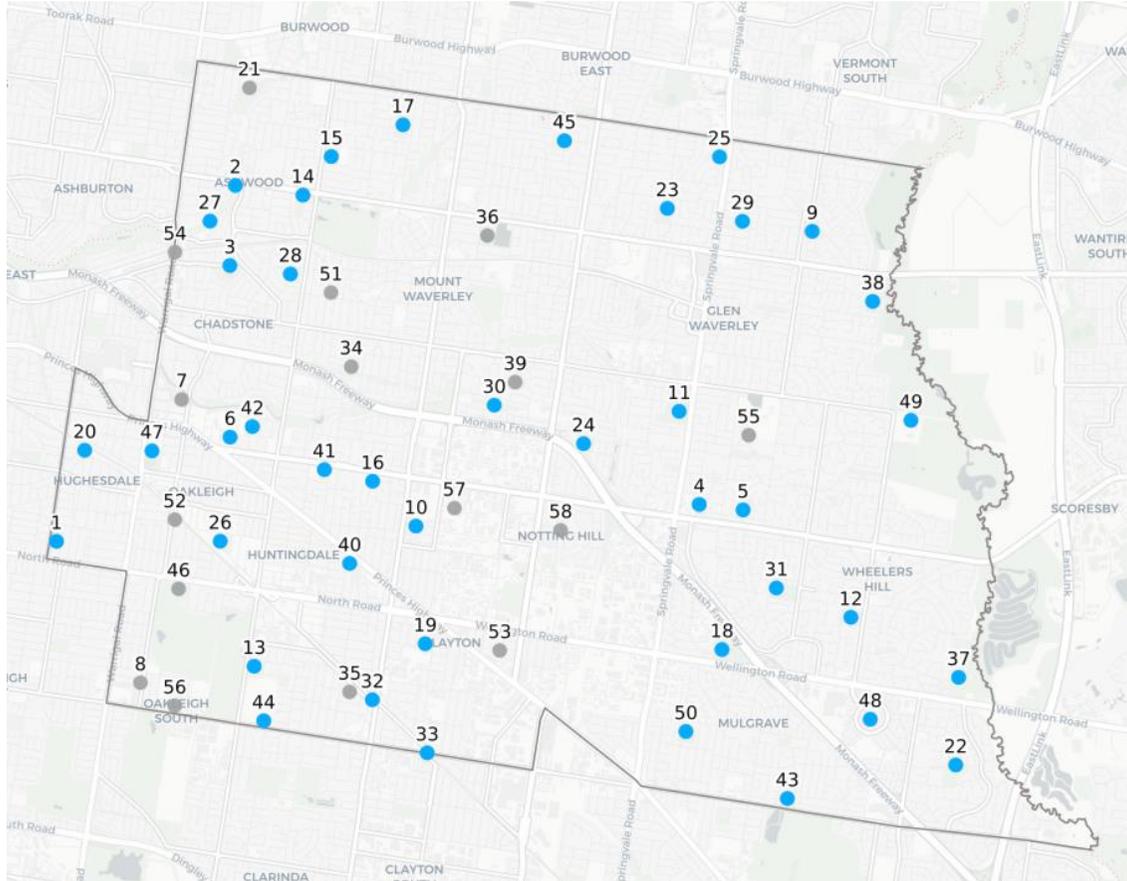


Circuit path on site



Freeway Reserve

DISTRIBUTION OF PATHS AND TRAILS IN RESERVES



No.	Site Name	No.	Site Name
1	Argyle Reserve	25	Highview Park
2	Ashwood Reserve (North)	26	Jack Edwards Reserve
3	Batesford Reserve	27	Jingella Reserve (inc. Holmesglen)
4	Brandon Park Reserve	28	Jordan Reserve
5	Brentwood Reserve	29	Larpent Reserve
6	Brickmakers Park	31	Lum Reserve
9	Capital Reserve	32	LXRA (Clayton Road)
10	Carlson Reserve	33	LXRA (Centre Road)
11	Central Reserve	37	Mulgrave Reserve
12	Columbia Park Reserve	38	Napier Park
13	Davies Reserve	40	Princes Hwy Reserve
14	Electra Reserve	41	Reg Harris Reserve
15	Essex Heights Reserve	42	Scotchmans Run Reserve
16	FE Hunt Reserve	43	Southern Reserve
17	Federal Reserve	44	Talbot Park
18	Freeway Reserve	45	Tally Ho Reserve
19	Fregon Reserve	47	Warrawee Park
20	Galbally Reserve	48	Waverley Park
22	Gladeswood Reserve	49	Waverley Women's Softball Centre
23	Glen Waverley North Reserve	50	Wellington Reserve
24	Herriots Blvd Reserve (incl. Callaghan Avenue Reserve)		

CRICKET PRACTICE FACILITIES

Publicly accessible cricket practice facilities were identified at 25 sites, with 27 facilities and 67 individual nets audited in total.

Cricket practice facilities are evenly split between two and three net enclosures, and all nets audited had a synthetic pitch. There were a small number of turf nets and non-accessible nets captured, but these have been excluded from the analysis as they cannot be accessed by the public for general use.

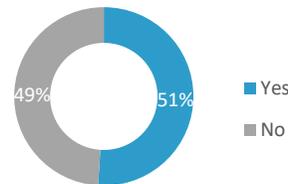
The condition of the synthetic on cricket pitches found almost one-quarter in poor or very poor condition, and almost half of all pitches in moderate condition. 28% of pitches were deemed to be in good condition.

Fencing condition was similar to pitch condition, although a smaller proportion of fencing was found to be in poor or very poor condition (11%), with 32% in good condition and 4% in excellent condition.

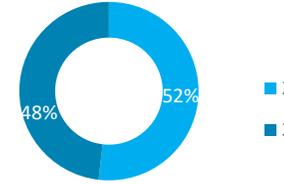
Sites with cricket practice facilities one or more pitch or net in poor or very poor condition were:

- Pitch: Jordan Reserve, Caloola Reserve, Princes Highway Reserve, Southern Reserve, Mulgrave Reserve, Columbia Park Reserve, Central Reserve
- Netting: Mayfield Park, Columbia Park Reserve, Mulgrave Reserve

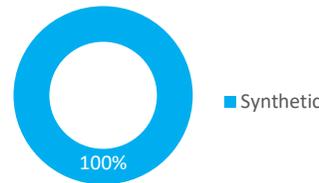
Does the site have a cricket practice facility?



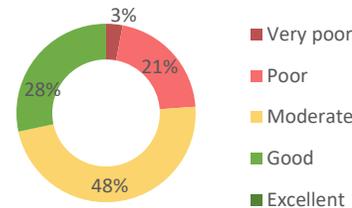
No. of cricket nets per facility?



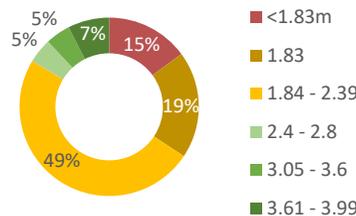
Cricket pitch type



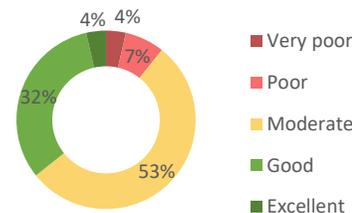
Cricket pitch condition



Cricket pitch width

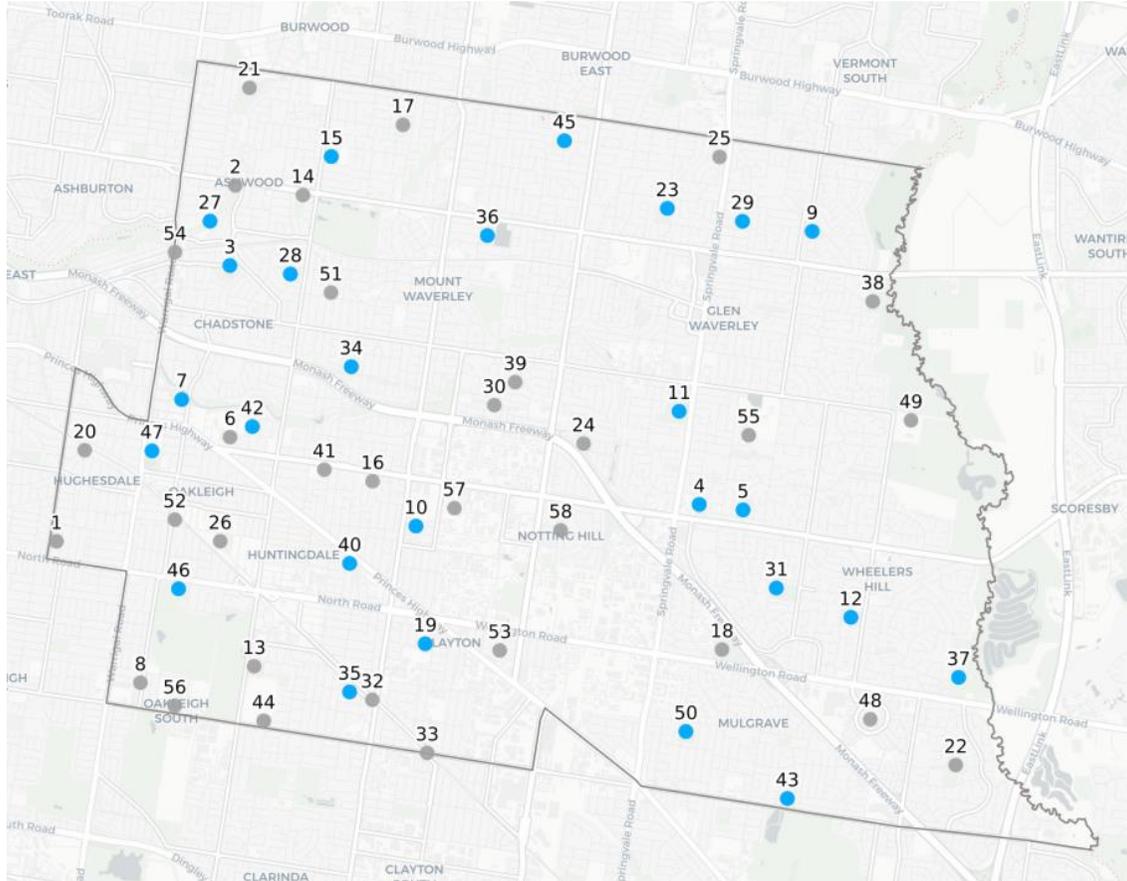


Fencing condition



Essex Heights Reserve

DISTRIBUTION OF CRICKET PRACTICE FACILITIES



No.	Site Name	No.	Site Name
3	Batesford Reserve	31	Lum Reserve
4	Brandon Park Reserve	34	Mayfield Park
5	Brentwood Reserve	35	Meade Reserve
7	Caloola Reserve	36	Mount Waverley Reserve
9	Capital Reserve	37	Mulgrave Reserve
10	Carlson Reserve	40	Princes Hwy Reserve
11	Central Reserve	42	Scotchmans Run Reserve
12	Columbia Park Reserve	43	Southern Reserve
15	Essex Heights Reserve	45	Tally Ho Reserve
19	Fregon Reserve	46	WA Scammell Reserve
23	Glen Waverley North Reserve	47	Warrawee Park
28	Jordan Reserve	50	Wellington Reserve
29	Larpent Reserve		

PUBLIC TENNIS COURTS

While the City of Monash has 16 tennis facilities tenanted by tennis clubs, only two reserves (three courts in total) were observed as being publicly accessible.

The two sites with publicly accessible courts were:

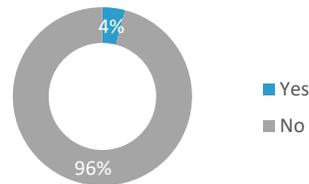
Carlson Reserve

- 2 acrylic courts – poor surface condition / moderate fencing condition
- Lighting is installed on both courts (switch for operation)

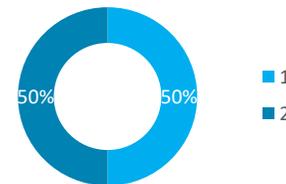
Mount Waverley Reserve

- 1 asphalt court – moderate surface and fencing condition
- No lighting

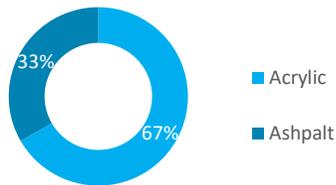
Does the site have public tennis courts?



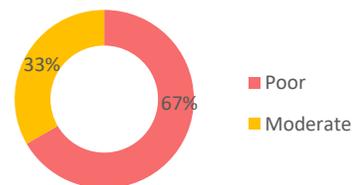
No. of courts



Surface type



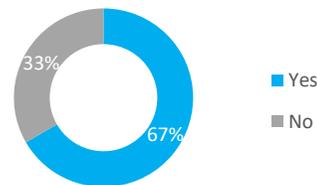
Court condition



Fencing condition

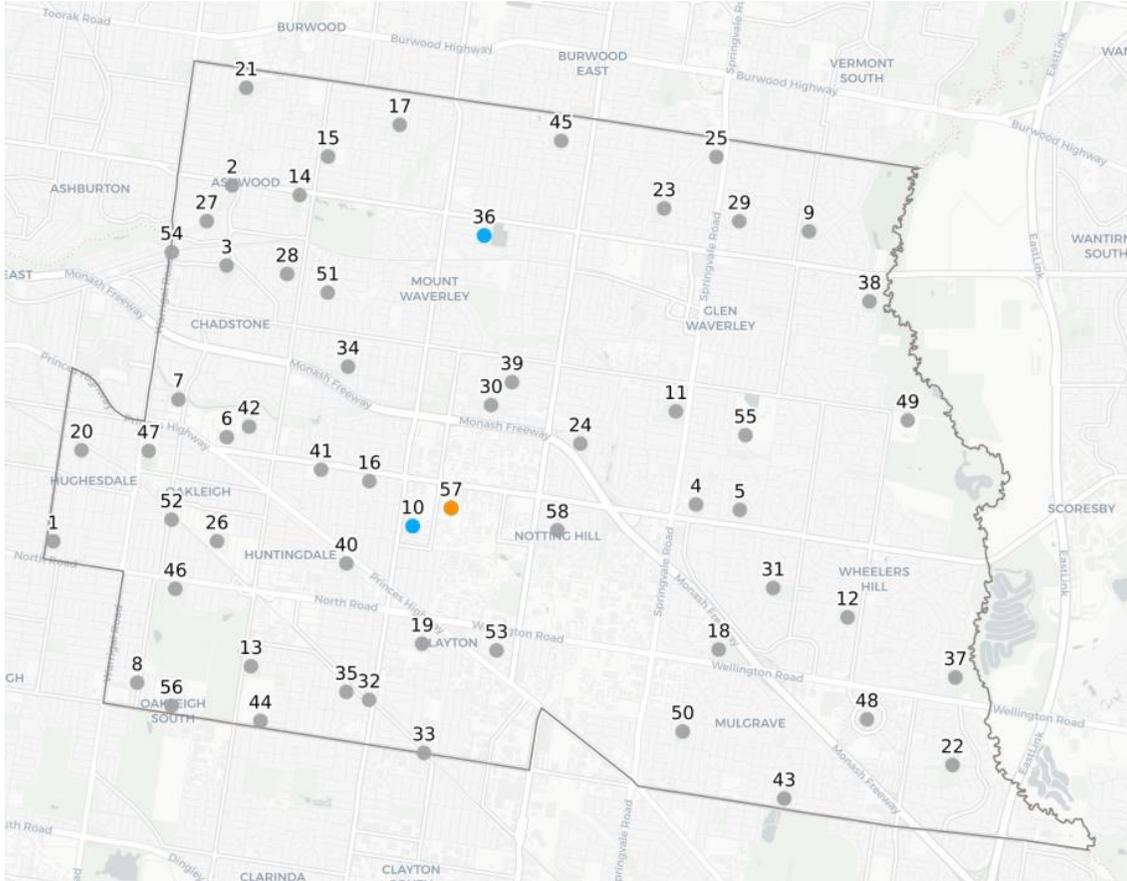


Court lighting



Carlson Reserve

DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC TENNIS COURTS



No.	Site Name
10	Carlson Reserve
36	Mount Waverley Reserve
57*	Notting Hill Business Park

BASKETBALL / NETBALL COURTS

Outdoor basketball / netball courts were identified at 15 sites, with a total of 17 courts audited.

The majority of courts were for basketball use (84%), with two netball courts and one hybrid netball/basketball.

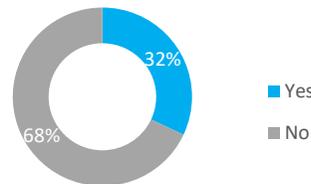
Courts came in a range of sizes, with six quarter-courts, six half-courts and seven full-courts.

Concrete is the primary court surface (47%), with 32% acrylic, 16% asphalt and 5% other surface type.

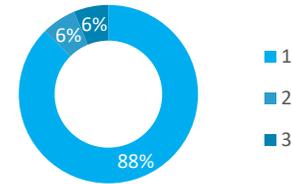
Court condition is split relatively evenly between excellent, good and moderate condition, with no poor or very poor court surfaces.

Backboard condition was generally favourable with 58% in either excellent or good condition, and only one court deemed as having a poor condition backboard (Glen Waverley North Reserve). Two courts with no backboard are netball only courts.

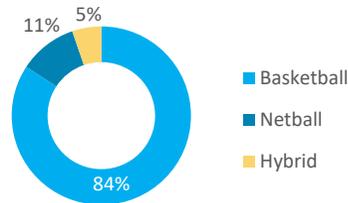
Does the site have a basketball / netball court?



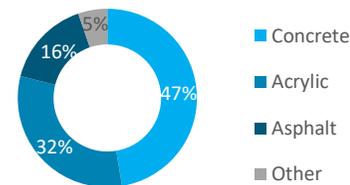
No. of courts per site



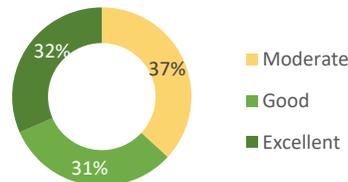
Court type



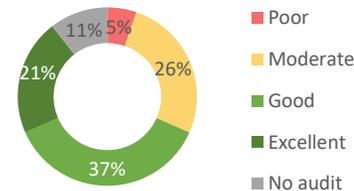
Court surface type



Court condition

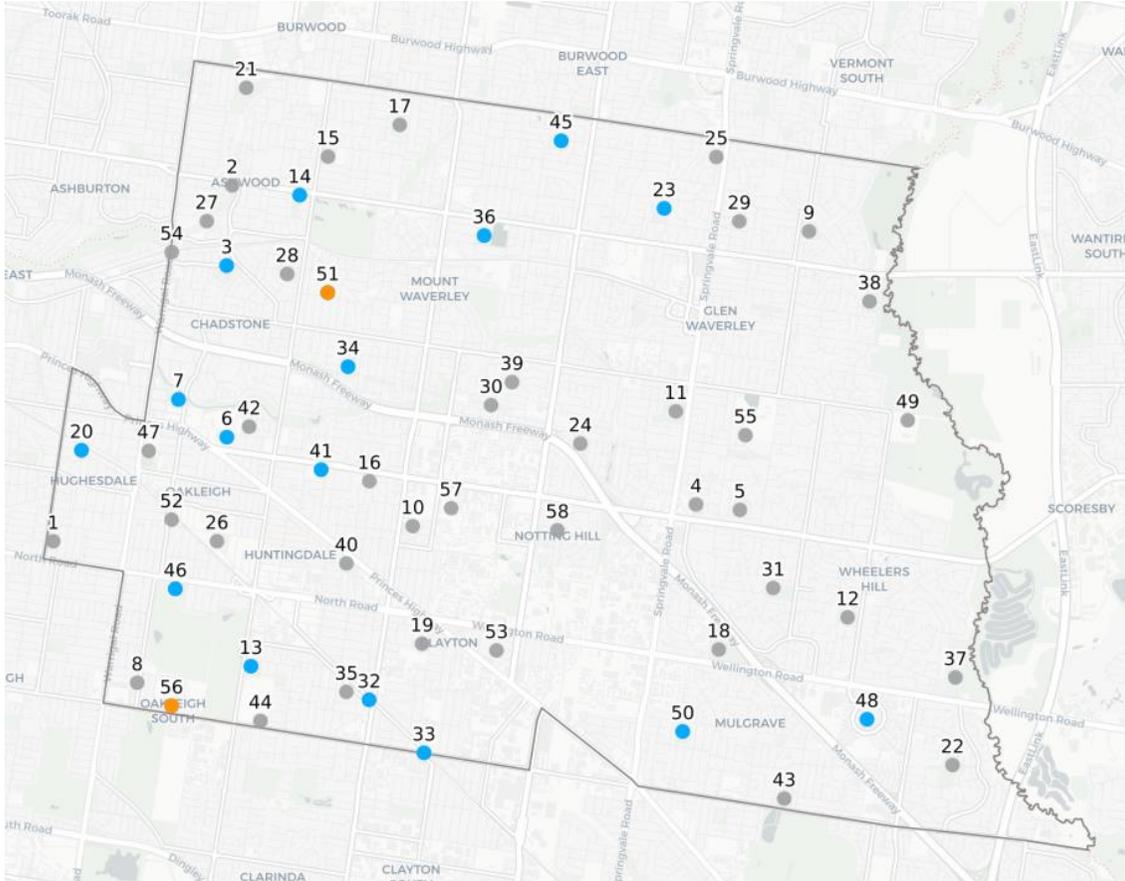


Backboard condition



Davies Reserve

DISTRIBUTION OF BASKETBALL / NETBALL COURTS



No.	Site Name
3	Batesford Reserve
6	Brickmakers Park
7	Caloola Reserve
13	Davies Reserve
14	Electra Reserve
20	Galbally Reserve
23	Glen Waverley North Reserve
32	LXRA (Clayton Road)
33	LXRA (Centre Road)
34	Mayfield Park
36	Mount Waverley Reserve
41	Reg Harris Reserve
45	Tally Ho Reserve
46	WA Scammell Reserve
48	Waverley Park
50	Wellington Reserve
51*	Bayview Reserve
56*	Murumba Drive Reserve

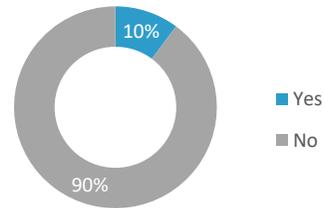
BOCCE

Five sites in the City of Monash were identified as having bocce courts, providing a total of seven courts.

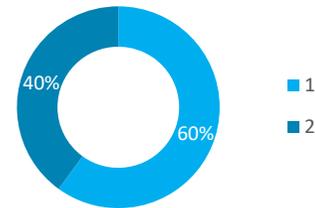
All bocce courts are constructed of crushed rock, with three single-court facilities and two double-court facilities.

The condition of the bocce courts varied across the sites, with two in good condition, one in moderate condition, two in poor condition (Princes Highway Reserve) and two in very poor condition (Talbot Park).

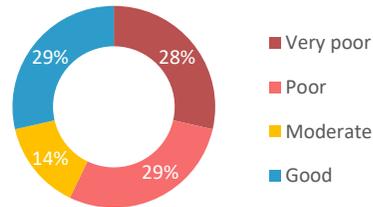
Does the site have bocce courts?



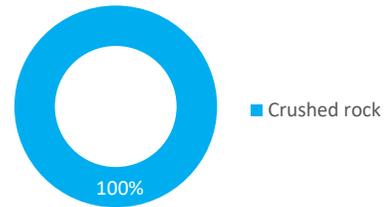
No. of courts



Court condition

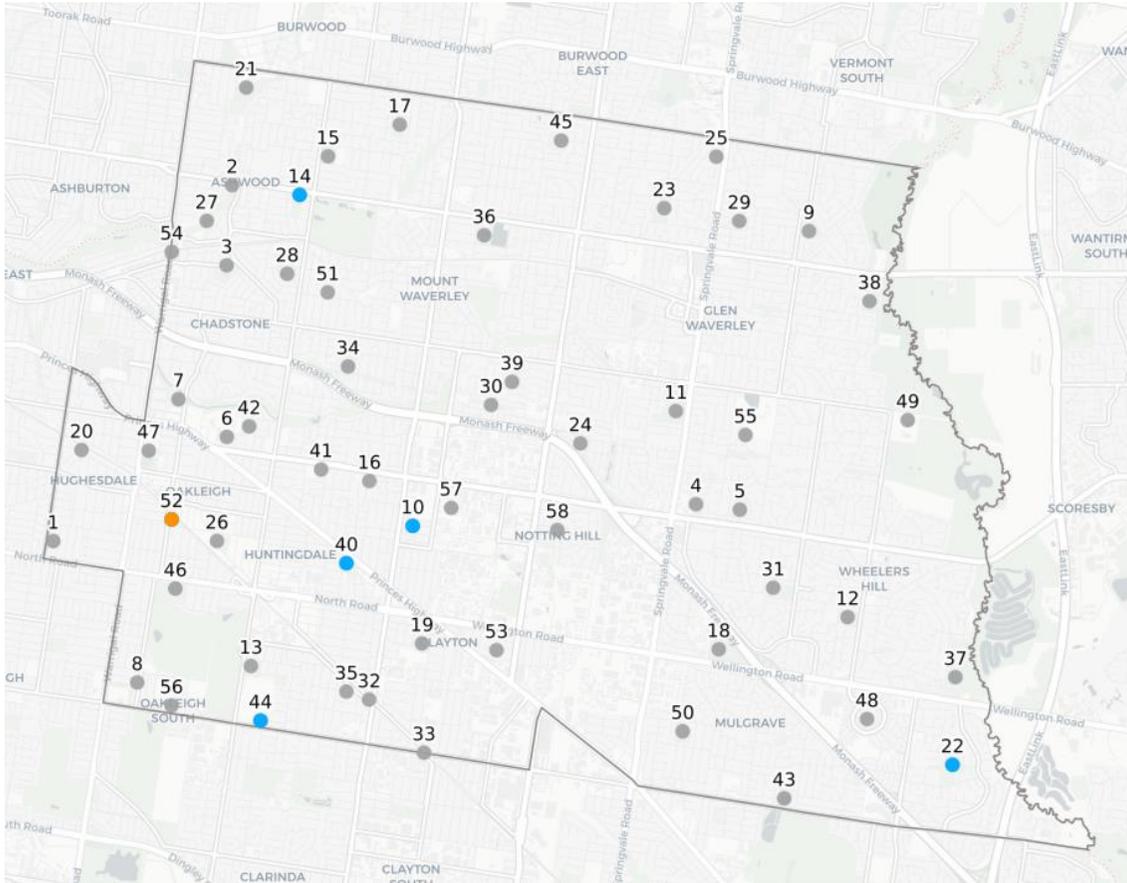


Court material



Carlson Reserve

DISTRIBUTION OF BOCCE COURTS



No.	Site Name
10	Carlson Reserve
14	Electra Reserve
22	Gladeswood Reserve
40	Princes Hwy Reserve
44	Talbot Park
52*	Cambridge Street Reserve

SKATE, BMX AND CLIMBING WALLS

Audits of skate parks, BMX tracks and climbing walls were completed separately by Playce due to technical aspects of these facility categories.

The condition, function, amenities were rated, and an overall rating provided for each facility.

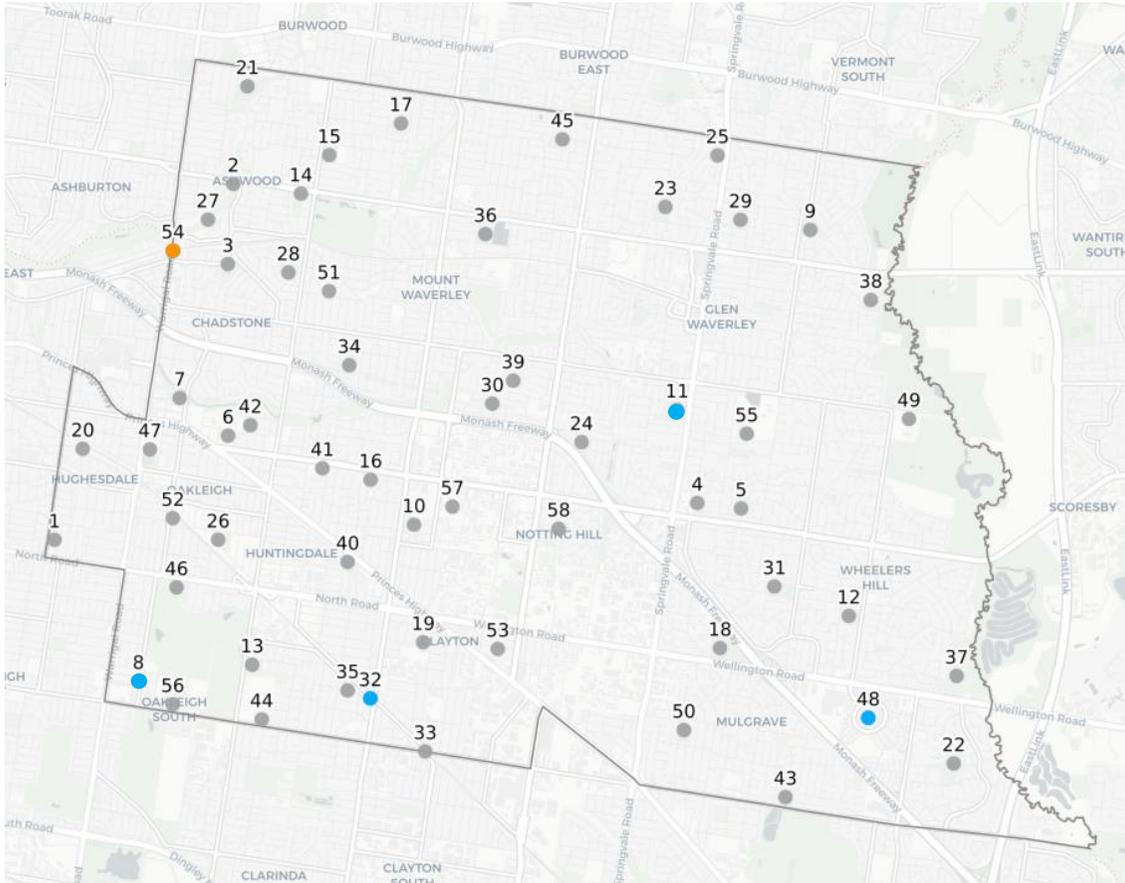
The following is a summary of the audit ratings:

Facility	Condition	Function	Amenities	Overall
Glen Waverley Skate Park	Poor	Poor	Good	Poor
Waverley Park Skate Park	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Waverley Park Climbing Wall	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent
Stan Riley Reserve BMX Track	Poor	Good	Fair	Fair



Waverley Park Skate Park

DISTRIBUTION OF SKATE, BMX AND CLIMBING WALLS



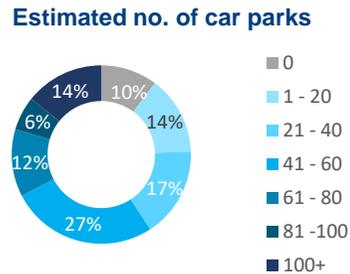
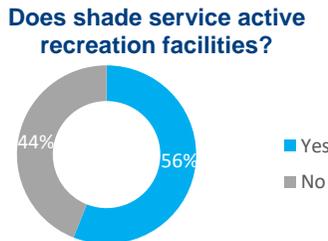
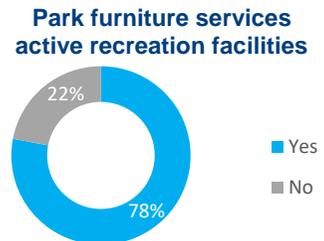
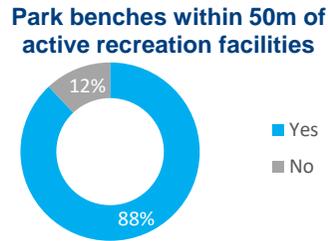
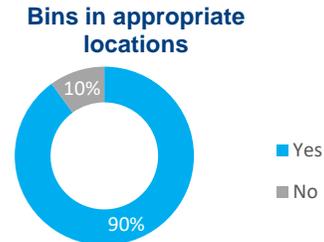
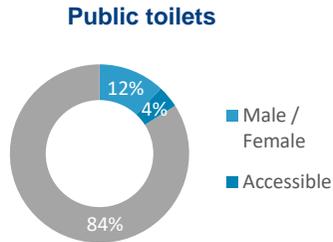
No.	Site Name
8	Cameron Ave Reserve (inc. Stan Riley) - BMX
11	Central Reserve - Skate
32	LXRA (Clayton Road) - Skate
48	Waverley Park – Skate, climbing wall
54*	Holmesglen Bouldering Wall

SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE

Supporting infrastructure is vital to encourage active recreation and longer stays at parks and reserves.

The majority of parks and reserves provided the basic supporting infrastructure, such as bins in appropriate locations (90%), parks benches within 50 metres of active recreation facilities (88%), and park furniture that services active recreation facilities (78%).

One gap in the provision of supporting infrastructure found during auditing relates to public toilets. Only 16% of the sites visited had public toilets, with 12% having male/female toilets, and 4% having a single accessible toilet.



Brickmakers Park

SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY

Safety and accessibility was assessed during each facility audit based on the core public open space considerations within the Safer Design Guidelines.

Active recreation facilities were generally described as being fully visible (64%) or partially visible (32%) from adjacent streets and properties, with only two sites having active recreation that was described as not visible.

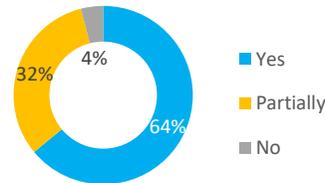
Vegetation was the main item that blocked surveillance into parks and reserves (35%), with permanent infrastructure, other obstacles or a combination of these three elements blocking visibility at 24% of sites.

Results relating to exit and entry lighting were mixed, with 32% adequately lit, 44% partially lit and 24% not adequately lit.

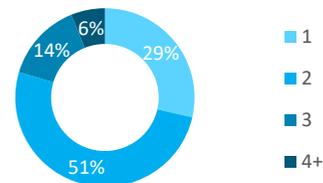
Active recreation infrastructure generally had fully (54%) or partially accessible surfaces (36%), while 10% of sites were assessed as not having accessible surfaces for active recreation facilities.

Disabled parking was observed at 58% of sites.

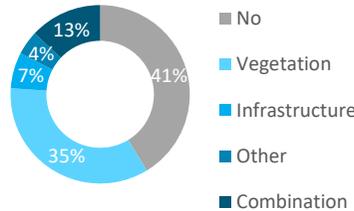
Active recreation facilities visible in park



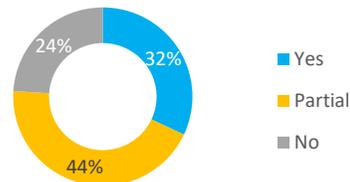
Active frontages



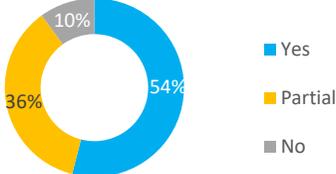
Visibility to facilities blocked



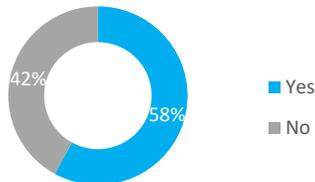
Entries / exits adequately lit



Facilities have accessible surface



Disabled parking available



WA Scammell Reserve

Local Government Benchmarking



LGA BENCHMARKING

A series of interviews with representatives from local government authorities have been conducted to identify their approach to active recreation planning and delivery.

Discussions with representatives from each local government authority identified policy, strategy, planning, infrastructure development and program initiatives that have been delivered at each council.

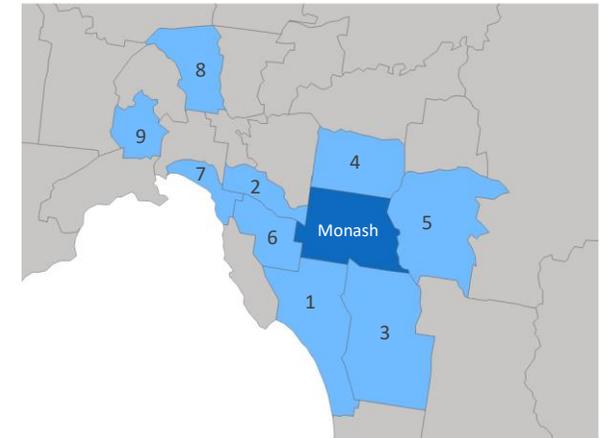
The following local government authorities have been engaged:

1. Kingston City Council
2. Stonnington City Council
3. Greater Dandenong City Council
4. Whitehorse City Council
5. Knox City Council
6. Glen Eira City Council
7. Port Phillip City Council
8. Moreland City Council
9. Maribyrnong City Council

Summary of insights from local government benchmarking:

- There is limited active recreation-specific policy and strategy at local government level, although some councils are currently considering the development active recreation policies or strategies.
- Most councils take strategic direction for active recreation from their open space strategies, sport and recreation strategies, and health and wellbeing plans. A number of councils also noted the Active Victoria Framework as a key strategic driver.
- Despite the lack of active recreation-specific policy and strategy, most councils are delivering active recreation infrastructure through master plans and site-specific capital works.
- Active recreation infrastructure such as outdoor fitness equipment, mountain bike trails and disc golf courses are proving popular in local parks and reserves.
- Initiatives that increase flexible use of parks and reserves are also becoming more popular. An example of this is a number of councils providing opportunities for sportslighting on playing fields to be used for general active recreation to increase times of use.
- While organised sport still plays an important role in promoting healthy physical activity, the role active recreation plays is being more widely acknowledged.

- Most councils provide active recreation programs, with the primary mode of delivery through local providers and clubs.
- The importance of effective communications to build awareness was highlighted by a number of councils.
- Changes in the type of activity in parks and reserves was observed during 2020 due to COVID-19. Communities in most areas are continuing their use of parks and reserves for active recreation following the relaxing of COVID-19 restrictions.



LGA benchmarking distribution

LGA BENCHMARKING

Kingston City Council

Kingston City Council has no active recreation-specific strategies or policies, with the Kingston Health & Wellbeing Plan acting as the key strategic direction for active recreation projects and initiatives.

While provision of the active recreation specific infrastructure has been relatively ad-hoc, Kingston City Council has continued to increase the amount of active recreation infrastructure in parks and reserves in recent years. Outdoor exercise equipment, paths and trails, football and soccer goals, and basketball/netball courts are examples of the types of facilities that have been installed in various parks and reserves.

A key example of a successful active recreation initiative is the Bald Hill Disc Golf Park in Clarinda. This 9 hole/18 tee course has received a high level of use, with the option to borrow discs from the Clarinda Library.

Future priorities include further active recreation infrastructure delivery in parks and reserves, improvements to path lighting and cycling network planning.

Stonnington City Council

Stonnington City Council has no active recreation-specific strategies or policies, with strategic direction set by the Stonnington Recreation Strategy 2014-2024 and Open Space Strategy.

The City of Stonnington has a relatively low amount of publicly accessible open space, with Council identifying ways to increase the capacity and flexibility of existing facilities, as well as opportunities to acquire additional open space in strategic locations.

Prahran Square is an example of an urban space that has been transformed into a multi-purpose community facility that provide opportunities for active recreation alongside other uses.

Council has also trialled turning on sportslighting at reserves for general community use to increase capacity for active recreation.

The Active Stonnington webpage provides Council with a central resource to increase awareness of local recreation opportunities. The introduction of mapped walking routes has proven popular, particularly during 2020 when people were looking for ways to remain active close to home during the COVID-19 lockdown period.

Greater Dandenong City Council

Greater Dandenong City Council's 'Make Your Move' campaign is a call to action for residents following the delivery of the Greater Dandenong Physical Activity Strategy 2020-2030.

The strategy focuses on all types of physical activity and is aiming to grow the focus on active recreation. A greater focus on active recreation will address some of the known participation barriers for communities within Greater Dandenong.

The Open Space Strategy 2020-2030 also provides strategic direction relating to the importance of parks and reserves that provide flexible use for active recreation.

The 'Make Your Move' campaign includes a series of education and awareness resources, as awareness of physical activity opportunities and the benefits of being physically active were identified as key barriers during the development of the physical activity strategy.

Greater Dandenong City Council are currently investigating the development of an Active Recreation Infrastructure Plan to guide the future delivery of facilities in parks and reserves across the municipality.

LGA BENCHMARKING

Glen Eira City Council

Similarly to Monash City Council, Glen Eira City Council are currently developing an Active Recreation Action Plan to guide future active recreation infrastructure and programming investment and delivery.

While Glen Eira has no active recreation-specific policies or strategies at this stage, the GET ACTIVE: The Future of Recreation and Sport Report and Open Space Strategy provide guidance on active recreation priorities for Council.

Active recreation infrastructure has generally been installed as a result of site-specific planning.

The City of Glen Eira generally has a lower level of open space than the neighbouring City of Monash, with existing parks and reserves developed to provide flexible uses and opportunities for active recreation.

Glen Eira City Council are interested in partnering with Monash City Council on active recreation projects where there is a clear benefit for communities from both municipalities, particularly along the boundary of the two LGAs.

Whitehorse City Council

The Whitehorse Recreation Strategy 2015-2024, the Open Space Strategy (2007) and the Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 set the general strategic direction and priorities for active recreation, however there are currently no policies or strategies specific to active recreation alone.

Capital works and program initiatives are locally focused with the aim of providing additional opportunities for unstructured recreation in parks and reserves.

A key example of this approach is the upcoming trial of on-demand lighting on sports fields (winter 2021) that allows for lighting to be accessed by the general community via switching infrastructure.

There has also been increased demand for mountain bike facilities following the success of facilities at Heatherdale Reserve. The impact of COVID has also increased demand for Council's two skate parks, outdoor basketball/netball courts, pump tracks and playgrounds.

Dog walkers have historically been vocal and active community representatives and with the impact of COVID there has been a higher demand for parks and reserves with enclosed dog parks and dog off-leash areas.

Future infrastructure planning is aiming to balance the needs of organised sport and active recreation uses in local parks and reserves.

Knox City Council

Knox City Council has limited active recreation-specific policy or strategy, with their focus being on planning for active recreation facilities during the master planning of parks and reserves.

Master planning processes are highly consultative and also draw on staff and professional expertise to establish facility concepts.

Lewis Park is a current example of a reserve that is being masterplanned to include a range of active recreation components, including mountain bike facilities, skate park, flexible hard-court surfaces and pathways.

Increasing access to flexible infrastructure is becoming more important, with lighting of reserves and pathways becoming increasingly important to enable extended hours of use.

Knox City Council has recently installed a disc golf course, which is receiving a lot of interest and use, particularly due to the impact of COVID-19 on other activities.

LGA BENCHMARKING

Port Phillip City Council

Port Phillip City Council are currently developing an active recreation policy that will guide the delivery of active recreation facilities and initiatives across the municipality.

Port Phillip City Council have historically referred to the Open Space Strategy and Sport and Recreation Strategy as the key guiding documents relating to active recreation.

The City of Port Phillip are prioritising multi-purpose facilities to provide broader opportunities for use by a wider cross-section of the community. Facilities such as skate parks and basketball half-courts are currently being considered for delivery.

Port Phillip City Council also run the 'Sport Phillip' program calendar that provides free and low-cost active recreation programs to the community. Council facilitates the program with a mix of Council and partner program deliverers.

Activities such as stand-up paddle-boarding, family basketball, yoga and group fitness are included in the 15-20 activities that are provided as part of the campaign within the monthly program calendar.

Moreland City Council

Moreland City Council's strategic direction for active recreation is driven by the Moreland Sport and Active Recreation Strategy 2020. While active recreation is included in the scope the strategy, the focus has primarily been on organised sport and physical activity rather than unstructured active recreation.

The City of Moreland is currently focused on increasing capacity for organised sport as there is increasing pressure on their existing facility network. Active recreation infrastructure is delivered in parks and reserves where it complements other uses such as playgrounds and playing fields.

Moreland City Council is identifying opportunities to increase the level of social sport and active recreation at parks and reserves.

A key example of active recreation infrastructure is located at Raeburn Reserve, where outdoor exercise equipment has been located in close proximity to the playground to allow for adults to exercise while children play.

Maribyrnong City Council

Maribyrnong City Council has limited active recreation-specific policy or strategy, with the key strategic drivers being Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan and the Active Victoria Framework.

While Maribyrnong City Council has a general deficiency of open space provision, they focus on maximising the use of existing facilities and delivering facilities that provide broad recreation opportunities.

The Quarry Park Mountain Bike Trails in Footscray, delivered in 2019, have been popular with cyclists, both locally and from across the region. Maribyrnong City Council have also delivered other active recreation infrastructure such as rock-climbing walls in a number of locations and the Stony Creek Disc Golf Course.

The Active Maribyrnong webpage connects residents to active recreation opportunities that are delivered by local providers in parks and reserves, as well as online.

The summer series of programs includes yoga, Bollywood dance, meditation, stretching, music and art therapy, and pilates (online).

Council has also delivered Get Active expos, grants programs, and come-and-try days to remove barriers to active recreation and introduce residents to new activities.

Appendices

APPENDICES

1. Open Space Functions, Hierarchy and Setting Type

Table 1. Definition of ‘Major’ Open Space Functions

Open Space Functions	Definition
Social / family recreation (SFR) and local parks	<p>Most open spaces in Monash would comprise a local park or a social/family recreation park (SFR).</p> <p>SFR provide opportunities for social and physical and play activities for people of all age groups and abilities, typically catering for play, picnics, casual ball games, social sports activities, trail activities as well as environmental elements. SFR is a term that is used in open space planning. It essentially means providing a range of quality facilities in a park and ensuring the park is of a sufficient size to be desirable and accessible to as many in the community as possible.</p>
Sport	Areas reserved for organised sporting competitions and sports clubs.
Off-road trail / accessway	Off road, shared paths suitable for walking, cycling and other activities such as skating other non-motorised wheeled toys/ recreation vehicles and wheelchairs. These do not include on-road bicycle lanes or footpaths for pedestrian use only; although on-road bicycle lanes are considered as part of broader cycle network planning.

APPENDICES

Table 2. Definition of ‘Contributory’ Open Space Functions¹

Open Space Functions	Definition
Play	Small, single-use areas that are primarily play equipment.
Relaxation / contemplation	Open space with some but minimal recreational infrastructure such as seats and paths, viewing areas or interpretative signage - that are primarily green or natural areas with high environmental quality, providing for relaxation, contemplation / escape.
Conservation / cultural or biological heritage	Areas managed primarily for the protection of flora and fauna or biodiversity. These may include conservation areas, national park, flora reserves, wetland areas, bio links and carbon sinks. These may accommodate recreational opportunities such as walking or viewing and hence include trails, seats, and interpretative signage, paths, bird hides etc.
Visual amenity / look out	Areas principally providing visual relief from urban surroundings, enhancing the amenity of streetscapes or for civic pride, restorative values or respite. Areas dedicated to viewing scenery, or to protect view sheds, ridgelines or skylines.
Memorial park / cemetery / remembrance garden	Parks or gardens (or avenues of honour) dedicated to the memory of people or reserved for the protection, or interpretation of significant trees, gardens or buildings reflecting European settlement or indigenous cultural heritage or events, e.g. Shrine of remembrance, cemeteries, and memorial / peace parks.
Water based recreation	A waterway corridor, the beach / ocean foreshore, open water body or lake, where water is the dominant landscape and the use is predominantly for water based recreation.
Community garden	These areas are designed for community horticulture and may include communal herb, fruit and vegetable and wine growing, or a collection of individual garden allotments. These may also include some areas for animal husbandry such as chicken coups.

APPENDICES

Table 3. Open Space Catchment Hierarchy Definitions

Catchment Hierarchy	Definition
Local	Open space predominantly serving the immediate surrounding neighbourhood. These service daily and weekly needs and short stays and are generally accessed by walking or cycling from surrounding areas.
District	Open space predominantly serving a suburb or multiple neighbourhoods and where residents are unlikely to access via walking alone (i.e. by driving, catching public transport or cycling). These are generally larger areas than a local facility that provide a greater diversity of facilities to support longer stays and encourage social gatherings and visitor numbers.
Regional	Open space predominantly serving the whole municipality or larger area. These may attract significant visitor numbers, including tourists and typically would include some unique attraction, a diversity of facilities or existence of flora and fauna species that would not necessarily be available to every municipality.

APPENDICES

Table 4. Landscape Setting Type

Landscape Setting Type	Definition
Lawn / managed turf	Areas of mown turf managed for sports, aesthetic purposes, picnics or ball games.
Bushland / forest	Area of trees typically indigenous or native vegetation with two or more storeys including canopy trees.
Cultivated garden	An area cultivated for food or ornamental or exotic flowering plants, typically including garden beds.
Treed parkland	Parkland with scattered trees throughout and some open areas. Generally on trees and grass.
Plaza / paved / hard court area	An open space that is predominantly sealed or paved -such as a plaza or square, although trees and other landscape features may be provided. May include areas with specialised sports surfaces such as tennis or synthetics surfaces -where this is the dominant setting type.
Open grassed area	Typically not lawn, but open grass areas that may not be irrigated. May be wetland. May have boundary planting – but are largely open or cleared.
Water body	An open space where the water body is the dominant feature.

APPENDICES

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