



Brimbank
City Council



Sports Facility Development Plan

Updated 2023



Acknowledgements

Brimbank City Council respectfully acknowledges and recognises the Wurundjeri and Bunurong Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of this land and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

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Foreword

Sport plays a key role in enhancing physical, social, and mental health. Participating in sport encourages a person to lead a healthier lifestyle. Brimbank City Council recognises the critical role that sport plays in the community and has a responsibility to encourage participation in sport by planning and delivering appropriate facilities. While such facilities are used by Brimbank's sporting associations, clubs, and schools for formal competitions and training, they are important for all residents and community groups who use them for informal games and play.

It is critical that sports facilities are well planned, well managed, appropriately located, and satisfy the needs of the Brimbank community. Brimbank residents place a high value on sport and sporting achievement. Increasing participation in sport and recreation is a key priority for Brimbank City Council.

Brimbank City Council's Sports Facility Development Plan explores ways to create quality sport and recreation facilities. The aim of this plan is to give people of all ages, abilities and genders every opportunity to participate in their chosen activities. This includes giving the entire community an opportunity to be involved by focusing on access issues for traditionally disadvantaged groups, and by providing facilities that encourage greater participation by girls, women and gender diverse people.

New and updated sport and recreation facilities are an important part of getting more people, more active, more often. By providing accessible, affordable and high-quality sport and recreation facilities, Brimbank City Council is offering residents more opportunities to get active and involved in their communities. These opportunities are critical in assisting with addressing the significant health and wellbeing challenges faced by the Brimbank Community which have been identified in the recent Growing Brimbank research.

Brimbank City Council recognises and appreciates, the vital role of volunteers in the continued delivery and growth of sport across the City. Council also recognises the importance of providing gender neutral and universal sports facilities that encourages participation in a sports club setting.

This Plan provides opportunities for Council to work collaboratively with State and Federal Government, sporting associations, local clubs, and local communities on essential projects to create new facilities and to redevelop existing sporting and recreation infrastructure.

Creating new sporting facilities and developing existing sites will address many of the community's needs.

However, to ensure the sustainability of Brimbank's facilities, other strategies must be implemented. These include developing the management of sports facilities, working with sports clubs to improve the current use of facilities, and identifying opportunities for greater cooperation and co-sharing between clubs.

This Plan is intended to be a live and evolving document that provides direction for ongoing financial commitments and timely needs-based community facility development. As a result, a current update of this document has been carried out in 2023 to ensure the direction and priorities that are set out continue to respond to local community sporting needs.

1. About this plan



This Sports Facility Development Plan (the Plan) contains a comprehensive strategy for the management and development of sport and recreation facilities in Brimbank. This Plan identifies the key sporting infrastructure challenges posed by recreation participation trends and, population and demographic changes in Brimbank, and presents solutions for these challenges within the constraints of the likely available budget. The scope of this plan includes

- Council owned indoor and outdoor sports facilities.
- Council managed school facilities on Education Department land.
- School facilities where an agreement with Council is in place.

Outside of the scope of this plan are:

- Privately owned sports facilities
- Commercial leases linked to Electronic Gaming Machines
- Leisure Centres
- Golf Courses

This Plan maintains a focus on high-level social and health outcomes. As such it aims to support participation in physical activity by improving the quality of access to, and the provision and promotion of, sport and recreation facilities.

The overarching aim of this Plan is to identify Brimbank's sports facility development needs for the next 10 years (2023- 2033) and provide direction on how best to manage the identified gaps of provision.

The 2023 update of the Plan includes the incorporation of the Indoor Sports Facilities Feasibility Study 2020 which provides evidence and strategic directions for Council on the future planning and provision of indoor sports facilities. The Feasibility Study focusses predominantly on indoor sports courts that are currently being used or will be required by Brimbank residents and sporting clubs in the future. The needs of key users of indoor sporting facilities such as basketball, netball, badminton, volleyball, table tennis and futsal have been considered to support recommendations. The inclusion of this study will result in Council having one Plan for sports related capital works.

The 2023 update also responds to Victoria's Gender Equality Act 2020 which requires councils to consider and promote gender equality, including undertaking gender impact assessments on policies, programs and services that have a direct and significant impact on the public. As such a Gender Impact Assessment process has been included in the development of the 2023 Plan that aims to create better and fairer outcomes and ensure all people have access to opportunities and resources. In addition it considers the Victorian State Governments Fair Access Policy and Fair Access Principles:

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

These principles align closely with the 2023 Plan principles and policy direction Brimbank Council has established.

It is intended as a practical guide that identifies at a high level:

- Key strategic planning issues and policy gaps that need to be addressed, and solutions to be implemented, during the life of the plan.
- The ongoing annual capital works allocations required to ensure that the redevelopment of Council's existing sports facilities, and the development of new facilities, can occur in a timely manner.

This Plan provides an indication of the expected future growth of various key local sports and therefore facility needs. It considers the impact of COVID-19 on sport and emphasises the importance of providing facilities to enable the community to be active. The findings are based on advice from local sports clubs, associations and the best sports and community growth projections available at the time of production of this report. This Plan also aims to:

- Improve the health and wellbeing of the Brimbank community through the provision of accessible sporting facilities across the City
- Identify current and future sporting trends to ensure the adequate provision of sports facilities in Brimbank in the future
- Support and encourage sports participation by all
- Develop partnerships with local schools, neighbouring municipalities, and other organisations for the future development of sports facilities
- Ensure the adequate allocation of resources for the future development of suitable sports facilities
- Provide a rationale and clear framework for the prioritisation of future sports facilities
- Identify new and potential sports facility developments to support the future growth of specified sports throughout the municipality
- Ensure that Council's investment in sporting facilities represents value for money.

This Plan is divided into the following five sections:

1. **About this plan**
2. **Providing sporting opportunities in Brimbank**
3. **Assessing current sporting trends and needs**
4. **Facility development**
5. **Future Actions**

Brimbank City Council has a strong commitment to supporting and developing sport as an integral part of its broader community development, health, and wellbeing approach. Council is focused on ensuring that the whole community can participate in leisure activities, including a broad range of sport and recreation activities. Local-level community sport is an important focus because of its capacity to promote active, healthy lifestyles and community participation.



Community consultation

Development of this Sports Facility Development Plan has included a significant level of community consultation and engagement over the past decade. Consultation with local sporting clubs and the Brimbank community has been ongoing since 2011 and has been a five-stage approach.

Stage 1 – Establishment

The purpose of Stage 1 in 2012 was to explore both current and projected sports club membership data and to explore issues and barriers to the growth of Brimbank sports clubs. This included club surveys and focus group workshops with Council's sports club networks and sporting associations. The Draft Sports Facility Development Plan and all supporting documentation were made available for community review. A community information session was also held to provide interested community members with information about the Draft Sports Facility Development Plan ahead of Stage 2 Engagement.

Stage 2 – Engagement

The focus of Stage 2 in 2012 was community engagement through 'community discussion workshops' and written community feedback. The workshops featured a presentation by Council Officers and opportunities for community members to have input into the Draft Sports Facility Development Plan. The sessions were supported by a range of media and written communications including advertising in local newspapers, a mail out to all Brimbank sports clubs, content on Council's website, and 'frequently asked questions' sheets.

Stage 3 – Development

In Stage 3 in 2012, community engagement feedback was incorporated into the Plan, giving rise to key amendments as follows:

- A new Facility Assessment Matrix was developed based on detailed feedback. Projects were assessed accordingly and ranked in order of priority.
- Sports growth trends were updated to reflect additional data provided by sporting associations and local clubs.

Stage 4 – Continuous improvement

The fourth stage of reviewing this document was carried out in 2016. This stage in 2016 included reviewing all sporting trends and assessing the current sporting needs of the community to ensure that the priorities set out in this plan continue to reflect the community's needs. Following the review and update of this document the plan was made available for public comment prior to finalisation and adoption by Council.

Stage 5 – Update

The 2018 and 2023 updates considers detailed functional and compliance audits of sports facilities and provides the latest affiliated membership data provided by relevant State Sporting Associations. This new data has been used to assess, and prioritise, projects and inform the Facility Development Matrix and rolling funding programs currently offered by Council.

Broader participation, facility development trends and guidelines released by the sports sector have also been considered in the updated document. The 2023 update also included a Gender Impact Assessment to ensure the Plan will meet different needs of women, men and gender diverse people. This step is to create better and fairer outcomes, and make sure all people have equal access to opportunities and resources. Consultation of the draft Plan proactively sought feedback from women, people who identify as LGBTIQ+, people with a disability and young people.

The 2023 update also includes the consolidation of the Indoor Sports Facilities Feasibility Study 2020, which was developed utilising staged approach as outlined for the Plan.

The key principles

Providing the community with access to inclusive, well developed sports facilities and pathways plays a key role in achieving Council's strong commitment to supporting and developing sport as an integral part of its broader community development, health and wellbeing approach. This provision is underpinned by the following key principles, which will guide the future provision of sports facilities in Brimbank.

Participation

This Plan and Council's future provision of sports facilities in Brimbank is underpinned by a desire to encourage the participation in sports for the overall health and wellbeing of the entire Brimbank community.

Community development

Council aims to promote community growth and development by providing places for people to gather and participate in a range of sporting activities to encourage participation in physical activity and foster social interaction.

Affordability

It is important to ensure that sports facilities and activities are affordable so that all sectors of the Brimbank community can afford to participate in sporting activities. Inclusivity requires the provision of sporting opportunities for lower income residents. Council is committed to providing low cost sporting opportunities to the community to ensure that those experiencing disadvantage can participate in sport.

Accessibility

All new and upgraded sports facilities must be accessible to as many people as possible and have a focus on universal design. Facilities must provide a welcoming and inclusive environment for all participants regardless of their gender, age, ability, disability, cultural background, sexual orientation/identity or any other differentiating factors that contribute to the diversity of our communities.

Equitable usage

Future developments must ensure sports facilities are equitably distributed across the City. This will guarantee fair and equitable access to Brimbank sports facilities for all people and groups within the community. A focus on creating an equitable distribution of sports facilities and developing physical linkages between them must be maintained.

A focus on gender equitable facilities is also of high priority to Council. This aligns with Victoria's Gender Equality Act 2020 and its requirements including the Victorian State Governments Fair Access Policy.

It is critical that all sports facilities that are upgraded or built new as planned within this document to incorporate gender neutral design.

Flexibility

By ensuring that future sporting facilities are, where appropriate, flexibly designed, they will be able to be used by a range of community groups and for a variety of activities.

Sustainability

Environmental and financial sustainability is a key consideration for all future developments. Future sports facilities will be designed and managed to ensure such sustainability.

Value for money

All recommendations will have a focus on cost efficiency. Proposed sports facilities will be cost efficient, fit for purpose, and give value for money for Council and other potential funding providers.

This Sports Facility Development Plan is aligned to the following current Council Policies and Plans that together define the direction and objectives of Council.

- Together We Are Brimbank Plan incorporating the Community Vision 2040, Council Plan 2021-2025 and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- Brimbank Social Justice Charter
- Brimbank Community Services and Infrastructure Plan 2018 - 2038
- Fairness, Equality and Respect Strategy 2019-2023
- Brimbank Climate Emergency Plan
- Environmentally Sustainable Design Framework 2017
- Creating Better Parks - Open Space and Playground Policy and Plan
- Growing Brimbank - The Brimbank Collaboration
- Brimbank Physical Activity Strategy

Community Profile

As stated, it is a primary aim of this Plan to facilitate the provision of adequate sports facilities for the improvement of the overall health and wellbeing of the Brimbank Community. As such, community interests, needs and aspirations, actual participation trends, and demographic characteristics have guided the development of this plan, and should inform future sports facility development decisions.

Age

The estimated resident population of Brimbank in 2021 was 196,712, with an equal percentage of males and females. According to the 2021 Census data, over half (52.9%) were under the age of 40 years. Compared with the Western Region, Brimbank had a lower percentage of residents aged under 25 years (30.0% vs. 32.7%), and almost the equivalent to Greater Melbourne (30.4%) and Victoria (29.9%).

Over one-fifth (22.1%) of residents in Brimbank were aged 60 years and over, compared with 16.6% for the Western Region, 20.2% for Greater Melbourne, and 22.4% for Victoria.

Between 2021 and 2031, Brimbank is expected to have grown in population by approximately 14,542 additional people, to 211,254 by 2031. By 2031, Brimbank is forecast to have 15,541 children aged 5 to 11 years (an expected decrease of 880 since 2021 for children in this age group). Sunshine North and Sunshine West are expected to have the largest increases of children in this cohort (an additional 297 and 115 respectively), whilst Deer Park and Derrimut are expected to have largest decreases of children aged 5 to 11 years (505 and 471 respectively).

In relation to secondary school aged children (12 to 17 years of age), Brimbank is forecast to have 14,481 in this cohort (an expected increase of 964 since 2021). Sunshine North and St Albans North are expected to have the largest increases of children in this cohort (additional 196 and 153 respectively), whilst Sydenham-Hillside and Cairnlea are expected to have the largest decreases (101 and 93 respectively).

The tertiary education and independence years age cohort (18 to 24 years) is forecast to have 20,930 residents by 2031 (an increase of approximately 2,574 in this age group since 2021). Sunshine is expected to have the largest increase of residents in this age group (additional 651 residents), followed by Sunshine North (additional 386 residents), whilst Taylors Lakes – Keilor Lodge and Delahey are expected to have the largest decreases (193 and 134 respectively).

The prime working age years of 25 to 59 years is forecast to have 101,452 residents by 2031 (an increase of approximately 6,878 in this age group since 2021). Sunshine is expected to have the largest increase of residents in this age group (additional 2,212 residents), followed by Sunshine North (additional 1,691 residents), whilst Delahey is expected to have the largest decrease (decrease of 683 residents, followed by Taylors Lakes – Keilor Lodge (decrease of 509 residents).

Brimbank is forecast to experience a gradual ageing of the population in the next decade, with those residents aged 65 years and over forecast to account for close to one-fifth (35,701 residents; 16.9%) of the total forecast population of Brimbank by 2031 (an expected increase of approximately 4,496 residents in this age group since 2021).

Implications

Research shows that people are most active and are more likely to engage in formal sporting activities between the ages of 5 to 39 years. Ausplay (the national participation data for the sports sector) found that the peak age group for participation in sport related activities is 15-17 years (88%), followed by 18-24 years (68%). There is a slight drop off in participation in the 25-34 and 35-44 year age cohorts (65%) and a fairly significant decline in participation beyond these age groups.



Socio-economic profile

According to the Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD), Brimbank is the second most disadvantaged municipality in the Greater Melbourne area, and the third most disadvantaged in Victoria. However, the level of disadvantage is unevenly spread throughout the municipality. Compared to areas with low socio-economic disadvantage (higher IRSD), areas with high levels of socio-economic disadvantage – such as Kings Park, St Albans North and St Albans South – are likely to have a higher proportion of people: unemployed, on low incomes, with low educational attainment, and working in relatively low skilled jobs. These areas are also more likely to have a higher proportion of households with no access to a motor vehicle and no internet connection.

According to the Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD), the levels of disadvantage in 2016 were unevenly distributed across the suburbs of Brimbank. The areas with the highest level of disadvantage were Kings Park, St Albans North and St Albans South, and the areas with the lowest level of disadvantage were Keilor and Taylors Lakes – Keilor Lodge.

Implications

Affordable access to sporting activities is vital to the Brimbank community. The provision of facilities that can be accessed by public transport and activities that are low-cost will enable involvement by some residents that otherwise would not be able to participate in sporting activities.



Health in Brimbank

In 2017, the percentage (38.3%) of adult residents in Brimbank undertaking sufficient physical activity to confer a health benefit, was significantly lower than the percentage for the West Division (48.8%) and Victoria (50.9%). Women in Brimbank in particular were reporting significant levels of sedentary behaviours (10.4%), compared to men in Brimbank (5.2%) and women in Victoria (2.8%).

In 2020, the percentage (23.9%) of adults in Brimbank classified as obese, was higher than the percentage of adults in the West Division (21.7%) and Victoria (20.9%), however, the differences were not significant.

According to the 2021 Census data, over one-quarter (28.3%) of Brimbank residents reported having at least one long-term health condition, compared with 26.9% in the Western Region, 29.5% in Greater Melbourne and 31.4% in Victoria.

Implications

Physical activity has been identified as an important contributor to maintaining good overall health. The amount of time spent on physical activity has long been a focus for research and policy makers. Low levels of activity are identified as a risk factor for a range of health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes and osteoporosis, as well as being a strong contributor to levels of obesity.

Sports facility provision provides opportunities for the community to participate in both informal and formal sports activities and enables the community to become more active and lead healthier lives.

Given the comparative poor health of Brimbank residents and their lower participation rates in sport, it is important that Council ensures there is sufficient provision of sporting facilities across the City for residents to access sports clubs and sporting programs.

It is also important that there is an opportunity for the community to participate in informal sporting activities by providing sports facilities that allow for unorganised sports participation such as casual and social games.

Cultural diversity

According to the 2021 Census, over half (57.3%) of Brimbank residents spoke a language other than English at home, and there were more than 160 different languages spoken. Brimbank had a far smaller proportion (36.3%) of residents speaking English only, compared to the Western Region (50.8%) and Greater Melbourne (61.1%).

Implications

The cultural diversity of the Brimbank community means that there are varied sporting needs to consider when providing sports facilities in Brimbank. Particular sports have higher participation rates in Brimbank than the state average. For example, there has been a significant increase in soccer participation in the municipality due to the overall increase in the migrant population and African-born residents specifically.

Traditionally, new migrants are more likely to participate in sport if they are able to do so with people from their own culture. This is particularly relevant for people from emerging communities who want to feel safe and welcome in their new environments.

Council needs to provide culturally appropriate facilities and programs that cater for this diverse community. Council should support these groups by providing facilities that allow for cultural groups to play sport together in the short term with the aim of integrating them into the wider sporting community in the medium to long term.

It is therefore critical for Council to require existing sports clubs who operate on Council facilities or receive financial support to become more inclusive and welcoming to the diverse cultural groups in Brimbank.

COVID-19

Brimbank is one of Australia's most culturally diverse municipalities. As a result of waves of migration over many years, a high proportion of Brimbank residents were born overseas, many in countries where English is not the predominant language. Some of Brimbank's neighbourhoods experience complex disadvantage, intergenerational vulnerability and a lack of resources that pre-date the pandemic. These conditions made the community especially vulnerable to both the health effects and the economic impact of the global COVID-19 Pandemic. Brimbank is Melbourne's second most disadvantaged LGA and, at the height of the pandemic, had the second highest number of COVID-19 cases in Australia (2,001). Of the 600 aged care deaths in Victoria by September 2020, 64 (more than one in ten) were in Brimbank facilities.

Implications

State Government enforced COVID-19 restrictions had a significant effect on Brimbank Sports clubs with many seasons significantly impacted affecting the ability of clubs to provide important health and social connections to the Brimbank community. In addition, financial pressure mounted on Brimbank residents which impacted on their ability to continue with sports club involvement in the immediate COVID-19 recovery phase. It is important that Council continues to invest in sporting infrastructure in order to support sports clubs in providing as many sporting opportunities to Brimbank residents as possible.



2. Providing Sporting Opportunities in Brimbank



This Plan aims to facilitate the improved health, wellbeing, and community cohesion of the people of Brimbank by growing and supporting the community's participation in sport. As such, this Plan outlines strategies to ensure the provision of sporting facilities and opportunities for community members of all abilities, backgrounds, genders, ages, and experience. These strategies include both the optimisation of existing facilities and the development of new sporting amenities, including a regional multi-sport facility.

Progress to date

Since the adoption of the Sports Facility Development Plan in 2012, Council's investment in sporting facilities has been significant. Total expenditure on renewing and upgrading sports pavilions and outdoor playing surfaces is in excess of \$96 million. The Plan has also provided Council with a strong evidence base to source external funding in the delivery of the identified projects. Since 2012, Council has been successful in securing \$11,481,278 of external funding. A breakdown of the expenditure and external grant income over the financial years since 2012 is as follows;

Table 1: Sports facility expenditure

Financial year	Total expenditure	Total grant income
2012/2013	\$6,393,177	
2013/2014	\$6,437,914	
2014/2015	\$10,285,274	\$650,000
2015/2016	\$6,517,796	\$193,000
2016/2017	\$9,293,042	\$355,230
2017/2018	\$12,437,292	\$144,270
2018/2019	\$8,152,126	\$1,289,371
2019/2020	\$11,331,843	\$250,000
2020/2021	\$2,915,256*	\$350,000
2021/2022	\$13,728,041	\$3,428,998
2022/2023	\$8,943,362#	\$4,820,409

Notes:

* A number of large pavilion projects started in 2020/21 but were completed in 2021/22 where the expenditure was captured

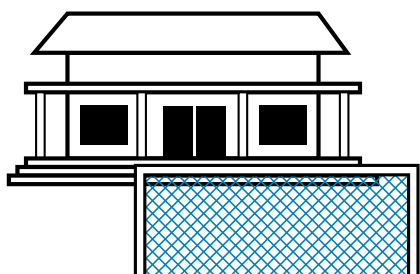
Planned expenditure based on adopted 2022/23 Capital Council budget.

Council has already made considerable progress in dealing with the challenges involved in the provision of sport and recreation facilities in Brimbank since the adoption of the Sports Facility Development Plan

in 2012. The achievements since 2012 listed below provide a solid basis that will maximise the benefits of implementing the Sports Facility Development Plan's recommended actions.

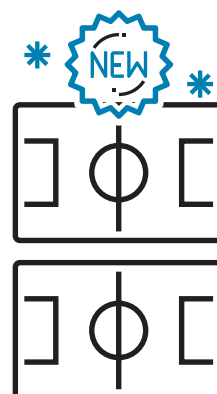
Major Projects

9



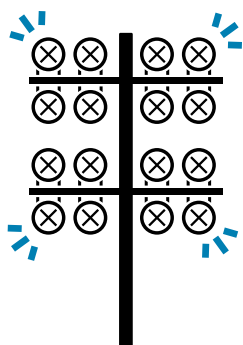
sports pavilion renewals

4



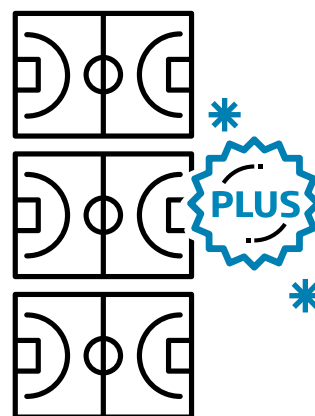
new sportsgrounds

53



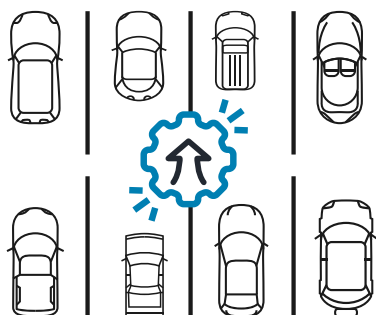
sportsground
lighting upgrades

3



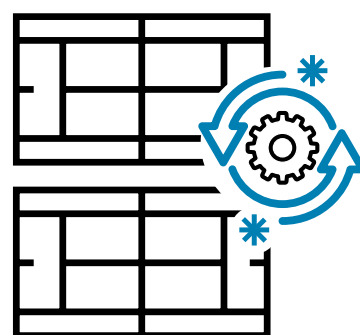
court extension at
Keilor Basketball
Netball Stadium

6



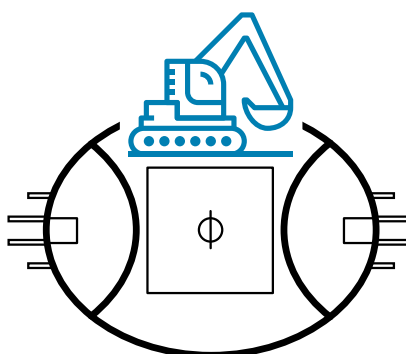
sports facility car
park upgrades

8



tennis court full
reconstruction

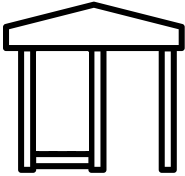
12



sportsground reconstructions

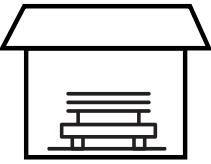
Rolling Program Projects

14




sportsground shade structures installed

29



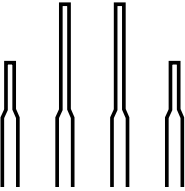
coaches boxes/ players benches upgraded

10



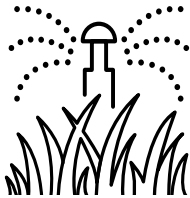
storage refurbishments

36



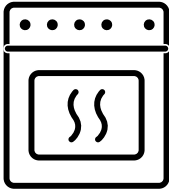
sports grounds with goal posts replaced

14



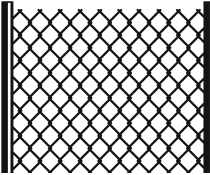
sportsground irrigation systems upgraded

8



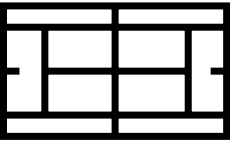
sports pavilion kitchen upgrades

15



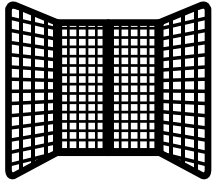
sports reserves perimeter fence upgrades

19



tennis court resurfacing upgrades

6



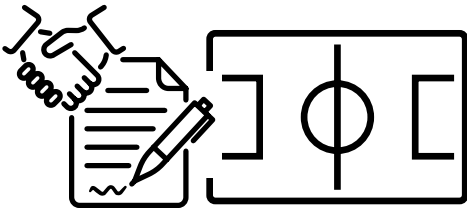
cricket net replacements

11



bin cages installed

1



Joint User Agreement on Copperfields College Soccer Pitch

Policies



Sports Facility Hire, Licences and Leases Agreement Policy (2014)



Community Facilities and Reserves Allocation Policy (2014)



Community Facilities Capital Development Policy (2016)

Facility provision

The key findings of the Sports Facility Development Plan, with respect to facility provision, are as follows.

Sports facilities

Brimbank City Council owns and allocates 54 sports pavilions, 82 playing fields, pitches, diamonds, bocce pistes and greens, 7 indoor courts and 64 outdoor tennis courts.

Sports pavilions

To successfully cater for current and future needs while also actively encouraging more participation and sports development by residents, there needs to be an appropriate provision of sports facilities (fields, courts, greens and pavilions) across Brimbank. A pavilion condition audit was undertaken as part of the development of this Plan in 2011 and provided baseline data. Pavilions were audited again in 2017 and most recently in late 2022 using a customised facility audit tool which collected detailed information on the condition, functionality and compliance of sports pavilions. Key findings and general observations noted across pavilions, were those yet to be updated under the Sports Facility Development Plan were:

- Generally run down with some reaching the end of their useful life
- Disability access in most cases were poor due to the age of the buildings
- Upgrading is required to comply with modern standards
- Lacking a good kiosk/kitchen facilities that comply with modern standards
- Amenities not suitable for female participation

While projects that have been delivered since the development of this Plan have addressed these observations, they continue to be prevalent across Brimbank. Further investment and targeted funding to upgrade sports pavilions will be required to ensure facilities meet the needs of all user groups.



Brimbank's outdoor sports surfaces

The 2022 facility audit included an assessment of all outdoor sporting surfaces and collected information on field of play size, condition, compliance, supporting infrastructure and amenities. Surfaces were given a rating which will be used to assess projects against rolling program criteria.

The audits found sports surfaces:

- Were in reasonably good condition and suitable for local community sport
- Required better drainage to support winter activity
- Had poor quality fencing
- Lacked supporting infrastructure such as seating, weather protection, and shade
- Sub-standard lighting to accommodate training in some cases
- Poor interchange areas.

As outlined in the 'Progress to Date' section, many improvements have been made to Brimbank's sports surfaces and associated infrastructure to address the above issues since the adoption of this Plan. However further investment as per this updated plan is required to ensure the minimum standards of sports surface provision are delivered across all of Brimbank sports surfaces.

Brimbank's Indoor Sports Facilities

The Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium is Council's premier indoor sports facility. Offering six indoor courts, and home to major basketball and netball associations, this facility is heavily utilised by Brimbank residents and visitors from surrounding municipalities.

The West Sunshine Community Centre is the only other indoor sports facility owned and managed by Council. This centre exists to deliver physical activity and educational opportunities to Brimbank residents.

In addition, Brimbank residents also require access to school, universities and private facilities located within and outside the municipality to accommodate their need for indoor sports facilities.

A process to identify the current provision, access, hierarchy, use, and compliance of all indoor sports facilities within the western region was undertaken as part of the Indoor Sports Feasibility Study 2020. The following is a summary of key highlights from the review and audit of current indoor court provision.

- 188 indoor courts were identified across the western region, including courts in Brimbank, Maribyrnong, Hume, Melton, Wyndham, Hobsons Bay and Moonee Valley.
- 39 full size indoor courts were identified within the City of Brimbank across a total of 29 venues. This includes 7 Council owned courts, 28 courts on school or university land and 4 courts on privately owned land.
- Of the 29 venues in Brimbank, 27 are local level (1-2 courts), 1 is district (3-5 courts) and 1 regional (6+).
- 11 venues and 20 courts in Brimbank are utilised by Brimbank sporting user groups.
- 19 of the 23 school / university venues offer community access.
- Four venues have undersized courts or halls which were identified but generally have no community access.
- 14 courts in Brimbank were audited including Council and school courts.

Venues used by Brimbank groups	No. of courts	Owner	Primary use
Brimbank Anglican Church	1	Private	Keilor Basketball Association
Cairnlea Park Primary School	1	Education	Malayalee Sports and Cultural Association
Copperfield College - Sydenham	3	Education	Keilor Basketball Association
Deer Park North Primary School	1	Education	Keilor Basketball Association
Derrimut Sports Stadium	2		Keilor Basketball Association
Holy Eucharist Primary School	1	Private	Table Tennis
Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium	6	Council	Keilor Basketball Association, St Albans and Caroline Springs Netball Association
Loops Table Tennis Centre	1	Private	Health, Wellness and Table Tennis
Overnewton Anglican Community College	2	Private	Keilor Basketball Association
Stevensville Primary School	1	Education	Table Tennis
West Sunshine Community Centre	1	Council	Volleyball, Basketball, Netball (training only)

Basketball is a main user of indoor courts in Brimbank. The Keilor Basketball Association also access indoor courts in Melton and Moonee Valley City Council's to accommodate training and competition needs. Indoor courts at Buckley Park College, Keilor Park Primary School, St Bernard's College, St Christopher's Primary School (Moonee Valley) and Sydenham Hillside Primary School (Melton) are all used by the Keilor Basketball Association.

The availability of courts and development of other indoor sports such as netball, badminton, table tennis, volleyball and futsal is limited due to the high use by basketball.

A detailed condition and compliance audit was conducted at Council's two indoor sports facilities (KBNS and West Sunshine Community Centre) and the following non-Council venues.

- Brimbank Anglican Church
- Derrimut Stadium
- Kings Park Primary School
- St Albans Heights Primary School
- St Albans Meadows Primary School
- Taylors Lakes Primary School

Facilities were assessed against relevant sporting facility standards and guidelines to determine compliance levels. A summary of key audit finding is provided below.

- At KBNS courts 4,5 and 6 were rated as excellent, with courts 1, 2 and 3 rated good.
- Other courts rated good were Brimbank Anglican Church, Kings Park Primary School, St Albans Heights Primary School and St Albans Meadows Primary School.
- Both courts at the Derrimut Sports Stadium and the single court at Taylors Lakes Primary School were rated as moderate.
- No venue had a dedicated all gender or unisex change room.
- Two venues had no home change rooms, 5 had a good to excellent condition rating for home change rooms and 1 had a moderate rating.

The following court surface rating definitions were used:

- Excellent - as new
- Good - some wear
- Moderate - considerable wear but still playable
- Poor - multiple quality issues identified
- Very poor - significant quality issues identified

The following table provides a summary of primary and secondary use and compliance information for each venue based on the audit findings. (Please note that courts being lined for a sport does not always mean that sport is at that facility).

Venue	Line marking	Compliance	Other
KBNS	Basketball, netball, badminton, volleyball	Courts 1, 2 & 3 not netball compliant (short run-offs)	
West Sunshine Community Centre	Basketball, netball, badminton, futsal, volleyball, indoor hockey	Court not netball compliant (short run-offs)	
Brimbank Anglican Church	Basketball, netball	Court is compliant	No player change rooms
Derrimut Stadium	Basketball, netball, badminton, futsal	Courts are compliant	
Kings Park PS	Volleyball (training venue only)	Not compliant	No player change rooms
St Albans Heights PS	Basketball, netball, badminton, volleyball	Court not netball compliant (short run-offs)	
St Albans Meadows PS	Basketball, netball, badminton, volleyball	Court not netball compliant (short run-offs)	
Taylors Lakes PS	Basketball, netball	Court not full size	

Sports facility distribution

The distribution of sporting facility provision varies markedly across areas of the municipality, with patterns of distribution linked closely to the era when suburban areas were developed.

Brimbank South Outdoor Facilities

The older Brimbank suburbs, which are concentrated in the southern half of the municipality in the districts of Sunshine and Deer Park, have a reasonably good distribution of small, single field sporting reserves. Generally, there is one sporting reserve located within each large neighbourhood precinct within the Sunshine district (Refer to map on page 19) and the Deer Park district (Refer to map on page 20).

As a result, residents within these areas can comfortably walk to local sporting reserves, with most households located within a 500m radius of a reserve. The majority of these single pitch sporting reserves have unrestricted public access. Therefore, spaces for informal sporting activities are locally accessible.

These types of facilities are ideal for community groups and small clubs to provide local sport and recreation opportunities. There is also particular interest for the use of single field sites from local cultural groups wishing to play informal games and casually use fields for development purposes.

However, many of the reserves are allocated to sporting clubs that use them most weekday evenings and all weekend. Therefore:

- It is difficult for local community groups to access the reserves at night or on weekends for a casual and informal use.
- General public and school access to the reserves is limited to weekday mornings and early afternoons.

Other concerns with single field facilities are that they:

- Do not easily accommodate club growth or the expansion of facilities
- Can be problematic for nearby surrounding residents in terms of noise and intrusion of balls and spectators
- Do not generate economies of scale through the optimal use of pavilions and associated facilities.

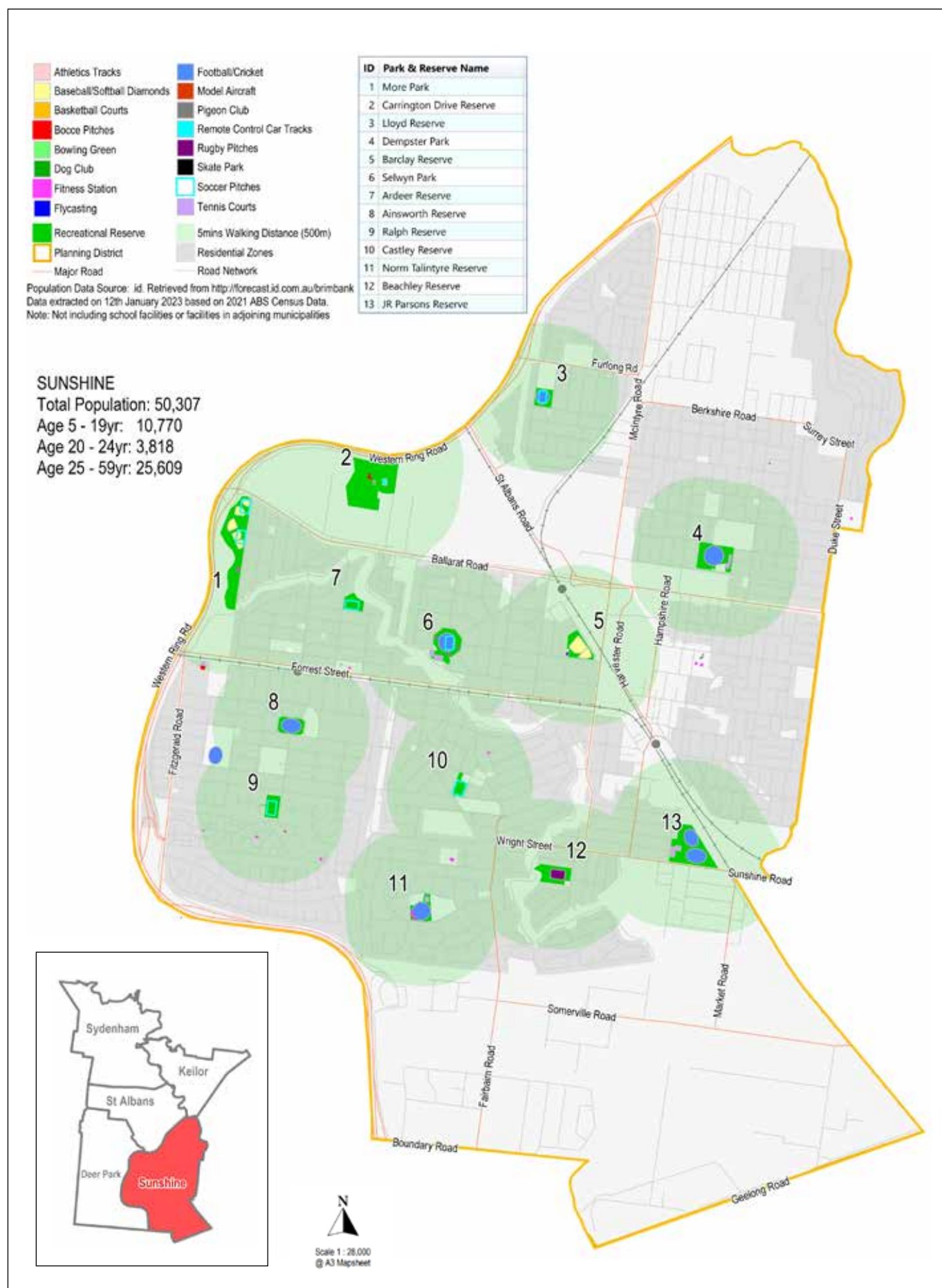
Kevin Flint Memorial Reserve (Cairnlea), Balmoral Park (Derrimut) and Bon Thomas (Deer Park) are the three exceptions in the southern part of the municipality (Refer to map on page 20). Developed in recently constructed suburbs, these reserves comprise multiple playing fields and new, well-designed pavilions.

The St Albans local area draws on reserves from adjoining local areas (Green Gully Reserve and Kevin Flint Memorial Reserve) to augment what are otherwise sparsely distributed local facilities. Many sporting reserves in the St Albans Local Area are single sport, single club facilities (Refer to map on page 21).

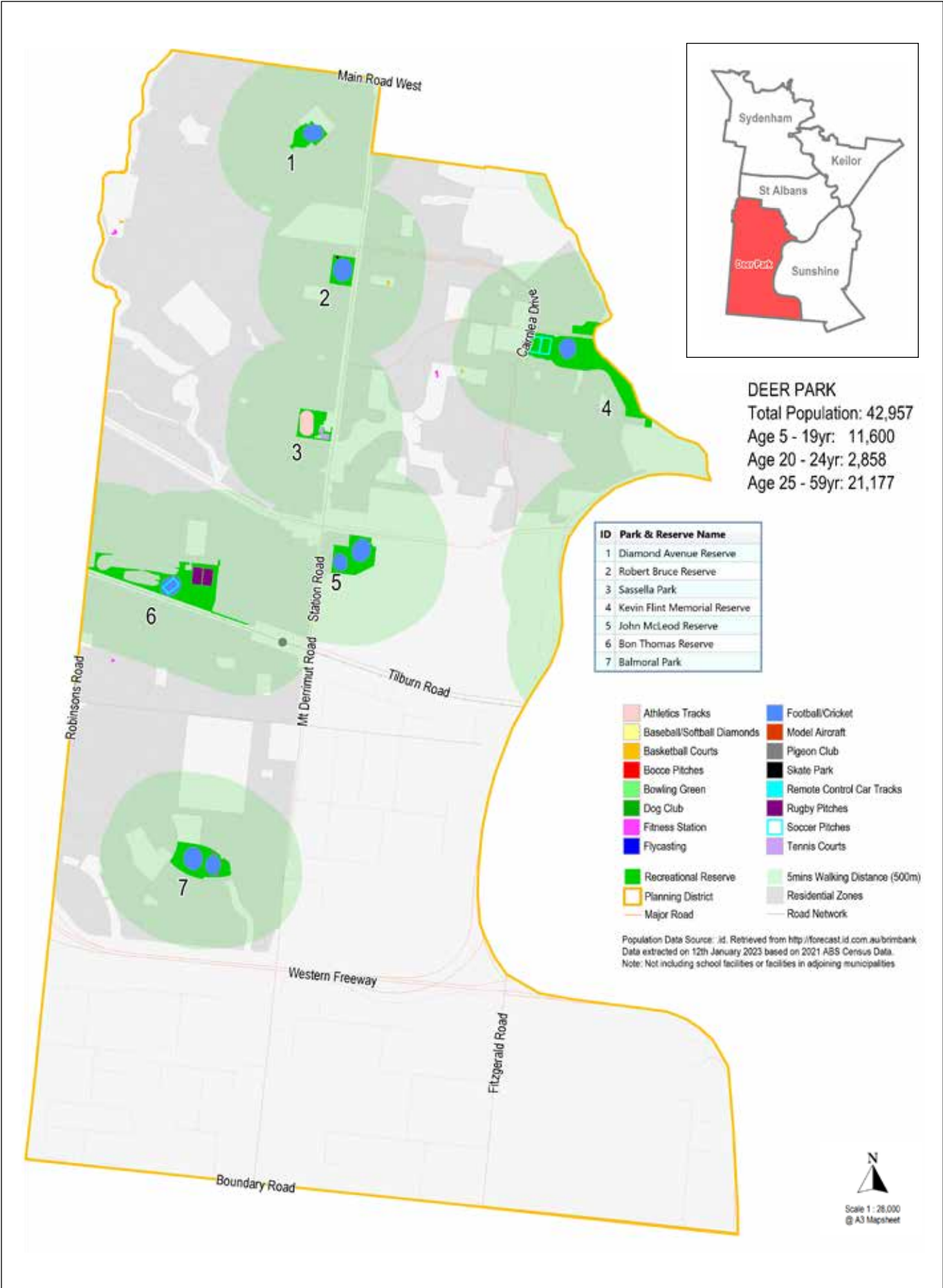


Sunshine Planning District

2023 Demographics Forecast

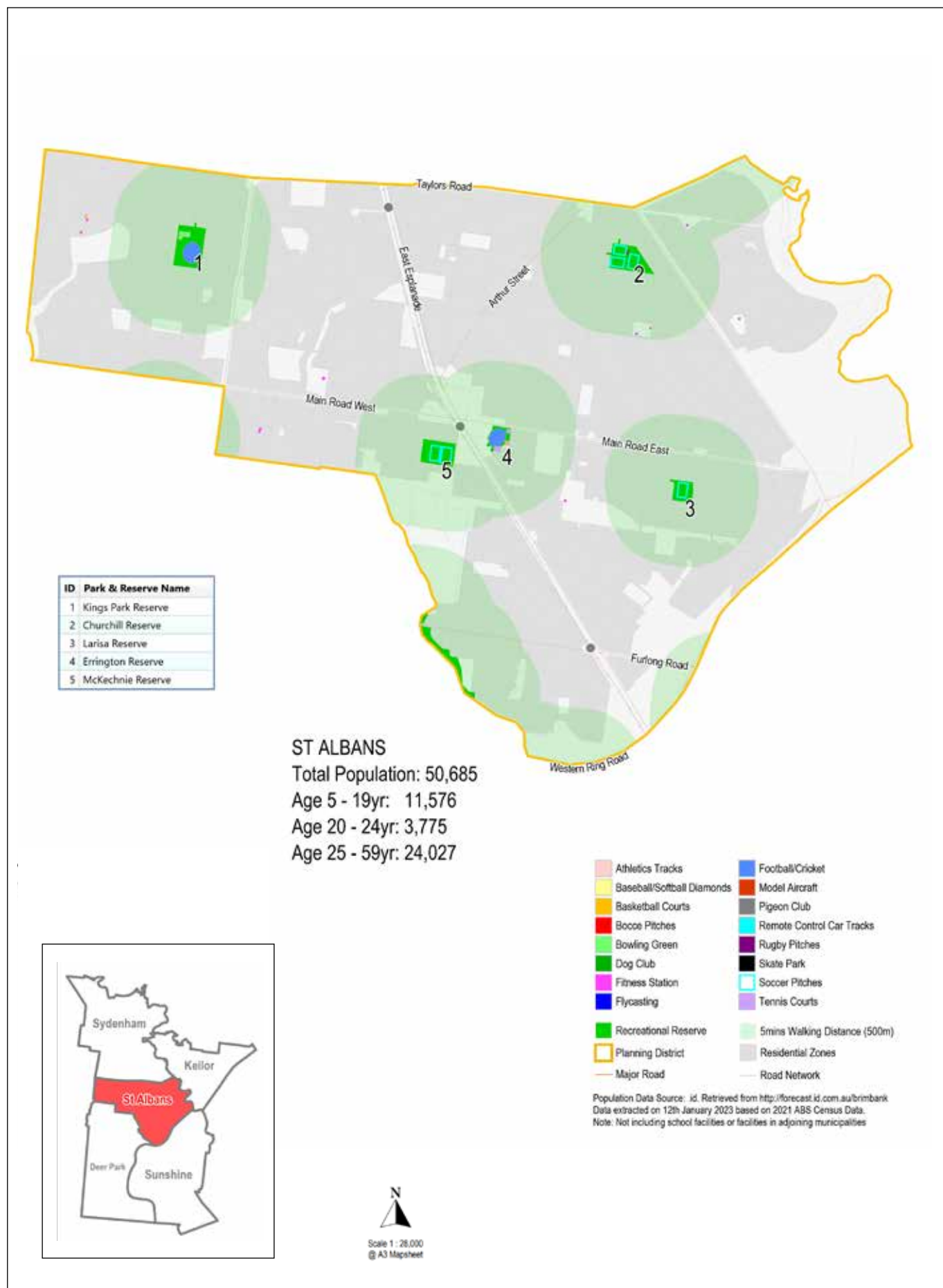


Deer Park Planning District
2023 Demographics Forecast



St Albans Planning District

2023 Demographics Forecast



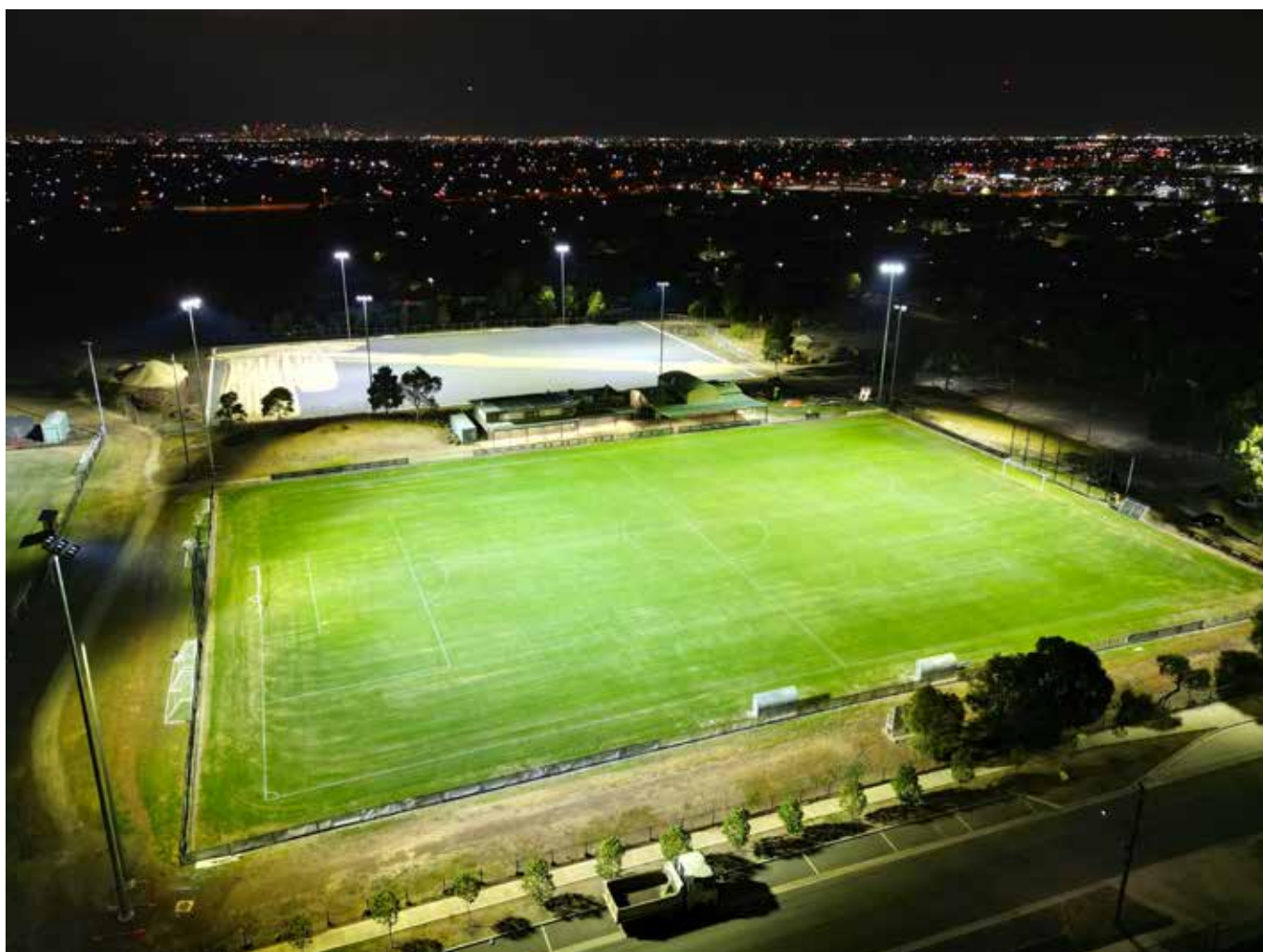
Brimbank North Outdoor Facilities

Sporting facilities in the north of the municipality, the districts of Keilor and Sydenham (Refer to maps on pages 23 and 24), are principally aggregated at two large sporting reserves: Keilor Park Recreation Reserve (Keilor Park) and Green Gully Reserve (Keilor Downs). These large reserves consist of facilities for a range of sporting codes and are home to a number of sporting clubs. These large reserves provide for a broad catchment. Compared to the smaller, single field reserves in the south, these reserves:

- Enable economies of scale to be generated for associated infrastructure (for example, recycled watering systems installed at each reserve to irrigate numerous fields)
- Can accommodate large clubs
- Provide flexibility for the expansion of club memberships
- Accommodate a hierarchy of facilities with varying standards tailored to different levels of sport (from local community based use to premier facilities).

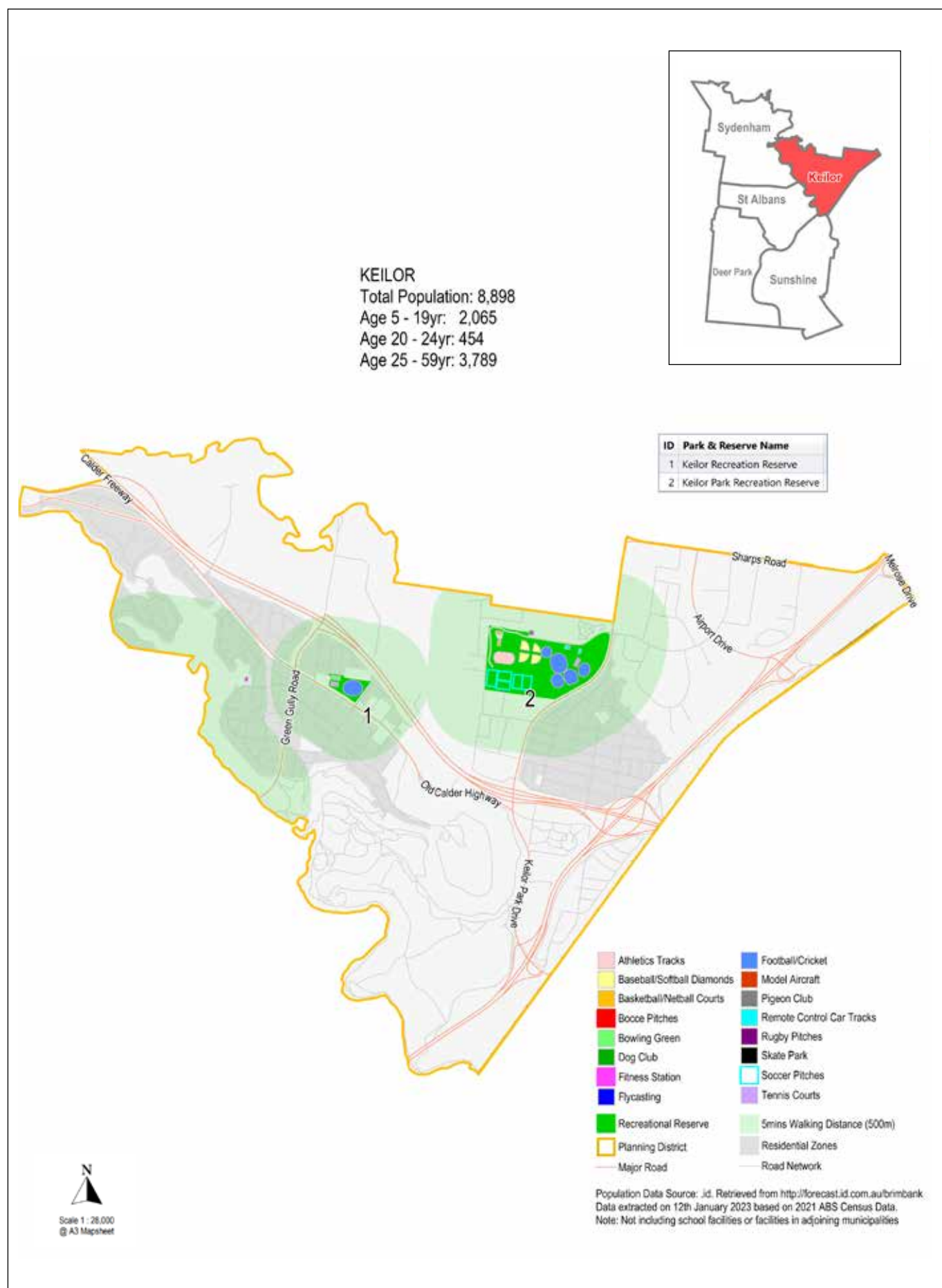
The reserves are of a size that can accommodate indoor facilities, recreational clubs and a range of informal recreational activities (cycling pathways, kick-about spaces, picnic areas and playgrounds) and are, therefore, recreational hubs that provide for a broad sector of the community.

Although five smaller sporting reserves also exist in the northern area (including Keilor Recreation Reserve, Lionheart Reserve and Keilor Lodge Reserve) there is not the local distribution of sporting reserves that is provided in the south. Most residents in the Sydenham local area are not within a reasonable walking distance of a sporting reserve and depend on private motor vehicles to access sporting facilities.



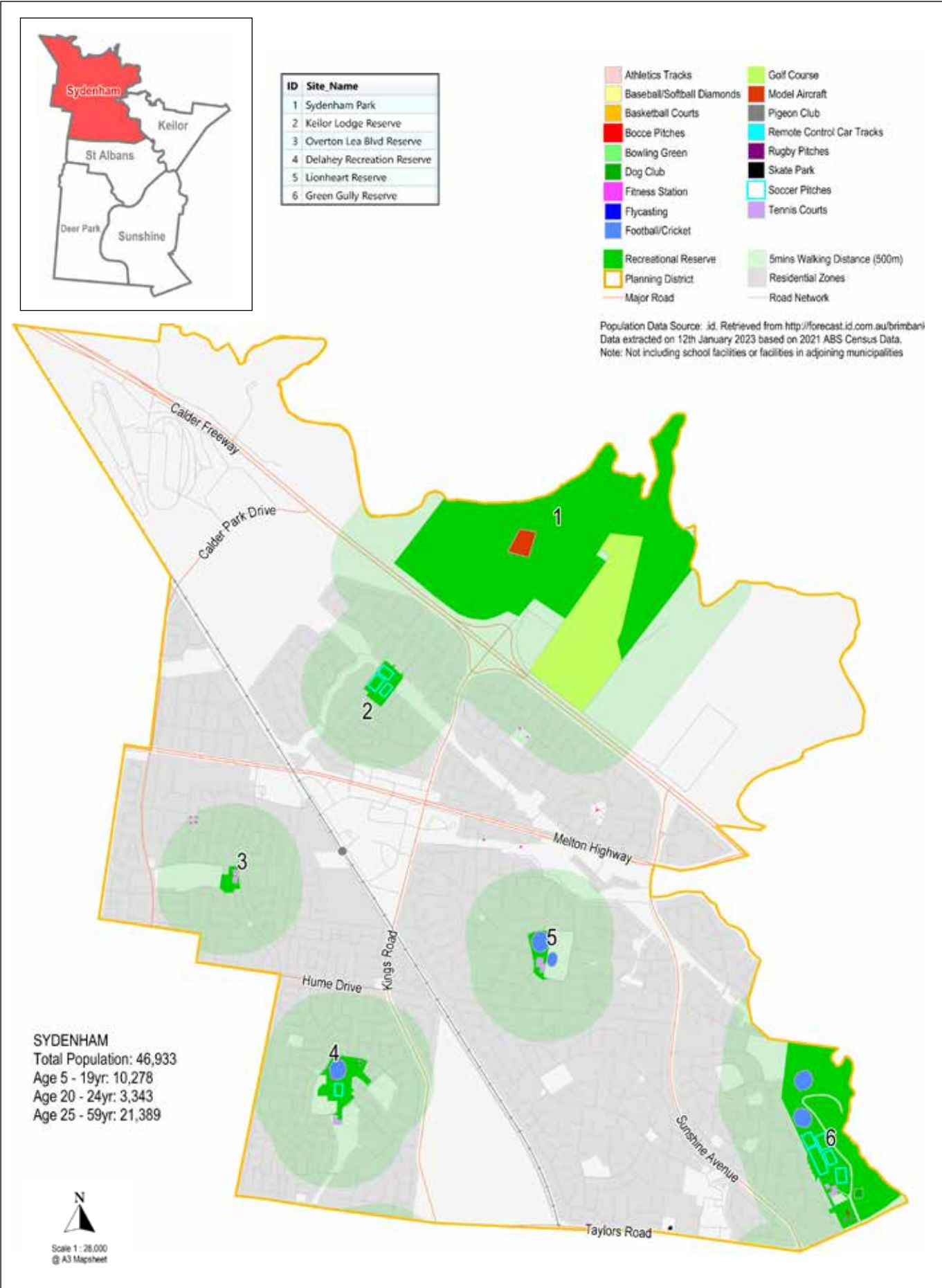
Keilor Planning District

2023 Demographics Forecast



Sydenham Planning District

2023 Demographics Forecast



Brimbank Indoor Facilities

Indoor facilities with multiple courts will generally have a primary catchment radius of 5 km and a secondary catchment radius of 10km. By industry standards it is widely assumed that 75% to 85% of users will reside within a 5 km radius of a facility, with the remaining 15% to 25% coming from areas within the 5 km to 10 km radius.

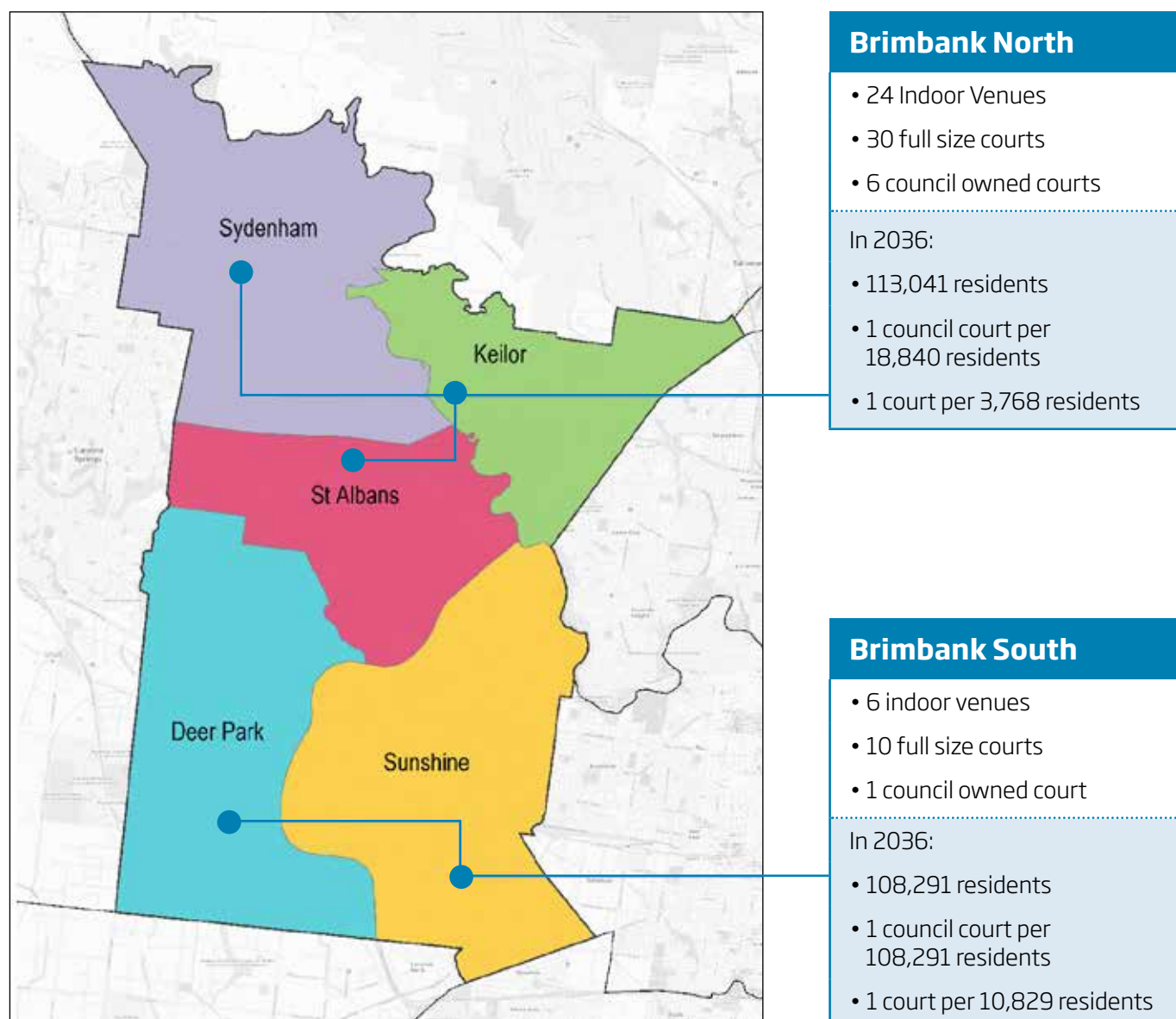
Previous research has indicated that the future viability of indoor stadiums may be affected by the range of facilities that are located within the primary catchment.

A review of the membership base in 2020 of the St Albans Caroline Springs Netball Association confirms that approximately 75% of members live within 5km and 10km of the KBNS and Copperfield College (Sydenham), their two main venues in Brimbank.

Catchment and hierarchy are important elements when planning and developing a sustainable facility. These elements should also be considered alongside the financial viability principle of Council investing only in indoor facilities that provide four or more courts and are located on Council owned land.

There is a specific gap in the current provision of indoor courts in the southern part of the Brimbank municipality, where much of the future population growth is predicted. Sunshine and Sunshine North are the hot spots for growth over the next ten years and will need access additional indoor courts to ensure future residents are adequately serviced. These areas are currently serviced by RecWest in Maribyrnong. Basketball Victoria confirmed the gap in indoor court provision in this area for basketball, and the need for more courts to service the growth of several local basketball associations.

Summary of Brimbank Planning Districts Future Population and Indoor Court Provision



Determining the facilities required for development

Over the life of this Plan, the actual sporting needs of the Brimbank community will continue to evolve as the population, individual sports, sports clubs, facility standards and community expectations change.

The future facility development needs estimates provided in the tables on the following pages are indicative only. The intent is that Brimbank's sporting facility needs should continue to be reviewed and refined over time, through detailed strategic planning taking into consideration the resources (funding, land, etc.) available to Council. The estimates for the number of sports grounds, pitches and courts that are required in Brimbank in the future have been made in consideration of the following factors:

- The popular sports currently being played or are emerging in Brimbank (soccer, AFL, cricket, baseball, softball, lawn bowls, rugby union, rugby league, athletics, tennis, netball, basketball, badminton, volleyball, table tennis)

- The number of clubs, teams and members in each of these sports
- The number of teams and/or players a sports ground, pitch or surface can support
- The principle that there will be no reduction in facility provision for any of these sports
- A common sense approach has been taken in making reasonable estimates - a comparison between what currently exists and the estimated need gives an indication of any shortfall in facilities for soccer, AFL, cricket, baseball, softball, rugby union, rugby league, hockey, lawn bowls and athletics. These estimates are conservative given the lower than average sport participation by Brimbank residents.
- Estimates for tennis, netball, basketball, table tennis, badminton and volleyball are made on population based estimates. Given the lower than average sport participation by Brimbank residents, these numbers are likely to be overestimated.

Based on the current trend analysis completed as part of the updated plan, the following tables identify the estimated current and projected future needs for sporting facilities:

Table 2: Team based calculations: estimate of required facilities.

Needs	Sport					
	Soccer	AFL	Cricket	Baseball and softball	Rugby Union and League	Hockey
Total number of Brimbank Teams - Base Year (2023)	195	74	102	25	21	0
Current Brimbank Penetration Rate (members / population)	1.4%	1.3%	0.7%	0.2%	0.2%	No growth
Number of teams each ground or pitch can sustain (average)	4	4	4	4	4	Not Available
Projected team numbers 2033	214	90	136	26	21	0
Grounds or pitches required by 2033	53	22	34	7	5	0
Current provision	39	28	28	11	3	0
Current need gap	9	0	0	0	2	0
Shortfall by 2033	14	0	6	0	2	0

Table 3: Member-based calculations: required number of facilities.

Needs	Sport	
	Lawn Bowls	Athletics
Total number of Brimbank members - base year (2023)	153	618
Current Brimbank Participation Penetration Rate	0.1%	0.3%
Number of members each ground or pitch can sustain (average)	120	275
Current provision	4	2
Current need gap	0	0
Shortfall by 2033	0	0
Number required to be developed per year	0	0
Shortfall by 2033		

Table 4: Total population based calculations: estimate of required facilities.

Needs	Sport					
	Tennis	Netball	Basketball	Table Tennis	Badminton	Volleyball
Total population estimate - base year (2023)	199,780	199,780	199,780	199,780	199,780	199,780
Projected total Brimbank population 2033	214,499	214,499	214,499	214,499	214,499	214,499
Number of courts (average)	1 court per 4,000 people	3 courts per 30,000 people	3 courts per 30,000 people	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Year 10 number of courts required	54	21	21	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Current provision	64	18*	18*	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Current need gap	0	2*	2*	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
Shortfall by 2033	0	3*	3*	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available

* Due to Council only owning and managing 7 courts across Brimbank, Basketball and Netball is heavily reliant on school and private courts which may not always be available now or in the future. These courts are also not ideal for training or competition as they are limited to one or two courts per site. As such, while a small current and future demand gap has been identified using population based estimates, there is a larger demand for Council owned basketball/netball courts as outlined through this Plan to ensure future facility access is secured to support the growth of both of these sports in Brimbank.

Strategy 1.1: Optimise the use of existing sports facilities in Brimbank

One of the most cost effective and practical options in addressing the gaps in sporting facility provision is to optimise the use of existing facilities. There are currently sporting fields and courts within the municipality that are not used to an optimal level. A common reason for this is that the facilities in their current condition or level of development do not support optimal use, i.e. they lack or have inadequate lighting or poor-quality pavilions and surfaces.

Measures to optimise fields and courts allocation and to encourage improved levels of use by existing clubs are described further in this section. Identified projects for optimising use of sports fields and courts are identified below and included in further detail within this plan.

Priority actions

This plan provides opportunities for Council to work collaboratively with State and Federal Government, sporting associations, local clubs, and local communities on essential projects to create new facilities and to redevelop existing sporting and recreation infrastructure.

It is recognised that both State and Federal Government will have changing priorities throughout the life of this Plan. It is Council's role to understand these priorities and ensure that the programs and activities delivered to the local community reflect the current agenda of various levels of government whilst also tailoring programs to cater for the trends experienced by the community at a local level.

There are some poor quality sporting pavilions that limit the use of existing reserves. Upgrading these pavilions would help to optimise the use of the associated sporting fields. Pavilion upgrades are required at:

- Lloyd Reserve
- Lionheart Reserve - Tennis
- JR Parsons Reserve - Football/ Cricket
- JR Parsons Reserve - Tennis
- Green Gully Reserve - Tennis
- Keilor Park Reserve - Soccer
- Keilor Recreation - Tennis

In addition there are many sportsgrounds with very poor standard change room facilities not suitable for supporting girls, women, gender diverse or junior participation. Inclusive change room upgrades/ installations are required at:

- Keilor Park Oval 2
- Ralph Reserve
- Kevin Flint Reserve
- Churchill Reserve
- Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium
- Overton Lea Reserve
- McKechnie Reserve

(NOTE: the pavilion and change room upgrade projects should be in accordance with the facility standards and priority order listings as outlined in Section 4.)

In addition Council has many sports grounds without sportsground lighting or lighting required for competition standards which restricts their use/ competition to day light hours only, meaning the installation of sports ground lighting to the competition standard at these grounds has the ability to significantly increase the capacity of Brimbank sports grounds at minimal cost compared to building new sports grounds.

Allocation of facilities

It is important that facilities are optimally used and allocated to users fairly and equitably. It is also important that the amount of time the facilities are used for does not exceed the carrying capacity.

In 2014 Council adopted the Community Facilities and Reserves Allocation Policy and Guidelines (Major Policy) for sports facilities, completing recommendation 10 of the adopted Sports Facility Development Plan 2012. The policy and guidelines ensure a fair, equitable and consistent approach to allocating sports facilities to the community.

The Sports Facility Hire, Licenses and Leases Agreement Policy and Operational Guidelines were also adopted in 2014, completing Recommendation 11 of the Sports Facility Development Plan 2012. This policy encourages all sports clubs who are using Council's sports facilities to facilitate a shared approach. The fees and charges structure included within this policy aims to address the costs of managing and maintaining sporting facilities through fair and reasonable charges for use. The fees and charges system also provides discounts on license fees to sports clubs who are targeting various underrepresented groups within the community, for example females, juniors and newly arrived individuals and groups.

Recommendation 12 of the Sports Facility Development Plan 2012 was completed with new lease and licence agreements entered into with all Brimbank sports clubs, apart from a minority of clubs with current existing leases. This has ensured all Brimbank clubs have a current usage agreement with clear responsibilities, which encourages shared use of Brimbank facilities.

It is recommended that all these policies are reviewed and updated to ensure they remain current and effective at achieving their identified aims. These reviews should include a Gender Impact Assessment and consideration of the Victorian State Government Fair Access Policy and Principles.

Management of facilities

There is high demand from other non-sporting community groups for access to community facilities. Sports pavilions will be considered as community facilities. While the principle purpose of a sports facility is supporting community sports activity, there is also the potential to accommodate community, cultural and leisure activities that are not sport related.

Brimbank sports pavilions will be designed and developed to maximise multi-use opportunities through the inclusion of, at a minimum, a community room. Local community groups and resident sports clubs could use this room. The Facility Development Standards outlined in this document include the provision of community meeting rooms in sports pavilions.

As part of this shift towards improving access to sports facilities for further community use, Council reviewed all sports clubs leases and licences in 2014 and introduced a new agreement with sports clubs who utilise spaces that can be shared by other community groups. This initiative encourages further multi-use and shared use of Brimbank facilities. This is now close to 10 years old, with a new review required in alignment with updated policies.

Maintenance of facilities

It is important that sports clubs contribute to the maintenance of the facilities they use by way of a fair fees and charges policy. This policy recognises and rewards groups that are making efforts to provide multi-use access to facilities.

Capital contributions

Council is responsible for providing the core components of a pavilion. Often, clubs will request non-core components such as bars, function areas and gymnasiums be provided. Council will not fund these facilities.

The clubs may be permitted to contribute capital investment for development of the facilities subject to negotiation and agreement with Council.

Recommendation 11 of the Sports Facility Development Plan (Updated) 2016 was completed with the development of the Community Facilities Capital Contribution Policy (2016) which:

- Provides a transparent and consistent policy that clearly defines Council and community group responsibilities towards the capital development of Council owned or managed community facilities; and
- Ensures efficient and effective use of Council and community resources to maximise the capital development and use of Council community facilities.

The Capital Contributions Policy needs to be reviewed and updated following the adoption of this plan.

Club development

Further work with local sporting clubs is required to improve the management and use of existing facilities. Club development will result in more effective management and use of existing sports facilities and promote closer links between clubs and their local communities. It is therefore proposed to:

- Continue work with local sports clubs, which focus on club development, to ensure current facilities are managed and used at optimal levels. Particular emphasis will be placed on encouraging local clubs to work more closely with target groups such as females, all genders, newly arrived residents, various cultural groups, juniors and people living with disabilities.

Strategy 1.2: Develop additional facilities at existing sports sites in Brimbank

This approach focuses on developing new facilities at existing sites to cater for current and future needs.

Priority actions

There are only a number of selected existing sporting reserves that can spatially accommodate additional sporting facilities. These are:

- Keilor Park Reserve
- Green Gully Reserve
- Sasella Park Reserve
- Keilor Lodge Reserve

The recommended projects include the development of new pavilions and playing surfaces as required. The standards to which the new facilities should be developed are outlined in Facility Standards, Section 4 of this plan.



Strategy 1.3: Develop new sports facilities

In addition to the measures outlined above, a Regional Multi-Sports Facility is also required to accommodate local community sporting needs in the future.

Priority actions

Development of a Regional Multi-Sports Facility.

This facility is necessary for the following reasons:

- As described earlier, there are numerous single field reserves in the south of Brimbank that provide for smaller sporting clubs, casual use and development pathways.
- A Regional Multi-Sports Facility would give the sports clubs and groups currently using single field sites the opportunity to further develop by moving to a larger, regional venue with a range of sporting facilities. This would free up the single fields for groups that currently do not have access to sports facilities and allow growth in casual sport participation.
- A Regional Multi-Sports Facility would accommodate a range of sports at the one location and provide for various levels of competition.
- Sports such as tennis, basketball and netball and volleyball, which tend to operate from a site with multiple courts, could be located at the regional facility.
- A Regional Multi-Sports Facility would provide Council with the ability to provide playing surfaces that are flexible in use and capable of supporting modified sports such as futsal.
- A Regional Multi-Sports Facility could accommodate a 'premier league' standard soccer venue. This venue could be used for competition by the clubs in Brimbank that participate in the premier league competition.
- The venue would remove the pressure to develop higher standard facilities, such as grandstands and media boxes, at the local reserves that are currently used for premier league competition
- Reduce the neighbourhood amenity issues which arise from the staging of premier league games at local reserves in residential areas.

A Regional Multi-Sports Facility should have the following attributes:

- Accessible to the majority if not the whole of the municipality
- Supporting infrastructure to cater for a large number of participants at the one time, including access to public transport, ample car parking, seating, lighting, toilets, shade etc.

Sydenham Park and Bon Thomas Reserve have been suggested as potential sites in the past. However neither of these reserves currently have good access to public transport and Bon Thomas is located in a residential area. Further, given the current distribution of sporting facilities across the City, a regional multi-sports facility in the medium term would be best situated in the south of the municipality. Sunshine Energy Park is the only site in the south of the municipality that has the attributes to accommodate a regional multi-sports facility. It is suitably sized at 54 hectares and accessible near the Western Ring Road, Western Highway and bus and train routes. Its past uses as a basalt quarry, then land fill and as a gas extraction and energy production site require further remedial works and settling prior to a staged development of the site.

Council is in the process of developing the Sunshine Energy Park Vision Plan which builds on the Transforming Brimbank – Sunshine Priority Precinct Vision 2050 adopted by Council in 2021. It aims to leverage off the billions of dollars of development and infrastructure that is being delivered in Brimbank and Melbourne's West over the coming decade that will transform the city. The draft Vision Plan shows a range of future uses at the site, including a strong indoor and

outdoor sporting facilities presence that will assist in meeting the Brimbank community demand for sports facilities outlined in this plan. The draft Vision Plan also positions Sunshine Energy Park as an opportunity for Council to partner with State Government Agencies in developing a State Level sporting facility, seeing it become a key destination in the west, supporting the establishment of the Sunshine Priority Precinct.

In regards to Sydenham Park, the Sydenham Park Master Plan 2020 and Sydenham Park Master Plan Addendum 2022 recommended 'The opportunity for sports and recreation at Sydenham Park should be considered, although it is likely that there will be constraints in its location within the park due to the nature of such a development and its associated standard requirements to meet desired levels of play and competition. The Master Plan should appropriately locate, explore these opportunities and offer measures to limit adverse impacts'. Work is currently underway in considering the constraints at the site and feasibility for sports facilities at this location, which if feasible are likely to be only outdoor sports facilities which limit it being established as a Regional Multi-Sport Facility with both indoor and outdoor sports provision.

Due to the significant amount of funding required to develop a Regional Multi-Sports Facility, individual projects are not listing in the Annual Rolling Programs in Section 4 but rather individual business cases including funding models will need to be developed at the appropriate point in the future.



Strategy 1.4: Develop partnership agreements with neighbouring municipalities and local organisations

This Plan provides opportunities for Council to work in partnership on essential projects to create new facilities and to redevelop existing sporting and recreation infrastructure.

Priority actions

Create partnerships with local schools

Sports facilities at local schools could potentially be used as training and competition venues for sports clubs and community groups in Brimbank.

The benefits of developing partnerships with local schools include:

- Enabling Council to cost-effectively provide a larger amount of training and competition venues for sports clubs and groups,
- Building relationships between local sports clubs and schools and providing an easy pathway for students to join clubs,
- Strengthening the relationships between Council and schools in Brimbank,
- Provide a cost effective way to deal with ongoing maintenance and facility development requirements to suit both Council and local schools.



There are a number of ways in which partnership agreements between Council and local schools can be achieved. These opportunities may provide access to a number of sports surfaces for training and/or competition on weekends. The arrangement may include Council assisting in the provision of funding toward the development or enhancement of sporting facilities on Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) land, and assisting with the maintenance of existing school sporting facilities. In return for this support, the schools would provide the community with access to their facilities when not required for use by the schools.

Currently, Council has formal DEECD Joint Use Agreements (JUA) with two schools as well as community access to an additional six schools which contributes to achieving Recommendation 3 of the Sports Facility Development Plan (Updated 2016). The most recent JUA is in place at Delahey Reserve which borders Copperfield College, in which the soccer pitch on school land is maintained by Council and Council has installed sportsground lighting and change rooms in return for community access out of school hours.

There are a number of opportunities for Council to pursue further agreements with a number of schools in return for use of the associated sports facilities.

There are over 60 schools throughout Brimbank that Council could approach in the future to discuss joint use arrangements with Council for community access to their existing and proposed sports facilities.

However, it is important to note that there are some limitations to partnerships with local schools. Factors inhibiting access to school facilities are as follows:

- Some of the facilities may not be suitable for competition or even training, without investment in additional infrastructure (e.g. sportsground lighting).
- Some sports, such as netball and tennis, can require a cluster of courts to successfully run a competition. Most school sites may have one or two courts; these can be suitable for training purposes but do not serve as sites that can hold anything other than training or small competitions.
- Some schools have concerns with security when allowing facilities to be used by the broader community.

There is also an opportunity to further develop partnerships with local schools that have developed spaces as part of the \$16.2 billion Building the Education Revolution (BER) Program (2010). This program aimed at modernising schools through the delivery of necessary infrastructure. This included the development of sports halls and spaces. An important part of the Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21) element is the requirement for schools to make their facility available to the community at low or no cost. This is a requirement of the Commonwealth Government under the guidelines.

There are a number of schools in Brimbank that have received funding to construct sports halls and indoor courts through this program. Five full size courts have been built; these facilities would be suitable for competition.

In addition, a number of three quarter size courts and sports halls have been constructed. They are suitable for netball and basketball training, volleyball, badminton, table tennis and futsal practice and, in some cases junior competition.

Create partnerships with other local organisations

Local businesses and other organisations may be interested in contributing to the provision of sporting facilities or allowing community access to their facilities. Examples of these organisations include Universities and Health providers.

Create partnerships with neighbouring councils

Partnership arrangements will be sought with neighbouring Councils to develop sports facilities that address the sporting needs of Brimbank residents; particularly when the facilities are near the border of adjoining municipalities.



3. Addressing current sporting trends and needs



Council is committed to creating sports facilities and developing existing sites to address the community's sport and recreation needs.

Facts

Brimbank's sports clubs

Brimbank has over 70 clubs and associations in the following sports

Football	9 plus 13 Auskick Centres
Cricket	11
Bowls	5 (3 are on private land)
Tennis	11
Baseball	1
Softball	2 (associations)
Athletics	4
Soccer	15 (plus 3 clubs on private land)
Netball	2 (associations)
Basketball	2 (associations)
Badminton	0
Volleyball	0
Table Tennis	3 (associations)
Rugby Union	1
Rugby League	1
Dog Obedience	1
Pigeon Club	1
Model Aircraft	1
Model Off Road Car Club	2
Bocce	2
Fly Casting	1
Kabaddi	1

A review of affiliated sports club membership numbers, assessment of current sporting provision, facility condition and compliance audits and an analysis of future needs and demands was undertaken for the sports listed above. Further information was obtained in consultation with state sporting associations and Council staff with an intimate knowledge of local sports trends based on their dealings with local sports clubs on a daily basis.

Casual/Social sport

Research undertaken by the sports sector indicates an increase in casual or social sport, and the need for sporting organisations to embrace and respond to this shift to remain viable.

In 2013, The Australian Sports Commission released a research paper on future sports trends, including the impact of megatrends – patterns of social, economic or environmental changes that influence sports participation (Future of Australian Sport: Megatrends shaping the sports sector over the coming decades, Australian Sports Commission, 2013). The research predicted that individualised sport and recreation activities will continue to rise and participation rates for many organized sports will remain constant or in some cases decline.

The notion of more people choosing individualised activities over structured sport was reinforced in the latest participation data for the sports sector released by the Australian Sports Commission (AusPlay). The data showed individual activities which can be undertaken at a time chosen by the participant such as walking, gym, athletics, swimming and cycling were the most popular activities for adults.

Women and girls participation growth

Brimbank has been proactive in supporting female participation growth by undertaking universal design audits of sporting facilities to identify infrastructure needs that will ensure welcoming and inclusive facilities are being planned and provided. The findings of these audits have informed the development of the Inclusive Facility Upgrades rolling program in this Plan. Council has used this information, alongside Sport and Recreation Victoria's Female Friendly Infrastructure Guide, to successfully apply for change room upgrades from the Victorian Government's Female Friendly Facilities fund. Sport and Recreation Victoria have previously established a dedicated Office for Women in Sport which will work to deliver an equal playing field for women and girls at every level of our sport and recreation organisations and clubs. The Office has been created to implement the nine recommendations from the Inquiry into Women and Girls in Sport and Active Recreation and deliver further Change Our Game initiatives to boost participation and create more leadership opportunities in sport for women.

More recently, Victoria's Gender Equality Act 2020 requires councils to consider and promote gender equality, including undertaking gender impact assessments on policies, programs and services that have a direct and significant impact on the public. As such a Gender Impact Assessment process has been included in the development of the 2023 Plan that aims to create better and fairer outcomes for people of all genders and ensure all people have access to opportunities and resources. In addition it considers the Victorian State Governments Fair Access Policy and Fair Access Principles:

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

This growth is expected to continue with the establishment of elite level national competitions and more female sport being televised.

Niche sports

In addition to the growth in women and girls participation and individual activities, is the presence of niche sports. Niche sports include a range of lesser known activities such as: bocce, pigeon racing, fly casting, Kabaddi and off/on road remote control car racing. Niche sports typically appeal to a smaller group of people that are less interested in more traditional structured sports such as cricket, soccer and basketball.

However, as participation and membership figures show, there is significant interest in these niche sports in Brimbank (e.g. 345 bocce players across two sites). The older sports community and sections of the CALD community in Brimbank are being serviced by niche sports, as the profile of pigeon racing and bocce participants is generally male and over the age of 40.

Although these sports vary a lot from structured sports, most niche sports can share facilities and be accommodated in multipurpose venues or in a community hub setting. To embrace the potential growth of niche sports, Council should focus on universally designed facilities that provide flexible programming space in order to deliver inclusive sporting environments and enhance participation opportunities for the Brimbank community.

Sport Growth Trends

Athletics

There are four athletics clubs in Brimbank (two senior athletics and two little athletics) with a combined membership of 618. There are two formal athletics tracks and a football/ cricket oval used for athletics. Participation is expected to remain stable with no significant change anticipated in future years. The two formal tracks in are sufficient to meet current and future demand, with future replacement of the synthetic athletics track surface at Keilor Park a consideration for Council.

Priority actions

- Monitor the synthetic surface at Keilor Park Synthetic Athletics track and plan for replacement at the required point in time.

Australian Rules Football

There are 9 football clubs and 13 Auskick Centres in Brimbank servicing an estimated 2,600 football participants. Junior participants make up approximately 30% of total participants and female participants 12%.

Clubs continue to experience issues with ageing infrastructure and facility capacity. Improved playing surfaces, all gender change rooms and lighting upgrades remain a high priority for clubs. AFL Victoria is focussed on ensuring football remains strong post COVID and capturing the next generation of footballers. They aim to achieve this by targeting more women and girls, attracting more Auskick participants and providing a greater focus on Active Schools. Football will support and co-fund projects that are fit for purpose, inclusive and support the sustainability of the game.

Priority actions

- Providing appropriate facilities for women, girls and gender diverse players, umpires, officials and spectators.
- Co-investment in lighting and playing surface upgrades will support participation growth and club sustainability.

Badminton

Badminton Victoria reported more than 400 registered badminton players in Brimbank and noted the number of social players wanting access to courts was significant.

The Western Suburbs Badminton Association is the closest major association to Brimbank. The association operates from the Bayfit Leisure Centre in Altona North where 30% (146) of its members are Brimbank residents. The Western Badminton Centre at Ravenhall (Melton Council) also contributes to meeting the regional needs of the sport. The centre offers 12 indoor badminton courts for community use.

Locally, the Malayalee Sports and Cultural Association use the Cairnlea Park Primary School for badminton and have approximately 50 players. There are also two community badminton groups located in St Albans and West Sunshine that play Badminton.

Badminton Victoria identified strong demand for additional badminton courts in Braybrook, Sunshine West, Sunshine and Laverton North.

Priority actions

- Consider the future provision of additional badminton facilities when planning new or redeveloping existing indoor recreation facilities. Continue with planning for an Indoor Stadium at Energy Park in the south of Brimbank to address current and future demand.
- Investigate partnerships with schools as a way to address demand for badminton through access to existing and new facilities.

Baseball

The Sunshine Baseball Club has 75 members and are the only baseball club in Brimbank. The club is based at Barclay Reserve and use two diamonds. Participation is expected to remain stable with no significant change anticipated in future years. The two diamonds are capable of catering for current and future demand.

Priority actions

- Providing appropriate facilities for all gender players, umpires, officials and spectators, with an emphasis on creating welcoming environments.

Basketball

The Keilor Basketball Association (KBA) is one of the largest associations in the western region and operates from Council's Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium (KBNS).

KBA has an approximate membership base of 6,500 players which comprises 460 junior teams, 200 senior teams and 45 representative teams. It is estimated that 1 in 26 Brimbank residents play basketball and KBA has a waiting list of prospective players.

There has been significant growth since the redevelopment of KBNS to six courts. KBA use 21 courts across 14 venues in Brimbank and surrounding municipalities to service the needs of local basketball players. The six courts at the KBNS are at capacity during peak times.

There is a gap in the current provision of indoor courts in the southern part of the municipality, where much of the future population growth is predicted. Sunshine and Sunshine North are the hot spots for growth over the next ten years and will need access to additional indoor courts to ensure future residents are adequately catered for.

Basketball Victoria also confirmed a gap in indoor court provision in Brimbank and the need for more courts to service the growth of several local basketball associations. BV is working with the KBA on a growth strategy that focuses on additional courts at KBNS and access to proposed new courts at Quinn Grove Reserve (East Keilor Leisure Centre) located in the City of Moonee Valley.

Priority actions

- Continue with planning for an Indoor Stadium at Energy Park in the south of Brimbank to address current and future demand.
- In the medium term, investigate the feasibility of additional courts at KBNS and new courts in the southern district to cater for future growth and lessen the reliance on school and private courts which may not always be available in the future.

Bowls

There are five bowls clubs in Brimbank, three of which are privately owned. The two clubs operating on Council land have access to four bowling greens. Clubs in Brimbank have a combined membership total of approximately 400.

Bowls Victoria reported an increase in pay to play social participation such as barefoot bowls and corporate activities that many clubs run. It is noted that clubs in other parts of Melbourne have significantly increased the usage of greens through casual use.

The Bowls Victoria Facilities Plan identified a number of strategic priorities for the sport over the next 10 years. These include the development of a regional level facility in the North West and a state centre of excellence potentially in the metro west region, with the Cities of Melton and Wyndham identified.

The four bowls greens will address current and future demand of the Brimbank clubs.

Priority actions

- Continue to support existing Brimbank clubs and partner with Bowls Victoria and surrounding municipalities on a regional wide strategy to guide future investment and support the ongoing sustainability of facilities.



Cricket

Brimbank has 11 cricket clubs with a combined membership of more than 1,500. The Western Regional Junior Cricket Association (WRJCA) that includes many Brimbank based clubs is the largest junior cricket association in Victoria, accommodating more than 300 teams and 40 different competitions. Cricket Victoria and Cricket Australia identifies junior participation as the greatest area of growth and sustainability for the sport, and are placing greater emphasis and support around their modified junior match formats and cricket programs and activities targeting 5 to 12 year olds.

Cricket Victoria identified a significant change in how the game is played, with associations responding to demand for mid-week matches and Sunday morning competitions. Female participation in cricket, especially by primary school age girls, is also growing in Melbourne's West, with new junior (U11, U13, U16 girls) and expanding senior women's competitions (including T20 socials) established in recent years. There has also been an increase in winter competitions which is creating challenges with access to fields and playable pitches. Brimbank is experiencing this growth with many groups wanting to play cricket on sports grounds across the municipality in competitions throughout the winter season.

Cricket Victoria also reported a noticeable increase in participation triggered by an increase in residents from South East Asian communities. The 2021 Census identified more than 105,000 people who were living in Brimbank were born overseas. Almost 12,000 residents were born in South East Asian communities including India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka where cricket is considered their national game.

Priority actions

- A continued focus on creating all gender facilities that encourages women and girls participation. This includes provision of facilities for all gender players, umpires, officials and spectators, with an emphasis on creating welcoming environments.
- Further consideration should be given to increasing the number of synthetic cricket wickets in Brimbank to cater for an increase in winter cricket and to support increase participation in junior formats of the game.
- Strategic and staged upgrading of practice net facilities and synthetic cricket wickets to ensure safe and functional playing environments are provided – link priorities to Cricket Australia's annual Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund (ACIF) for shared investment opportunities.

Netball

St Albans Caroline Springs Netball Association (SACSNA) is the main local netball provider in Brimbank. The association has approximately 235 teams with more than half their players living in Brimbank. SACSNA use three courts at the Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium for competition and training and service a large number of netball participants that live in Keilor, Kealba, Keilor Downs, St Albans and Sunshine.

Of the 1,896 netball players in Brimbank, approximately 1,234 (65%) are registered with SACSNA. Other popular associations for Brimbank players include Parkville and Altona. SACSNA also occupy courts at Copperfield Secondary College in Brimbank and the Caroline Springs Leisure Centre in the City of Melton.

Netball Victoria identified that Brimbank has the greatest need for additional indoor netball courts compared to other Western Metropolitan LGAs. Brimbank has a court per population rate of 1: 17,692 which compares unfavourably to the Western region with a court per population ratio 1: 8,504. This indicates a lack of facilities to service current needs and future growth, which should be addressed through more indoor courts that provide greater scheduling capacity, are not weather dependent and can be used for longer periods.

Netball Victoria are updating their State-wide Facilities Strategy and Facility Development Guidelines and have committed to collecting facility data at all venues to inform future priorities.

AFL Victoria and local football clubs are planning to add Netball clubs to Brimbank Football clubs, similar to the model operating in country Victoria, which will lead to football clubs requesting outdoor Netball courts at their home venues which will increase opportunities to play Netball across Brimbank.

Priority actions

- Continue with planning for an Indoor Stadium at Energy Park in the south of Brimbank to address current and future demand.
- In the medium term, investigate the feasibility of additional courts at KBNS and new courts in the southern district to cater for future growth and lessen the reliance on school and private courts which may not always be available in the future.
- Investigate opportunities to provide outdoor netball courts at Brimbank sporting reserves where AFL is played to increase participation.

Niche Sports

The needs of niche sports in Brimbank, such as Bocce, Fly Casting, Model Aircraft, Kabaddi, Off and On Road Remote Control Car Clubs and Pigeon Racing will continue to be monitored by Council officers.

As the trend towards informal and less structured activities continues, it is likely that these sports and emerging recreational activities such as pickleball may require funding to ensure facilities are meeting the needs of users.

Other Sports

Other sports not currently represented in Brimbank such as hockey, lacrosse, squash, croquet, and roller derby will also be monitored. Any increase in the popularity of these sports will be managed on a case-by-case basis with Council officers to work with peak bodies to address any future participation and facility demand.

Rugby Union

Brimbank has one rugby union club (Brimbank Bucks) which established in 2013. The club field six teams at Bon Thomas Reserve and have a stable membership of 180. The club has six female teams and a strong junior membership base of 135. Participation should continue to grow as the club attracts players directly from the strong Pacific Islander communities in Brimbank.

Touch rugby is played over the summer months and is popular as it caters for unstructured and informal participation.

Priority actions

- Investigate opportunities to provide additional facilities at Bon Thomas Reserve to cater the future growth and needs of Rugby Union.
- Providing appropriate facilities for all gender players, umpires, officials and spectators, with an emphasis on creating welcoming environments.



Rugby League

Sunshine Cowboys Rugby League Club use Arthur Beachley Reserve and have a membership base of approximately 150. More than 60% of members are junior players.

NRL Victoria identified Brimbank as a highly desirable area for the establishment of a new rugby league club due to the high nature of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups in the municipality. Victoria University Secondary College has established a highly successful rugby academy which has strong partnerships with Melbourne Rebels and Melbourne Storm.

Priority actions

- Investigate opportunities to provide additional facilities at Bon Thomas Reserve to cater the future growth and needs of Rugby League.
- Providing appropriate facilities for all gender players, umpires, officials and spectators, with an emphasis on creating welcoming environments.

Soccer

Brimbank has 18 soccer clubs (15 on Council land and 3 private land) catering for close to 4,000 players. Soccer continues to be a highly participated sport in Brimbank with many facilities unable to cater for additional participants. Existing clubs are experiencing a range of facility challenges including a shortage of pitches, poor lighting and lack of all gender change rooms.

As the popularity of soccer and the population of Brimbank continues to grow, there will be a need to upgrade existing facilities and plan for the development of new facilities in key growth areas. There is particularly strong demand for soccer facilities from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) groups in the southern districts of Brimbank.

With major events such as the FIFA 2023 Women's World Cup and the 2026 Commonwealth Games approaching, soccer will work with its local government partners to capitalise on participation, marketing and infrastructure opportunities that will be a direct result or as part of the legacy of these events. Growth and success of the A-League (with a new club and new state of the art venue in the western region) provides a pathway which will continue to boost participation at grass roots level in Brimbank.

Part of the National Program for soccer in 2023 is heavily focused on providing welcoming and inclusive environments for women and girls. The priority is to support clubs to better cater for women and girls to play soccer and ensure clubs are well positioned for the release of the Victorian Governments Fair Access Policy.

Football Victoria believe a soccer hub with 6 to 8 pitches in the Brimbank will assist with the demand for additional pitches.

Futsal is the popular 5 a side modified version of soccer that is mostly played indoors. There are 30,000 registered futsal players across the state. There are no dedicated facilities in Brimbank. The closest affiliated centre is at Caroline Springs which hosts the State Futsal Championship and has 800 registered players. A court to player ratio of 1:250 is considered best practice when assessing the capacity and future need for futsal courts.

Priority actions

- Increase the capacity of existing facilities through field lighting, pitch upgrades and providing appropriate facilities for all gender players, umpires, officials and spectators.
- Work with FV on legacy projects generated from the 2023 Women's World Cup, including a feasibility study into the potential future development of a soccer hub within the municipality through funding support from FV and the State Government.
- Continue with planning for an Indoor Stadium at Energy Park in the south of Brimbank that could potentially address any future demand for futsal.
- Plan for the provision of synthetic sports fields in the southern part of the municipality to meet the growth demand for soccer'



Softball

There are two softball associations and nine softball diamonds in Brimbank. The Sunshine Softball Association have 200 members and use More Park, whilst the Keilor Park and District Softball Association have 104 participants and use Keilor Park.

An \$8.4m redevelopment of More Park in 2022 has delivered state of the art softball facilities. The project included development of an accessible sports pavilion complete with four new female friendly change room facilities, along with umpire, office, kitchen, first aid, social areas and storerooms. A new softball batting cage, multipurpose training area, path network and lighting were also delivered.

The nine diamonds across both facilities as well as the newly developed facilities at More Park will adequately cater for the current and future demand of softball in Brimbank.

Priority actions

- Support both softball associations in increasing participation and programs with new facility developments at More Park which support the growth of the sport in Brimbank



Table Tennis

There are three table tennis associations in Brimbank. The Sunshine District Table Tennis Association (SDTTA) is based at the West Sunshine Community Centre and the Vietnamese Chinese Table Tennis Club (VCTTC) use St Albans Primary School in St Albans. The Health Wellness and Table Tennis Club are based at Loops, a new privately-run table tennis centre in Somerville Road West Sunshine. Community groups operate from schools including Holy Eucharist and Stevensville Primary School's (both St Albans), St Albans Primary School and Deer Park North Primary School.

In 2018 Table Tennis Victoria reported 321 table tennis members in Brimbank. These numbers do not include the significant amount of social players who are unregistered.

Table Tennis Victoria is aiming to expand their established programs and work with schools to further develop pathways for students and local participants. The sport is focusing on large migrant groups from South East Asia for whom table tennis is often embedded as one of their primary sports of choice.

A barrier identified by Table Tennis Victoria for table tennis in Brimbank is the availability of affordable and accessible community facilities for migrant groups who often feel intimidated by the traditional club environment. Table Tennis Victoria reported a significant demand for the game by older adults (55+), particularly in the St Albans area and identified Brooklyn as the preferred location for the future provision of a purpose built table tennis facility.

Priority actions

- Consider the future provision of additional table tennis facilities when planning new or redeveloping existing indoor recreation facilities. Continue with planning for an Indoor Stadium at Energy Park in the south of Brimbank to address current and future demand.
- Partner with schools as a way to address demand for table tennis through access to existing and new facilities.

Tennis

Brimbank has 11 tennis clubs with a total membership base of approximately 2,180. The demand for casual tennis court use is high and continues to be supported through Council's In2tennis program.

Tennis Victoria recently provided a venue sustainability report of tennis in Brimbank. The report identified the need to educate clubs on child safety standards, delivering club strategic plans to address current and future need, improving venue access to increase participation and enhancing the on-line presence and visibility of clubs. Tennis Victoria will also work with Council to review tennis club lease agreements with a focus on maintenance responsibilities.

There are 62 courts across 11 tennis venues in Brimbank. No additional courts will be required over the life of this plan, however an estimated \$1m of asset renewal has been identified by Tennis Victoria in the next 3 years. Six of the 11 venues have the book a court public access gate system, with a further 3 venues planned in the near future.

Priority Actions:

- Support Tennis Victoria in building the capacity of existing tennis venues with a focus on sustainable facility development initiatives such as LED lighting and synthetic or hard court surfaces.
- The 'Book a Court' online booking system and gate/light access should continue to be installed to increase casual use of tennis facilities throughout Brimbank.
- Council officers to provide support to Brimbank tennis clubs to create strategic and/or business plans, particularly considering management models, appropriate programming/offers, asset renewals, and Council and Tennis Victoria's strategic plans

Volleyball

There are 109 registered volleyball players in Brimbank and one affiliated club who use the indoor stadium at Cairnlea Primary School. There is no formal volleyball competition in Brimbank, however there is a league based nearby at Gilson College in Taylors Hill (City of Melton). In addition, volleyball training and/or competition takes place at Altona, Altona North, Braybrook, Moonee Ponds and Melton.

The introduction of courts lined for Volleyball at KBNS supports the current and future demand for volleyball in Brimbank.

Volleyball Victoria identified only moderate demand for the sport in Brimbank, although believes the municipality is strategically placed in terms of future growth. Deer Park, St Albans or Taylors Lakes were identified by Volleyball Victoria as the preferred location to serve the longer needs of volleyball in the future.

Priority actions

- Consider the future provision of additional volleyball facilities when planning new or redeveloping existing indoor recreation facilities. Continue with planning for an Indoor Stadium at Energy Park in the south of Brimbank to address current and future demand.
- Partner with schools as a way to address any future demand for volleyball through access to existing and new facilities.
- Council officers to meet with Volleyball Victoria to discuss the current state of the sport in Brimbank and identify ways to work together to grow the sport considering Brimbank's demographics.



4. Facility development



As discussed throughout this Plan, Council will work to address the identified gaps in the provision of sporting facilities across the City in a range of ways. These include;

- Optimising the use of existing facilities,
- Developing additional facilities at existing sporting reserves in addition to developing new sports facilities, and,
- Investigating opportunities to enter into partnership agreements with local schools, local organisations and neighbouring municipalities.

Outdoor Facility Development

As part of the decision making process for developing sport and recreation facilities, a facility development matrix is used to assess new or planned sports facility development projects. This enables Council to effectively prioritise projects, ensuring that all sport and recreation facilities are assessed consistently, and are determined in a fair and equitable manner.

The matrix will be used to inform Council on future funding submissions and annual budget planning.

The Facility Development Matrix on the following page uses findings from the recent provision, condition and compliance audits and assesses each proposed project against set criteria with associated scores as set out below. The total score is listed to identify those projects that are of high priority. Each project is subject to Council's budgetary process and will involve the development of a detailed business case as part of Council's Project Management Framework.

The matrix has been of great value to date with implementing the Sports Facility Development Plan, ensuring consistency and fairness in the assessment of proposed projects.



Facility development matrix score system

The matrix as set out below has been developed in accordance with the key principles which will guide the future provision of sports facilities in Brimbank as stated in Section 1 of this plan.

By using this matrix, Council can identify projects to recommend for funding through Council's Capital Works budget. This process will also allow Council to establish the projects that are considered as potential grant submissions to Federal and State Government funding programs.

A facility development implementation table has been developed (see below) based on assessment of all pavilion projects using the Facility Development Matrix and current sporting needs throughout the community.

Inadequacy of current facility	Score out of 35
(+ improved local amenity)	Based on:
Number of active sports participants who will directly benefit.	Facility Condition report Comparison with Sports Facility Development Plan Minimum Standards
Number of active sports participants who will directly benefit.	Score out of 35
Number of teams per year (including both summer and winter season) on each playing surface (either sports ground/ pitch or court.	Sports ground sporting team totals 8+ teams per year = 35 6+ teams per year = 25 4+ teams per year = 15 Court Sports team totals 24+ teams per year = 35 18+ teams per year = 25 12+ teams per year = 15 Club / School using sports ground currently or projected to for training use 1 additional club / school = 5 More than one additional club / school = 10
Council policy objectives	Score out of 10
Sport Development - including new club/teams for emerging sports and specific target groups.	Completed Club Development business plan The group/club has worked alongside Council's Leisure and Community Facilities Department to ensure local community needs are met. The group /club have met the relative State Sporting Association sports development requirements in relation to promotion and future participation opportunities. The proposed project provides access to sporting facilities for one or more of Council's target groups for further sports participation (Groups including: Juniors, People with a disability, Female participation and participation opportunities for newly arrived groups and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities).
Value for money	Score out of 20
Savings in maintenance costs / External funding (including capital contribution from club)	

Note: An active sports participant is defined as a person normally participating in training and/or sporting competition with a sporting club each week of the sport season. Individual participants will change during the course of a season but the numbers of participants will remain roughly the same

Pavilion development

1. Lloyd Reserve*
2. Lionheart Reserve – Tennis*
3. J.R. Parsons Reserve – Football/Cricket#
4. J.R. Parsons Reserve – Tennis#
5. Green Gully Reserve – Tennis
6. Keilor Park Reserve – Soccer
7. Keilor Recreation Reserve – Tennis
8. Keilor Park Recreation Reserve – Softball/Soccer
9. Barclay Reserve – Baseball
10. Delahey Reserve – Tennis
11. Overton Lea – Tennis
12. Ainsworth Reserve – Pavilion
13. Selwyn Reserve – Cricket/Soccer
14. McKechnie Reserve
15. Diamond Reserve
16. Keilor Park Recreation Reserve – Tennis
17. Sasella Reserve – Tennis
18. Ralph Reserve – Soccer
19. Churchill Reserve – Soccer
20. Keilor Park Recreation Reserve – Athletics
21. Kevin Flint Reserve – Soccer
22. Sasella Park Reserve – Athletics
23. Keilor Recreation Reserve – Football/Cricket
24. Keilor Park Recreation Reserve – Football/Cricket
25. Lionheart Reserve – Football/Cricket
26. Dempster Reserve – Football/Cricket

* Projects designed and construction tender completed at time of Plan adoption

Projects under design at time of Plan adoption

Note: Timing of projects is indicative only and subject to business case development, detailed planning and annual budget processes.

Any future or emerging sports facility projects will be prioritised using the Facility Development Matrix, which has been developed to guide the allocation of funds to future capital works projects for sports facilities. This will allow Council to ensure all sports facilities are assessed consistently and prioritised fairly and equitably.



Rolling Programs

As part of this Plan, Council is committed to specific sport and recreation Capital Works Program categories each year known as rolling programs. These rolling programs will address other areas of sports facility development linked to upgrading pavilions, grounds and facilities.

The key rolling programs include;

Inclusive Facility Upgrades

First priority is to upgrade change rooms and associated amenities to encourage inclusive participation. Second priority projects focus on inclusive facility upgrades in other areas of sports infrastructure.

Kitchen Upgrade

Upgrade existing kitchens in Council pavilions.

Sports Surface Reconstruction

Upgrade/refurbish sports grounds and courts to community level playing standard.

New Sportsgrounds

Develop new sports ground to community level playing standard including all necessary supporting infrastructure to Council minimum standards.



Sportsground Lighting

Install new or upgrade existing sports lights to Councils minimum standard for the relevant sport on site.

Sports Reserves Car Parks

Upgrade existing or build new car parking located at sports facilities.

Sportsground Irrigation Upgrades/ Installation

Install new or upgrade existing irrigation systems at sports grounds across Brimbank.

Sports Netting

Install or upgrade sports netting (Cricket, Baseball, Softball, Athletics etc) at reserves across Brimbank.

Warm Season Grass Conversion

Convert sports grounds from cool season grass to warm season grass.

Partnerships

Invest in sports facilities located at school or other non-Council sites in order to develop partnership agreements and access to the sports facility for use of the wider Brimbank community. A range of investment opportunities may be available, including upgrading or refurbishment of existing sports surfaces, and maintenance or installation of supporting sports infrastructure such as lighting, players benches, shade or toilet facilities.

Tennis Court Resurfacing

Upgrade of existing tennis courts surface to address safety and condition matters.

Sporting Infrastructure

A range of supporting sports infrastructure at sports sites across Brimbank requires ongoing maintenance and upgrades. The programs required include;

- Players Benches Replacement
- Sports Shade and Cover
- Goal Post Replacement
- Storage Refurbishment
- Sports Reserve Fencing Upgrades

Rolling Program Priority Listings

Inclusive Facilities Upgrades

Keilor Park Reserve Oval 2
Ralph Reserve
Kevin Flint Reserve
Churchill Reserve
Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium Changerooms
Overton Lea Reserve
McKechnie Reserve - Old Changerooms
Selwyn Reserve Tennis
Keilor Park Reserve Tennis
Sassella Reserve Tennis
Dempster Reserve Football/Cricket
Ainsworth Reserve
Sassella Reserve Athletics
Castley Reserve
Green Gully Reserve Soccer/Cricket
Keilor Rec Reserve Football/Cricket
Carrington Reserve Bocce
Green Gully Reserve Dog Club
Keilor Park Reserve Off Road Cars
Keilor Park Reserve Athletics
Sydenham Reserve Model Aircraft
Kings Park Bowls
Carrington Reserve Pigeons
Keilor Lodge

Kitchen Upgrades

Kings Park Bowls
Keilor Rec Reserve Football/Cricket
Selwyn Park Soccer/Cricket
Green Gully Reserve Dog Club
Overton Lea Reserve Tennis
Dempster Park Football/Cricket
Keilor Park Reserve Tennis
Sassella Reserve Tennis
Selwyn Park Tennis
John McLeod Reserve
Lionheart Reserve Football/Cricket
Larissa Reserve

Sports Surface/Ground Reconstruction

Selwyn Park Tennis 1-6
Green Gully Reserve Tennis 7 & 8
Keilor Park Reserve Softball 1
Keilor Park Reserve Synthetics
Keilor Park Reserve Athletics
Keilor Park Reserve Pitch 1
Delahey Reserve Oval
Delahey Reserve Tennis 5 & 6
Green Gully Reserve Oval
Keilor Rec Reserve Bowls 1
John McLeod Oval 1
Parsons Reserve Tennis 1 & 2
J.R. Parsons Reserve Oval 2
Tallintyre Reserve
Keilor Park Reserve Softball 4
Keilor Park Reserve Oval 2
Kevin Flint Reserve Oval
Sassella Park Tennis 5 & 6
Keilor Park Reserve Tennis 3 & 4
Kings Park Bowls 1
Bon Thomas Reserve Oval
Kevin Flint Reserve Pitch 1
Kevin Flint Reserve Pitch 2
Keilor Park Reserve Pitch 3
Lionheart Reserve Oval 2

Sports Reserve Car Parks

Arthur Beachley Reserve
Larissa Reserve
Ardeer Reserve
McKechnie Reserve
Ralph Reserve
Dempster Park Tennis
Kings Park Bowls
Carrington Reserve Bocce
Carrington Reserve Pigeon
Carrington Reserve Off Road Car Track

Rolling Program Priority Listings (continued)

Sports Ground Lighting

Selwyn Park Tennis 1-6
 Dempster Park Tennis 3 & 4
 Green Gully Reserve Tennis 5 & 6
 Lionheart Reserve Tennis 1-6
 Lionheart Reserve Oval 1
 Keilor Rec Reserve Oval
 Balmoral Park Oval 1
 Keilor Park Reserve Athletics
 Barclay Reserve Baseball 1
 Robert Bruce Reserve Oval
 Selwyn Park Oval
 Green Gully Reserve Oval
 Sassella Park Athletics
 J.R. Parsons Reserve Tennis 5 & 6
 Delahey Reserve Tennis 5 & 6
 Balmoral Park Oval 2
 Castley Reserve
 Keilor Park Reserve Oval 1
 Lionheart Reserve Tennis 7-9
 John McLeod Reserve Oval 1
 Overton Lea Reserve Tennis 1-4
 Churchill Reserve Pitch 2
 Overton Lea Reserve Tennis 5-6
 Delahey Reserve Oval
 Delahey Reserve Soccer Pitch
 Delahey Reserve Tennis 1-2
 Keilor Park Reserve Soccer 3
 Bon Thomas Reserve Oval
 Dempster Park Oval
 Arthur Beachley Reserve
 Bon Thomas Reserve Pitch 1 & 2
 Kevin Flint Reserve Oval
 Lloyd Reserve
 McKechnie Reserve 1 & 2
 J.R. Parsons Reserve Oval 1
 Keilor Lodge Reserve Pitch 2
 Carrington Reserve Off Road Cars
 John McLeod Reserve Oval 2
 John McLeod Oval 2
 Keilor Park Softball Diamond 1

Sport Ground Irrigation Upgrades/Installation

Keilor Lodge Soccer
 Churchill Reserve Pitch 1
 Delahey Reserve Oval
 Kevin Flint Reserve Pitch 1
 Kevin Flint Reserve Pitch 2
 Kevin Flint Reserve Oval
 Churchill Reserve Pitch 2
 Green Gully Reserve Pitch 2
 McKechnie Reserve Pitch 2
 Selwyn Park Oval
 Lionheart Reserve Oval 2
 Arthur Beachley Reserve
 Lloyd Reserve
 Green Gully Reserve Oval
 J.R. Parsons Reserve Oval 1
 J.R. Parsons Reserve Oval 2

Warm Season Grass Conversion

Churchill Reserve Pitch 1
 Kevin Flint Reserve Pitch 2
 J.R. Parsons Reserve Oval 1
 McKechnie Reserve Pitch 2
 Selwyn Park
 Lloyd Reserve
 Keilor Park Reserve Softball 2
 Arthur Beachley Reserve
 Green Gully Reserve Oval
 Lionheart Reserve Oval 2

New Sports Ground Development

Green Gully Reserve Oval 2
 Keilor Park Reserve Soccer
 New Synthetic in the south
 Outdoor Netball Courts
 Sasella Park Pitch 1
 Keilor Lodge Pitch 4

Rolling Program Priority Listings (continued)

Sports Netting

Barclay Reserve Baseball
Selwyn Park Cricket
Keilor Park Reserve Cricket
Green Gully Reserve Cricket
Athletic Cages- Keilor Park Reserve & Sassella Park
Keilor Rec Reserve Cricket
Keilor Park Reserve Softball
John McLeod Reserve Cricket
Ainsworth Reserve Cricket
Lionheart Reserve Cricket
J.R. Parsons Reserve Cricket
Dempster Park Cricket
Balmoral Park Cricket

Storage Refurbishments

Ardeer Reserve
Dempster Park
Green Gully Reserve Bocce
Talintyre Reserve
Carrington Reserve Off Road Cars
Keilor Lodge Reserve Pitch 1
Balmoral Park
Keilor Park Reserve Football
Ainsworth Reserve
McKechnie Reserve

Goal Post Replacement

Churchill Reserve Pitch 1
Green Gully Reserve Pitch 2
Kevin Flint Reserve Pitch 1
Lloyd Reserve Soccer
Selwyn Park Soccer
Balmoral Park Pitch 2
Ainsworth Reserve
Dempster Park
Keilor Park Reserve Oval 1

* Future projects to be identified based on annual condition inspection when installing/ removing goal posts at change of season.

Players Benches

Balmoral Park Oval 1
Keilor Lodge Reserve Pitch 1
Larrisa Reserve
Churchill Reserve Pitch 2
Churchill Reserve Pitch 3
Barclay Reserve Diamond 1
Barclay Reserve Diamond 2
Keilor Park Reserve Softball 3
Keilor Park Reserve Softball 4
Castley Reserve
Keilor Park Reserve Synthetics 1
Keilor Park Reserve Synthetics 2
Keilor Park Reserve Pitch 1
Keilor Park Reserve Pitch 2
Keilor Park Reserve Pitch 3
Lloyd Reserve
Delahey Reserve Soccer
Green Gully Reserve Pitch 2
Keilor Lodge Reserve Pitch 2
McKechnie Reserve Pitch 1
McKechnie Reserve Pitch 2
Balmoral Park Oval 2
Kevin Flint Reserve Oval
Lionheart Reserve Oval 2
Selwyn Park



Rolling Program Priority Listings (continued)

Sports Reserve Fence Replacement

J.R. Parsons Reserve
Keilor Rec Reserve Tennis
Green Gully Reserve Oval & Ball Protection Fence
Kevin Flint Reserve Oval
Selwyn Park Oval
Balmoral Park
Ainsworth Reserve Oval
John McLeod Reserve Oval 1
Churchill Reserve Pitch 2 & Ball Protection Fence Pitch 1 & 2
Keilor Park Reserve Pitch 3
Keilor Park Reserve Oval 1
McKechnie Reserve Pitch 2 & Ball Protection Fence
Robert Bruce Reserve Oval
Diamond Reserve
Keilor Park Ovals 2-4
Green Gully Reserve Training Fields
John McLeod Reserve 2

School Partnerships

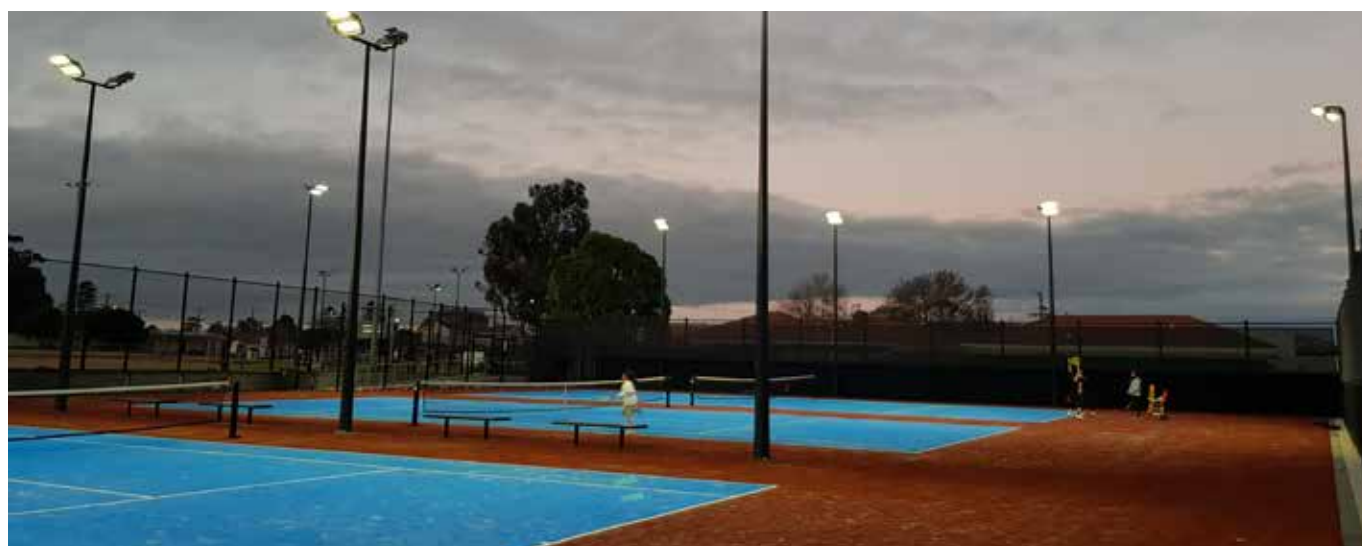
* Further Investigation will take place at identified school sites to determine what sports facilities will best support community sport.

Sports Shade and Cover

Sasella Park Tennis
Green Gully Reserve Bocce
Keilor Park Reserve Athletics
Robert Bruce Reserve
Keilor Park Reserve Pitch 2
Keilor Park Reserve Pitch 3
Keilor Lodge Reserve
Churchill Reserve Pitch 3
Kevin Flint Reserve Pitch 2
Churchill Reserve Pitch 2
Bon Thomas Reserve Rugby
Tallintyre Reserve
McKechnie Reserve
J.R. Parsons Reserve Tennis
Green Gully Reserve Soccer

Tennis Court Resurfacing

Dempster Park 1 court
Lionheart Reserve 3 courts
Sassella Park 2 Courts
Delahey Reserve 2 courts
Green Gully Reserve 2 Courts
Green Gully Reserve 2 Courts
Overton Lea Reserve 2 courts
Green Gully Reserve 2 Courts
Lionheart Reserve 2 Courts



Rolling Program Minimum Standards

Rolling Program	Council Minimum Standard
Sports Surface/Ground Redevelopment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing Surface replacement including warm season grass and suitable subsurface for natural sports grounds. Appropriate synthetic surface and subsurface for synthetic sports surfaces including tennis courts • Drainage • Automated irrigation system (Natural sports surfaces only) • Assessment and replacement as necessary of sports facility infrastructure including coaches boxes/players benches, goal posts with onsite goal post storage and playing surface perimeter fencing • Dimensions and infrastructure meets the State Sporting Association standards
New Sportsground Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New playing surface including warm season grass or appropriate synthetic surface and suitable subsurface • Drainage • Automatic irrigation system • Sports field fencing • Players benches • Sportsground LED lighting lit to competition standard meeting State Sporting Body LUX levels and Uniformity • Carpark – subject to needs assessment • Goal posts with onsite storage • Path networks
Sports Ground Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sportsgrounds lit to competition standard meeting State Sporting Body LUX levels and Uniformity with capacity for future expansion • LED lamps
Inclusive Facilities Upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of showers and toilets that achieve appropriate privacy • Provision of shelves and power points to vanities for general accessories • Provision of baby change tables accessible by all genders • Provision of separate umpire facilities or consideration of design options that split change rooms and amenities to enhance flexibility • Provision of social toilets that achieve appropriate privacy and meet accessibility standards
Irrigation Upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automated system designed to specific needs of the site
Warm Season Grass Conversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Line plant/instant turf with warm season grass into existing surface
Sports Netting Upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2-5 nets with synthetic carpet including 1 to remain open for community use. Based on current participation at the facility. • To relevant State Sporting Association/ Australian standards for community level use or equivalent. • Opportunities for multi-purpose use investigated depending on the site

Rolling Program	Council Minimum Standard
Kitchen Upgrades	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New flooring • New shelving • New appropriate benchtops/splash back • Oven and canopy • On a need basis determined by Council, any infrastructure required to site specific requirements or to adhere to requirements of the Building Code of Australia
Players Benches Replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFL, seating for 6 people • Soccer, seating for 9 people • Other Sports, seating as deemed appropriate by Council
Sports Shade and Cover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shade structure to be determined based on the needs of the sport and site and budget available.
Goal Post Replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soccer, portable goals conforming to Australian Standard AS4866.1-2007 • Other, as per the community level competition standard stipulated by State Sporting Association. • Suitable onsite storage as required.
Storage Refurbishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storage solution determined by the needs of the sport and site and budget available.
Sporting Reserve Fence Replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 900mm pipe and rail fence with black mesh infill • Existing fence structure at the site will be taken into account when designed to ensure amenity of the area • Ball protection fences to be determined by the needs of the sport and site and the budget available.
Sports Reserve Car Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New asphalt surface • Fencing • Lockable gates • Lighting • Drainage • Line marking of surface • Pedestrian path network • Appropriate signage • Sustainable design (e.g. rain gardens)
Tennis Court Resurfacing,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site specific depending on existing surface, club requirements and Tennis Victoria requirements.

Outdoor Sport Facility Standards

A set of proposed facility standards has been developed and is provided below. The standards will be used as the guide to which Council will deliver when developing new or upgraded sporting facilities.

The facility standards outlined below allow flexibility in accommodating the specific needs of the sporting and broader communities. They provide a minimum standard to work to; guiding expectations of what Council can reasonably be held responsible for developing.

The standards set out in the table below include spaces and particular features required for a building to comply with relevant building codes. The three categories for projects included in the Implementation Plan for facilities are as follow:

Build New

The standards set out here are the minimum space requirements for each function / element for a new sports facility building.

Refurbish Existing

A refurbishment or upgrade of an existing facility aims to ensure that specific functions of a building comply with statutory or industry standards. This relates to space required for toilets (disability access), kitchens (health code compliance) and change rooms (some state sporting industry standards). A refurbishment project will involve using the existing footprint to bring a facility up to standard where possible. In some cases a project may require an extension to a facility to comply with standards or if the cost of refurbishing an existing facility becomes greater than building a new facility Council will consider whether a new building should be built instead.

Secondary Facilities

This facility is required where there is not a home club based on site or there are a number of emerging groups who utilise the sports ground on a casual basis and there is a significant need to provide amenities to participants and spectators. This facility provides change rooms with toilets and showers, storage, basic canteen facilities, small social space if required and some shelter or shade from the elements. The design of this facility enables future components to be added to become a full pavilion.

Standard Facility Components

Council will provide the minimum fixtures and fittings for the safe and functional use of community sporting pavilions. Any items beyond the minimum standard shall be totally responsibility of the sporting clubs with the process for approval, financing and maintenance outlined in the Community Facilities Capital Contributions Policy.

Standard Facility Components

- Appropriate floor coverings
- Baby change tables accessible by all genders
- Bench style seating with hooks in change rooms
- Councils key/swipe card locking system
- Emergency, security and other light fittings
- Essential services e.g. Fire prevention and safety equipment
- Heating and cooling (not in change rooms)
- Hot water service
- Kitchen preparation surfaces, benches and cabinets
- Non-commercial oven/ stove with relevant extraction
- Plumbing fixtures and fittings for the provision of showers, toilets, sinks and hand driers
- Roller screen doors and/ or panels where appropriate
- Shelving with storage areas.

Sports Facility Standards

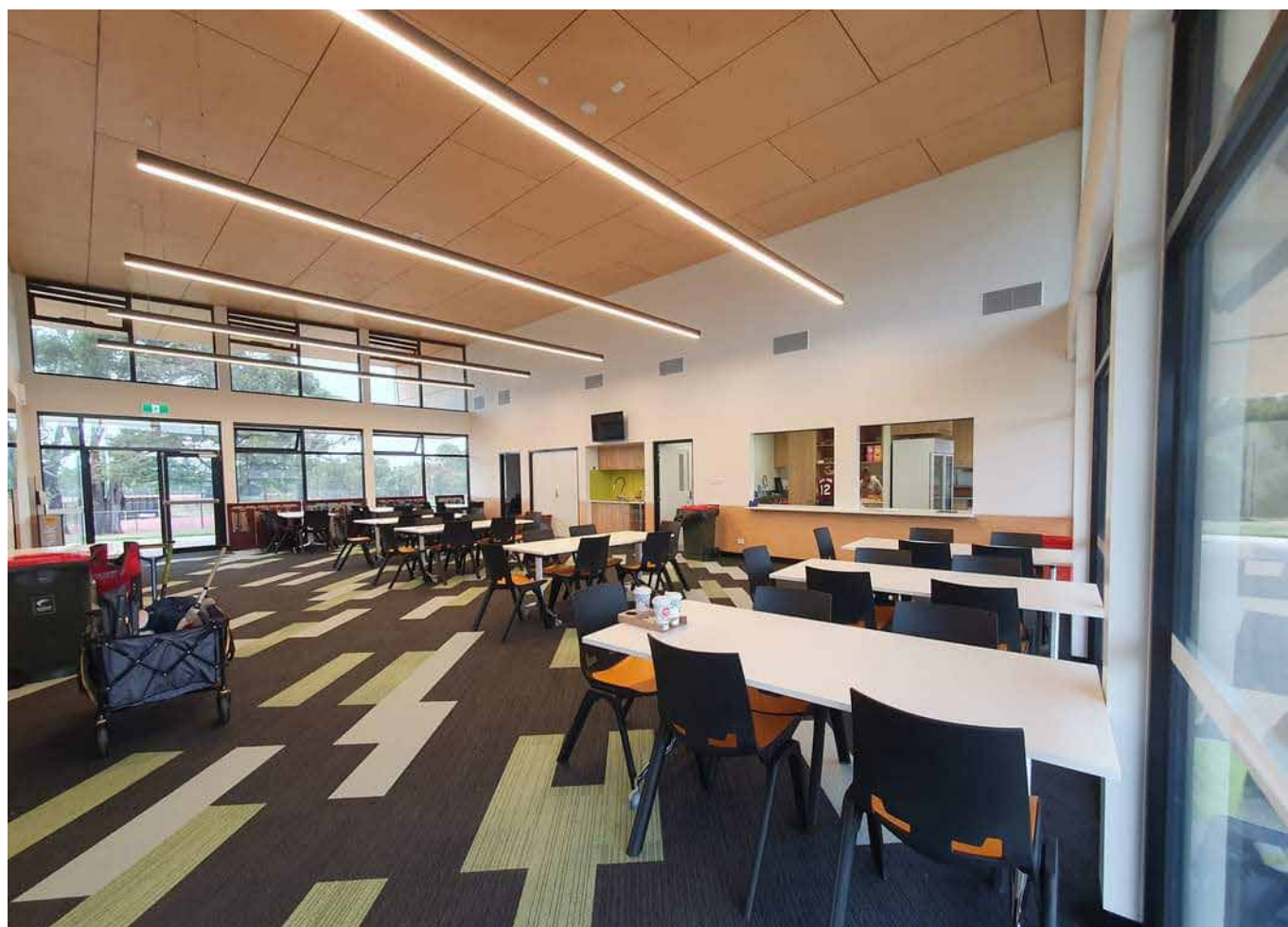
Pavilion component	Sport Type					Comments
	Softball / Baseball	Netball / Basketball	Tennis	Soccer	AFL / Cricket	
Community Room						
Build New	75m ²	75m ²	75m ²	100m ²	100m ²	A community room will be supplied to provide for both sports clubs gatherings and to encourage broader community activity and use.
Refurbish Existing	Retain existing community room in an existing pavilion					A new or additional community room space will not be developed in a refurbishment project. Existing community room spaces will be retained and updated where required.
Secondary Facilities	25m ²					The community room will be assessed per site depending on its use and has the ability to link with one of the change rooms to provide a bigger space if required.
Change Rooms						
Build New	30m ² X 2	30m ² X 2	15m ² x 2	30m ² X 2	45m ² X 2	Home and away teams are catered for in separate spaces with sufficient space to accommodate the maximum number of team players using space for the game. All change rooms will be screened from view of public access areas. Universal design principles will always be implemented.
Refurbish Existing	The minimum standard as specified above for each sport will be met where possible when refurbishing an existing facility. The size of rooms will vary depending on the existing footprint of each building.					
Secondary Facilities	30m ² X 2	30m ² X 2	15m ² x 2	30m ² X 2	45m ² X 2	As per Build New.

Pavilion component	Sport Type					Comments
	Softball / Baseball	Netball / Basketball	Tennis	Soccer	AFL / Cricket	
Toilets						
Build New	15m² X 2	15m² X 2	15m² X 2	20m² X 2	25m² X 2	To meet Universal Design Standard.
Refurbish Existing	The minimum standard as specific above for each sport will be met where possible when refurbishing an existing facility. The size of rooms will vary depending on the existing footprint of each building.					
Secondary Facilities	15m² X 2	15m² X 2	15m² X 2	15m² X 2	15m² X 2	
Kitchen /Kiosk						
Build New	25m²	25m²	25m²	25m²	25m²	An area able to serve simple pre-packaged food and beverages externally through an opening window and internally in accordance with the sanitary requirements of the Building Code of Australia. Design should include kitchen storage.
Refurbish Existing	The minimum standard as specified above for each sport will be met where possible when refurbishing an existing facility. The size of rooms will vary depending on the existing footprint of each building.					
Secondary Facilities	15m²	15m²	15m²	15m²	15m²	Basic Kiosk with external opening service window
Umpires/Referees Room						
Build New	10m² x 2	10m² x 2	N/A	20m² x 2	15m² x 2	Able to cater for women, men and gender diverse people. Separate shower and change cubicles. Shared locker/ foyer area. One all gender toilet.
Refurbish Existing	The minimum standard as specified above for each sport will be met where possible when refurbishing an existing facility. The size of rooms will vary depending on the existing footprint of each building.					
Secondary Facilities	10m² unisex	10m² unisex	N/A	20m² unisex	15m² unisex	

Pavilion component	Sport Type					Comments
	Softball / Baseball	Netball / Basketball	Tennis	Soccer	AFL / Cricket	
Storeroom						
Build New	15m² X 2	15m² X 2	15m² X 2	20m² X 2	20m² X 2	Sufficient space for seasonal users to store appropriate to sport requirement training, program or match equipment and community user's group/s to store some equipment.
Refurbish Existing	The minimum standard as specified above for each sport will be met where possible when refurbishing an existing facility. The size of rooms will vary depending on the existing footprint of each building.					
New buildings should consider incorporating external and internal storage access.						
Secondary Facilities	20m²	20m²	20m²	20m²	20m²	Consider providing 10m² internally and 10m² externally.
Public Toilet						
Build New	1M + 1F DDA Code compliant					Toilets that are separate to change rooms and with ability to be open for public use when tenant club not present at facility. Consider Council's Public Toilet Strategy (Exeloo toilet or not)
Refurbish Existing	1M + 1F DDA Code compliant or one unisex DDA compliant toilet subject to any site restraints in the existing facility.					
Secondary Facilities	3M + 3F with at least 1 DDA compliant fully accessible unisex toilet.					
First Aid						
Build New	15m²	15m²	15m²	15m²	15m²	Provision will be made for first aid room.
Refurbish Existing	The minimum standard as specified above for each sport will be met where possible when refurbishing an existing facility. The size of rooms will vary depending on the existing footprint of each building.					This may be a designed for purpose space or at a minimum will be a multiuse space that can function as an accessible first aid room for match and training days, including stretcher and ambulance access.
Secondary Facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Pavilion component	Sport Type					Comments
	Softball / Baseball	Netball / Basketball	Tennis	Soccer	AFL / Cricket	
Cleaners' store						
Build New	1m²	1m²	1m²	4m²	1m²	Secure storage cupboard provided for cleaning equipment and chemicals.
Refurbish Existing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not included unless already exists at facility.
Secondary Facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not included.
External Bin Storage						
Build New	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	Externally accessible area to neatly store bins and recycling material .
Refurbish Existing	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	Facility dependent.
Secondary Facilities	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	3X 3m²	Facility dependent.
Administration Room						
Build New	10m²	10m²	10m²	15m²	15m²	Able to be isolated from sporting component of the pavilion to assist team office administration, meeting and non-sporting 'broader use' activity.
Refurbish Existing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A unless already component of the facility with size to remain the same.
Secondary Facilities	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Not included.

Pavilion component	Sport Type					Comments
	Softball / Baseball	Netball / Basketball	Tennis	Soccer	AFL / Cricket	
Shelter						
Build New	Shelter would generally take the form of a covered veranda area. Size may be dictated by the design of the pavilion but it would generally be able to accommodate a team gathering.					
Refurbish Existing	Dependent on demand and budget					
Secondary Facilities	Shelter facing the sports ground/s the size of the sports toilet building will be provided.					
Car Parking						
Build New	Size determined by level of use and planning permit specifications. Components as per Council minimum standard					
Refurbish Existing	As required at existing size with components as per Council minimum standard.					
Secondary Facilities	Size determined by level of use and planning permit specifications. Components as per Council minimum standard					



Indoor Facility Development

Indoor sports facility hierarchy

The following indoor sports facility hierarchy assists Council in making strategic decisions on the level of provision necessary to service the current and future needs of its sporting groups and residents. The hierarchy will assist in determining the number of facilities provided by Brimbank in each hierarchy and outline the key facility components, functions and estimated catchment for each.

Local
1-2 indoor courts
Club training and competition use
All gender change rooms
Officials room
Spectator seating
Approx. 5km catchment
District
3-5 indoor courts
Club and association training and competition use
All gender change rooms
Officials room
Spectator seating
Primary catchment 5km
Secondary catchment 10km
Regional
6+ indoor courts (8+ courts for Netball)
Large association training and competition use
All gender change rooms
Officials room
Spectator seating
Approx. 15km catchment



Engagement with the relevant State Sporting Associations provided the latest facility requirements for each sport and their willingness to occupy and share facilities.

Facility requirements

Table Tennis

- Floor space required including portable barriers:
 - One table – 5m x 10m
 - 16 tables – 25m x 50m
 - 24 tables – 35m x 50m
- Sprung wooden floor.
- Minimum 4m from floor to ceiling.
- Wall colour other than white.
- Minimum 600 lux lighting (no sky lights).
- Storage for maximum 36 table tennis tables, 4 metres x 10 metres, including portable barriers and umpires chairs.
- Access to toilets and drinking water.
- Change rooms are not mandatory.

Badminton

- Diagonal length of full rectangular court is 14.723 metres.
- Four badminton courts (doubles) is 33m x 18m.
- 200 lux level lighting for recreational play, 750 to 1000 lux for international.
- Line marking 40mm wide must be easily distinguishable and preferably be white or yellow.
- A minimum height of 7.6m floor to ceiling
- Access to change rooms, toilets and drinking water.

Volleyball

- Court is 18m x 9m and surrounded by a free zone 3m wide on all sides.
- Minimum of 7m ceiling height (9m preferred) from the playing surface.
- White line marking 5cm wide, different from the colour of the floor.
- The boundary lines are the two side lines and end lines.
- The centre line divides the court into two equal courts, 9m x 9m each. This line extends from beneath the net from sideline to sideline.
- Flat and a light coloured surface, wooden or synthetic surfaces allowed.

Futsal

- Basketball sized court with retractable basketball rings are essential to allow for full use of the court.
- Spring based wooden floor.
- Recessed lights or nets to protect ceiling lights
- Reinforced spectator glass
- Portable benches between courts.

Shared facilities

Although badminton, table tennis, volleyball and futsal have their own unique facility requirements, they are able to share the same facility. With the appropriate floor area, ceiling height, line marking, run off areas, equipment storage and player and spectator amenities, these sports are capable of sharing the same facility. Models of this shared facility approach are in place at Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC) and Maribyrnong Secondary College.

Assessment of available Council owned sites and other opportunities for development

It is anticipated that approximately 20,000 square metres (2 hectares) of land will be required to accommodate the proposed four court facility. This equates to approximately 6,000 square meters of indoor court space and amenity, 12,000 square metres of car parking and 2,000 square metres of circulation space.

In 2020, ten Council owned sites and other known opportunities were evaluated for their suitability to accommodate the development of a new indoor sports facility. The assessment of these sites has been updated in 2023, with two of the sites (274 Forrest Street, Ardeer and St Albans Leisure Centre, Keilor Downs) being removed due to recent developments no longer resulting in sufficient space for an indoor stadium.

The eight sites outlined below remain as potentially being suitable for the development of an indoor sports facility subject to further detailed assessment via established site assessment criteria in order to confirm their suitability.

Council Owned Sites

1. Energy Park, Sunshine

Energy Park is a centrally located 54 ha parcel of land that is owned by Council and zoned PPRZ. The Park is the only site in the south of the municipality that has the attributes to accommodate a regional multi-sports facility, being suitably sized and near the Western Ring Road, Western Highway and bus and train routes.

Energy Park is identified in Council's Sports Facility Development Plan 2018 as a site for a future Regional Sports Facility including a multipurpose Indoor Sports Stadium. Council is in the process of developing the Sunshine Energy Park Vision Plan which builds on the Transforming Brimbank – Sunshine Priority Precinct Vision 2050 adopted by Council in 2021. It aims to leverage off the billions of dollars of development and infrastructure that is being delivered in Brimbank and Melbourne's West over the coming decade that will transform the city. The draft Vision Plan shows a range of future uses at the site, including a strong indoor and outdoor sporting facilities presence that will assist in meeting the Brimbank community demand for sports facilities outlined in this plan. The draft Vision Plan also positions Sunshine Energy Park as an opportunity for Council to partner with State Government Agencies in developing a State Level sporting facility, seeing it become a key destination in the west, supporting the establishment of the Sunshine Priority Precinct.

2. Sydenham Park, Sydenham

Sydenham Park is a large reserve of 231 Hectares in Keilor North with inherent environmental, cultural and geological values. Its distinct topography with dividing escarpment, river valleys with vistas across the Maribyrnong Valley, grasslands, fauna and flora population provides an extraordinary backdrop to this parkland setting. The site includes Keilor Public Golf Course and the Keilor Golf Driving Range; the Keilor District Model Aircraft Society; Robertson's Homestead and a Council depot. The remainder of the park is characterised by a mostly flat plain incised by river valleys. Melbourne Airport is located to the north east of Sydenham Park. The Sydenham Park Master Plan does not identify an indoor stadium in the future plans for the site.

3. Keilor Basketball and Netball Stadium

Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium is located at one of Council's largest sporting reserves, Keilor Park Recreation Reserve. An additional three indoor courts were developed at this venue in 2015, bringing total court numbers to six which has assisted in addressing current demand. Further expansion of KBNS is possible as there is space available on site to accommodate an additional three or more courts.

4. West Sunshine Community Centre

The West Sunshine Community Centre is a 3.22 ha site owned by Council and accommodates the West Sunshine Neighbourhood House, Indoor Sports Court and Norm Tallintyre Reserve (one cricket oval). It is the only Council owned indoor sports court in the south of the municipality.

5. Cyril Clements Reserve, Kings Park

Cyril Clements Reserve is a Council owned reserve that includes open space, Westvale Community Centre for community programs, a Men's Shed and Community Garden. The site has significant environmental considerations.

6. Sassella Park Recreation Reserve, Deer Park

Sassella Park is a 4.86ha site with two community halls, guide hall, scout hall, athletics track, tennis courts with separate pavilion and a stand alone playgroup building.

Other Opportunities

7. Sunshine Secondary College West Campus

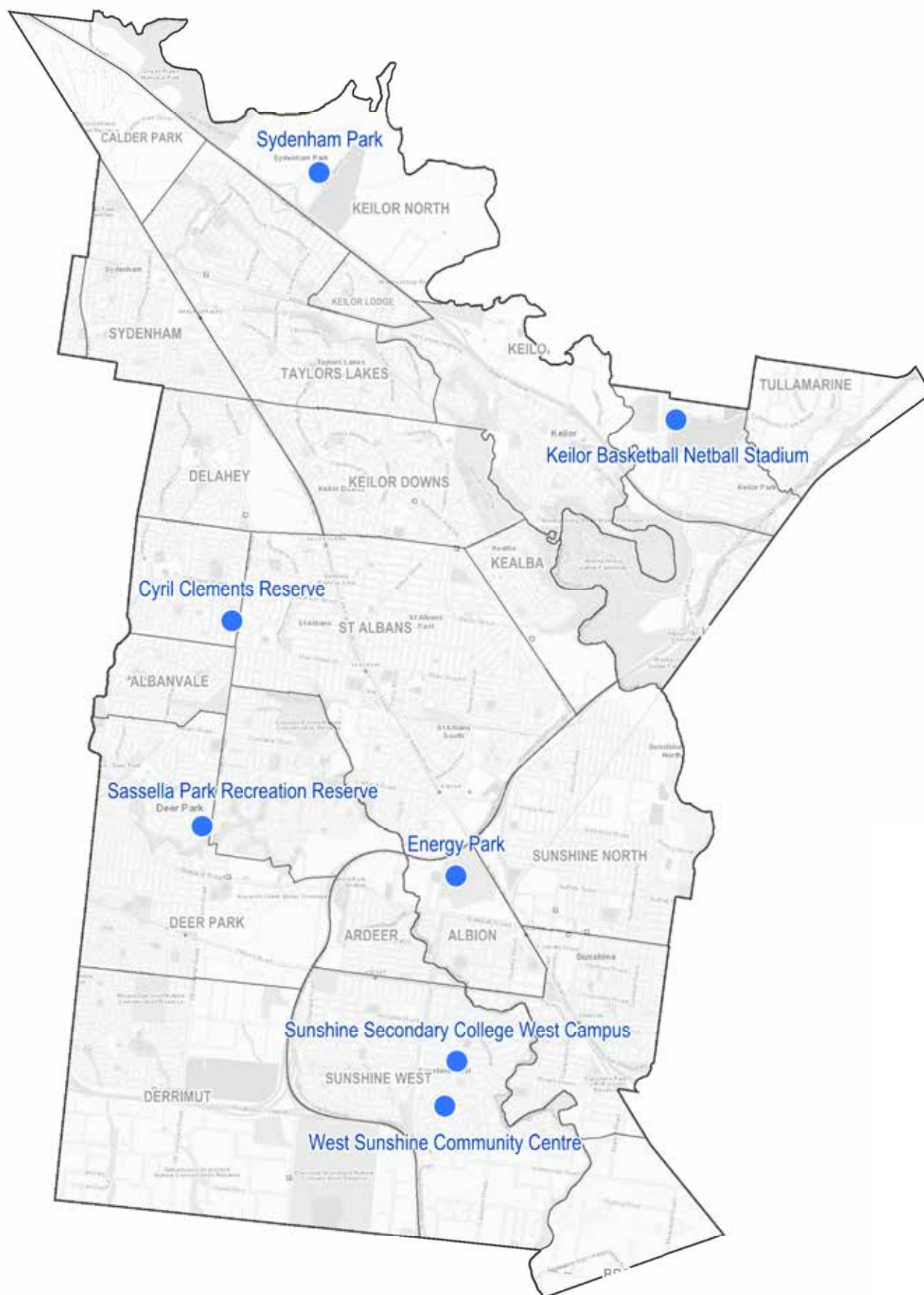
Sunshine College recently built one indoor court to netball standard. The school have previously expressed interest in working with Council to deliver two additional community courts in the future.

8. Acquire Land in South of Municipality

In future identify non Council owned land in the south of the Municipality with the required characteristics for acquisition for the indoor courts development. Possible sites include surplus education land such as Graham Street Sunshine.

Map of potential future sites in Brimbank

A map of potential future sites assessed is provided below.



Strategic Site Assessment Criteria

1. Suitability of Site

a. Land size and ownership

Is the site of sufficient size and owned by Council to enable the efficient development of the required facility?

b. Future expansion capability

Does the site have surrounding available land for future facility expansion?

c. Planning / Zoning

Does the site meet all current and proposed planning requirements needed to support the development of the required facility?

d. Suitable topography

Is the site suitably flat and have suitable stable soil conditions?

e. Site services

Are existing services available on site or closely located to minimise cost?

f. Neighbourhood impacts

Does the proposed site have limited impact on local residents? i.e. noise, traffic, lighting and amenity?

2. Demand

a. Location to catchment population

Will the site location adequately service current and future Brimbank residents living outside the primary catchment of the KBNS?

3. Environmental Impacts

a. Preserve Open Space

Will development of the site preserve open space used by the community?

b. Preserve Biodiversity

Will the development of the site lead preserve biodiversity and native species?

4. Alignment with Strategic Plans

a. Site identified as suitable for Indoor Stadium

Has the site been previously been identified in a Council strategic document as being suitable for the development of an indoor sports facility?

b. Development of site in line with other Council Strategic Plans

Is changing the use of the site supported by other Council strategic documents?

5. Accessibility

a. Visibility of site

Is the site positioned near a major traffic zones and provides high passive surveillance?

b. Site access

Is the site accessible by car and is there space for appropriate levels of on and off site car parking, bus parking and group drop off and pick up?

6. Financial Impact

a. Capital Cost of Development

Is it likely there are minimal significant site issues that will increase the potential cost of development?

Site Scoring

Each of the nominated sites were assessed against the site assessment criteria and given a score on a scale between 0 and 10, with 0 being that the site does not meet the selection criteria ranging through to 10 being highly meets the selection criteria. The outcome of the strategic scoring of sites is listed below.

Venue	Overall Score
1. Energy Park	124
2. Land acquisition in south of municipality	112
3. Sunshine Secondary College	109
4. Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium	108
5. Sassella Park	71
6. West Sunshine Community Centre	69
7. Cyril Clements Reserve	61
8. Sydenham Park	52

Analysis

As a result of the assessment of the identified Council owned sites or known opportunities it is considered that only three existing sites are suitable for consideration for the future development of additional indoor courts in Brimbank. These ranked in order are Energy Park, Sunshine Secondary College and Keilor Basketball Netball Stadium however each site has factors that need to be considered. The option of identifying non Council owned land ideal for the proposed development and acquiring it in the South of the Municipality also scored highly as the exact attributes required could be obtained.

Energy Park scored the highest due to the size of the developable land, future expansion capabilities and location to catchment population. Energy Park has also been identified as a potential site for a regional sports precinct in Council's Sports Facility Development Plan 2018 and more recently in the Sunshine Energy Park Vision Plan. The site scored low on existing site services and Council is aware of the considerations with ground settlement due to its previous use, making this a longer term development option.

The option of identifying non Council owned land scored second highest as the attributes required for the indoor stadium development could be met. Acquiring the land would add to the overall project cost. The land purchase price would be offset by the ability to preserve existing open space and biodiversity. A site would be selected if it highly meets the site selection criteria.

Increasing the number of shared community courts at Sunshine Secondary College and developing additional courts at KBNS and were both well supported during the assessment process. The location of Sunshine Secondary College and its potential to service residents in the southern part of the municipality makes it more appealing than additional courts at KBNS.

The impact and cost for the redevelopment of existing facilities at Sassella Park and West Sunshine Community Centre to cater for an indoor stadium / increasing the number of courts on site adds significant cost to the project and would have a significant impact on existing users meaning these sites are not considered suitable.

Cyril Clements is not considered suitable due to environmental considerations and the loss of open space and biodiversity.

Sydenham Park is located in the north of the municipality, close to KBNS and has significant environmental and cultural heritage considerations that make them a less suitable sites for the development of additional courts to meet the needs of the Brimbank community. In addition the Sydenham Park Master Plan does not include any future plans for an indoor stadium.



Future actions



This report concludes with the following future actions. Council should:

1. Affirm its commitment to working in partnership with local sporting bodies and other organisations to deliver the best value for money solutions for the Brimbank community.
2. Continue to work with local sports clubs, with a focus on club development, to ensure current facilities are being managed sustainably and used at optimal levels. Emphasis should be placed on encouraging local clubs to work more closely with target groups such as females, gender diverse, newly arrived residents, juniors and people with disabilities.
3. Affirm its commitment to the criteria and weightings set out in the Facility Development Matrix as the methodology by which all sports facility development projects will be assessed.
4. Continue to fund and implement annual rolling program priorities as detailed within this Plan via the annual Capital Works Plan.
5. Note the Facility Standards outlined in section 4 of this Plan.
6. Note the lists of projects and their priority order as outlined in section 4 of this Plan.
7. Continue with planning to establish regional sports facilities Energy Park providing for a range of sporting activities including an indoor stadium to meet the future needs of the Brimbank community.
8. Undertake a review of the following policies incorporating the Victorian State Governments Fair Access Policy and Fair Access Principles and continue to implement the:
 - Sports Facility Hire, Licenses and Leases Agreement Policy and Guidelines for sports clubs.
 - Community Facilities and Reserves Allocation Policy and Guidelines for sports facilities to deliver fair, equitable and consistent outcomes for sporting clubs and community groups.
 - Community Facilities Capital Contribution Policy that clearly defines Council and sporting club responsibilities towards the improvement of Council owned sporting facilities.
9. Due to the significant health and wellbeing challenges faced by the Brimbank community, Council should advocate and seek financial support from the State and Federal Government to address the high demand for sports facilities by the Brimbank community.
10. Actively pursue partnerships with local schools, other organisations and neighbouring municipalities for future development of sports facilities.
11. Partner with the education / private sector and work with local schools / private sector to negotiate increased community access to existing indoor courts at school / private facilities.



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