

Budget 2023-27 and Council Plan Year 3 Actions

Results from Shaping Banyule and in-person engagement -
December 2022 to March 2023

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1. Project overview

This document provides an overview of the Budget 2023-27 and Council Plan 2021-25 Year 3 Action Plan community engagement process. It collates data collected from Council's online engagement platform, Shaping Banyule, emails and drop-in sessions.

As part of preparing the Budget 2023-27 and Council Plan Year 3 Action Plan, the following community engagement approach was used:

- a longer period for early engagement on the financial principles used to inform Council's Budget 2023-27
- early release of the draft annual Capital Works and Initiatives Programs
- online community Information sessions
- in-person community drop-in sessions
- retention of the opportunity for residents to speak to feedback.

Community engagement occurred from mid-December 2022 to early-March 2023 on:

- high level financial principles
- draft Capital Works Program
- draft Initiatives Program
- Council Plan 2021-25 - Draft Year 3 Action Plan 2023-24

Feedback was sought via Council's engagement platform, Shaping Banyule, two online information sessions on 13 and 14 December 2022 and two community drop-in sessions in February 2023.

As Council is no longer required to conduct a formal submission process under the former provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989* (S.223), the Councillor Feedback Forum held on 7 March 2023 continued the process of giving people the opportunity to speak to their written feedback in an open forum to Councillors.

2. Community engagement objectives

Five objectives were identified for engaging community on this project.

Objective 1

To continue to build awareness of the strategic direction of Council and show how Council is working towards delivery of the Community Vision 2041 through its Budget 2023-27 and Council Plan Year 3 Action Plan.

Objective 2

To strengthen community awareness of considerations, evidence and constraints that form part of Council's decision-making and planning processes.

Objective 3

To engage with community on negotiables related to Budget 2023-27 and the Council Plan Year 3 Action Plan.

Objective 4

To invite overall feedback on Council's Budget 2023-27 and Council Plan Year 3 Action Plan.

Objective 5

To ensure compliance with the Local Government Act 2020 and Council's Community Engagement Policy.

3. Engagement methods and participation

Four methods of community engagement were delivered as part of this project. All methods of community engagement were complemented by communications activities.

Information sessions

Audience: Banyule community members
13 and 14 December 2022

Shaping Banyule animations and surveys

Audience: Banyule community members
20 December 2022 - 2 March 2023

Budget drop-in sessions

Audience: Banyule community members
1 and 2 February 2023

Councillor Forum

Audience: Banyule community members
7 March 2023

3.1 Information sessions

Two online Budget information sessions were held at the following times:

- Tuesday 13 December 2022, 6pm-6.30pm
- Wednesday 14 December 2022, 11.30am-12pm.

Sessions were held at different times to allow people with different work and family schedules to attend. Each session went for around 30 minutes. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions about the draft Capital Works and Initiatives Programs and the process to submit feedback.

The recording of the 14 December session was posted on Shaping Banyule on 15 December to give people who could not attend either session access to the information.

The information sessions outlined:

- the stages of community engagement, Council consideration of feedback and Budget adoption
- the financial management principles, open for feedback on Shaping Banyule from 20 December 2023
- the draft Initiatives Program, open for feedback on Shaping Banyule from 20 December 2023
- the draft Capital Works Program, open for feedback on Shaping Banyule from 20 December 2023.

3.1.1 Participation

Fourteen community members attended the session on 13 December and seven attended on 14 December.

The recording of the 14 December information session was viewed 27 times.

3.2 Shaping Banyule online feedback

A project home page was created on Council's digital engagement platform, Shaping Banyule. Animations were included on the page, along with supporting context and surveys. Officer contact details were provided for community to ask questions.

The animations were an important way of increasing community understanding of Banyule's Budget 2023-27 and Council Plan Year 3 Action Plan engagement process. They also aimed to make technical content accessible and provide a starting point from which to engage with the engagement questions. Animations had the important function of building community knowledge on what can otherwise be complex topics.

People who provided feedback went in the draw for one of eight \$50 local shopping gift cards. This incentive was considered important due the complex and technical nature of the content, and the importance of community voice in finalising these documents.

3.2.1 Participation

Shaping Banyule pages were open from 20 December 2022 to 2 March 2023. During this time the pages were viewed more than 2,000 times by 991 unique visitors.

Sixty-two people provided feedback via Shaping Banyule and five by email. There were 23 requests to speak from 22 people at the hearing of feedback with Councillors on 7 March 2023.

Table 1 - Shaping Banyule and email feedback

Document for feedback	Community members who provided feedback (#)	Requests to speak at the 7 March hearing of feedback (#)
Council Plan – Year 3 Actions	15	1
Budget 2023-27	52	21
Total	67	23*

**One person requested to speak on two different pieces of feedback each, making the total number of potential speakers 22.*

Demographics

Feedback on Shaping Banyule and by email was received from community members living in all Banyule suburbs except Ivanhoe East, Macleod, Watsonia North and Yallambie.

All age groups were represented except for 15-19 and 85+ years. One person identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, two as living with disability, six as being from an LGBTIQ+ community and four as speaking English as a second or other language submitted feedback.

Thirty-three people who submitted feedback identified as male, 26 female, four preferred not to say and one person identified as a transgender woman. The three people who provided feedback by email did not state their gender.

3.3 Drop-in sessions

Two in-person Budget drop-in sessions were held at the following times:

- Wednesday 1 February 2023, 2-5pm, Watermarc, 1 Flintoff Street
- Thursday 2 February 2023, 4-7pm, Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub.

Sessions were held at different times to allow people with different work and family schedules to drop-in.

3.3.1 Participation

Over the two sessions, Council officers spoke with 33 community members about the draft Capital Works and Initiatives Programs and the financial principles being used to develop Council's Budget 2023-27.

16 people participated in a 'dotmocracy' activity to provide feedback on the financial principles. As part of this activity, participants stated their level of agreement, from strongly disagree to strongly agree, with each principle. This in-person activity was the same activity as was used on Shaping Banyule.

3.4 Councillor Forum

The Councillor Forum on 7 March 2023 provided community members that submitted feedback up to three minutes each to address Councillors about their feedback.

By opting-in to this process, community members could present slides and videos to complement their written feedback and go deeper into their feedback. The Forum also gave Councillors the opportunity to ask questions to understand community views and sentiment.

The Forum was considered important due to an historic precedent established by previous legislative requirements that allowed the community to address Councillors about Budget submissions. It also allowed Council to practise good governance principles to strengthen transparency and build trust and understanding between Council and community members.

3.4.1 Participation

Of the 22 people that initially requested to talk to 23 pieces of feedback, 16 attended on the evening of Tuesday 7 March 2023 and spoke to their feedback.

All Councillors attended the Forum except Cr Dimarelos, who was an apology.

4. Communications

4.1 Shaping Banyule campaigns

Five Shaping Banyule campaigns were sent to Shaping Banyule members:

- 7 December 2022 – 984 members – to advise of online Budget 2023-27 information sessions
- 23 December 2022 – 1,734 members – to advise that Budget 2023-27 engagement was open
- 16 January 2023 – 1,004 members – to advise of upcoming drop-in sessions
- 16 February 2023 – 1,039 members – to advise that Council Plan Year 3 Action Plan engagement was open
- 5 March 2023 – 1,016 members – to advise of the Councillor Feedback Forum on 7 March.

4.2 Targeted emails

Emails were sent to Council's **Advisory and Population Committee members** to advise of opportunities to attend the Budget 2023-27 information sessions and provide feedback via Shaping Banyule on Budget 2023-27 and the Council Plan Year 3 Action Plan.

Emails were also sent to **Community Vision 2041 deliberative engagement participants**, and community members who provided feedback on **Budget 2022-26 and the Council Plan Year 2 Action Plan** in April 2022, to advise of the engagement activities.

4.3 Banyule Banner

A feature article in the **Banyule Banner** in February 2023, distributed to over 55,000 households and businesses, helped to boost participation and inform people about factors influencing the development of Council's Budget 2023-27 and Council Plan Year 3 Action Plan.

4.4 Social Media

In addition, the following social media campaigns were carried out to promote the engagement with the following results:

- **Budget 2023-27 – Banyule corporate channels (unpaid)**
 - 12 January 2023 – Facebook (video); clicks = 5, reach = 643
 - 13 January 2023 – Instagram (video); clicks = 2, reach = 306
 - 24 January 2023 – Facebook (post); clicks = 0, reach = 543
- **Budget 2023-27 – paid campaigns**
 - 8–24 February 2023, campaign A (image), Facebook and Instagram combined; clicks = 163, impressions = 10,750
 - 8–24 February 2023, campaign B (video), Facebook and Instagram combined; clicks = 265, impressions = 12,139
- **Council Plan Year 3 Actions – Banyule corporate channels (unpaid)**
 - 16 February 2023 – Facebook (video); clicks = 76, reach = 2,400
 - 16 February 2023 – Instagram (video); clicks = 0, reach = 330
- **Council Plan Year 3 Actions – paid campaigns**
 - 22 February – 2 March 2023, campaign (video), Facebook and Instagram combined; clicks = 80, impressions = 11,104

5. Feedback summary

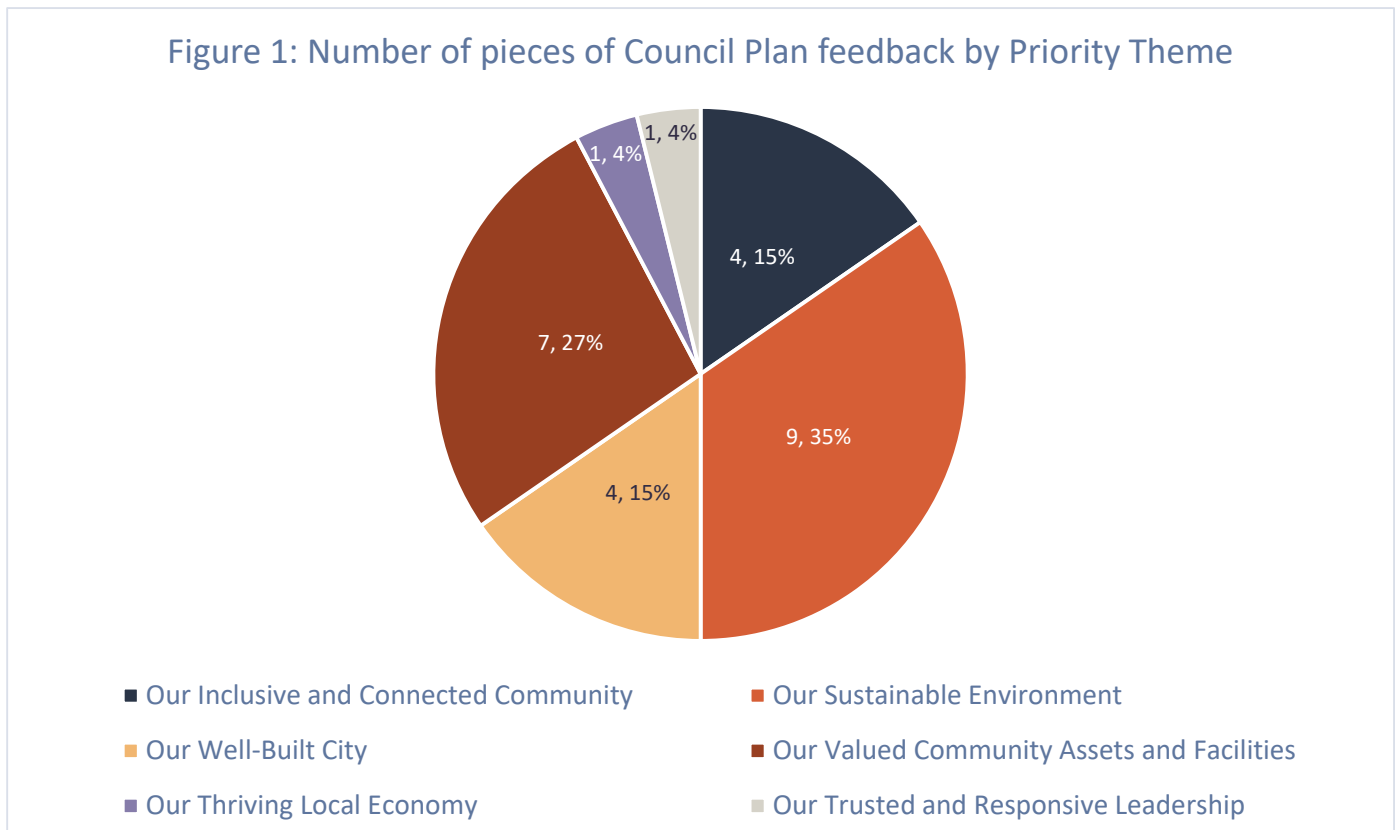
This section collates feedback received via Shaping Banyule, by email and during drop-in sessions.

5.1 Council Plan - Year 3 Action Plan

Fifteen community members provided feedback on the Council Plan - Year 3 Action Plan via Shaping Banyule.

Each person could provide feedback on up to three groups of Actions under three different Priority Themes. The structure of the Council Plan is that Actions sit under Strategies, which sit under six Priority Themes. The Priority Themes in the Council Plan are the same as those in Banyule's Community Vision 2041.

Figure 1 shows, by Priority Theme, the 26 pieces of feedback received from the 15 people who contributed.



Written feedback is presented in the tables below. Note that while text has been altered slightly to improve legibility and reduce length, the meaning and essence of feedback has not been changed.

5.1.1 Priority Theme 1 - Our Inclusive and Connected Community

In response to the question 'Do you agree that the [19] actions listed will deliver on the Priority Theme to become an Inclusive and Connected Community?', the average rating from four respondents on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree) was 8.25, suggesting high-level support for the 19 actions.

Of the four people that elected to provide feedback on the actions under Priority Theme 1, three provided written feedback, which can be found in **Table 2** below.

Table 2 - Council Plan feedback via Shaping Banyule under Priority Theme 1

Should any of these actions be changed or should new ones be added?	Do you have any suggestions to improve the services we provide to create an Inclusive and Connected Community?
Council Plan feedback 1 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
[The actions] look good as is.	No
Council Plan feedback 2 (received 17 Feb 2023)	
<p>In addition to Action #5.</p> <p>NEW:</p> <p>Banyule council to work collaboratively with local Art Societies and local artists to:</p> <p>Develop an 'Arts Precinct' building or upgrade an existing building or warehouse area, for all artists and art societies to use the collective space. This space can have studios and storage areas (large & small) and gallery spaces for artists' and societies to work in/from and showcase their artworks to compliment and expand on the ILCH studio and galleries.</p> <p>Art Societies and artists can rent/lease the studio areas and galleries for a subsidised fee from Banyule Council.</p> <p>Art Societies such as Heidelberg Artist Society, Diamond Valley Art Society, Banyule Open Studios, Thou Art Mum Art Society, Northern Art, etc., should be able to have a permanent workspace area for designated days, open 7 days a week, etc.</p>	<p>As per comments already provided.</p>
Council Plan feedback 3 (received 17 Feb 2023)	
<p>Council area has 40% of its population either single residents or couples without children. Council seems to ignore this 40% demographic and does not provide services to these people. Thus, for demographic is largely working, most services are during the day, for kids or for families.</p>	<p>Provide services for single people or couples without kids. After hours or weekends, recreational activities that are for adults +18 that do not involve large amounts of spending money. Actually, ask this demographic what they would like.</p>

5.1.2 Priority Theme 2 - Our Sustainable Environment

In response to the question 'Do you agree that the [15] actions listed will deliver on the Priority Theme Our Sustainable Environment?', the average rating from the seven respondents on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree) was 6.7, suggesting medium-level support for the 15 actions under this Theme.

Of the nine people that elected to provide feedback on actions under Priority Theme 2, eight gave written feedback, which can be found in **Table 3** below.

Table 3 - Council Plan feedback via Shaping Banyule under Priority Theme 2

Should any of these actions be changed or should new ones be added?	Do you have any suggestions to improve the services we provide to create a Sustainable Environment?
Council Plan feedback 4 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
Solar panels on all council owned sites. Subsidised solar panels for all residents.	As per previous comment.
Council Plan feedback 5 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
Review all these action areas to reduce buzz words and bureaucratic jargon.	Think how to provide services across all Banyule and cease distorting "evidence" to justify only delivering services as a quasi- social justice agenda.
Council Plan feedback 6 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
Strengthen VPO1 to help maintain Urban Forest. Make cats subject to the same containment rules as dogs, for their safety, and to protect wildlife. Support Monty Hub which plans to provide Biodiversity Education (as well as encouraging us to live the way we should be living!). Support 'Gardens for Wildlife' project.	Work on the soft plastic recycling problem. Bush Crews need more helpers — Weed Teams to work on regular plans in our remnant vegetation areas where there is still some good Biodiversity left at all levels. (At present, it appears that it's the weeds which are being protected in some reserves.) Address threats to canopy Indigenous trees. Ivy eventually kills these trees — so do Hawthorn, Cotoneaster, Pittosporum if allowed to grow close to them. Work with LXP to repair the Railway Wildlife Corridor and allow weeding in the Mayona Eltham Copper Butterfly site. Create a plan for removing Priority Weeds.
Council Plan feedback 7 (received 17 Feb 2023)	
These items seem appropriate to me.	This may already be a part of these items, and it seems a trend well outside the scope of one council, but it seems to me, in my admittedly limited experience with it, that arborists have become a little too gung-ho over the last while, chopping out entire trees when some surgical work may have yielded better outcomes. Perhaps it's to do with the trees I happened to have seen being rotten or infested with something not visible. I have no speciality in this area, but I find the removal of entire trees, or their decapitation, can be quite distressing. Especially since it usually comes with no notice to residents nearby.

Council Plan feedback 8 (received 17 Feb 2023)

Community gardens that are properly funded and taken care of.

Lay off attacking people's pets, cats and dogs. They are a part of the community too.

Council Plan feedback 9 (received 21 Feb 2023)

Remove the use of known neurotoxins as weed control. They kill bees and animals and give people cancer. Known fact, no denying it. At least make your policy a Green one.

Zero waste plan is not feasible. People have waste. It will always occur. If council spent pick it up, what am I paying the council for?

Council Plan feedback 10 (received 22 Feb 2023)

Numbers 8 and 12 should include provisions that see any proposed development within Banyule unable to remove trees. In recent years, namely with the Rosanna library and other residential rezoning, far too many trees have been lost in Banyule. As a corollary to this, we have started to witness the decline of local birdlife (i.e. gang-gang cockatoo) and butterflies and moths in our area, primarily for the very fact that they no longer have the wilderness to survive in. BCC should ensure that 'tree offsets' to address those lost through development - residential, business or governmental - are planted in the same area where older trees were removed.

Too often trees are cut down with little to no forethought given to the ramifications of such action. The council could employ an oversight committee - a real one, impartial, and not one that employs commercial arborists or landscape gardeners - whose purpose is to truly consider the effect/s of any new development within Banyule. Flora and fauna continue to be the first victims to new development in our area.

Council Plan feedback 11 (received 26 Feb 2023)

Public transport: improve frequency of buses. That would reduce the need for car usage in the area, with the added benefit of immensely helping our numerous elderly neighbours to have a richer social life.

I find myself having to drive too often in summer because walking up Lower Plenty Road is hardcore any day the temperature is over 26C degrees. I cannot imagine myself or anyone over 60 years going up the hill without risking their health. The bus frequency is 40mins on the weekends. Also, many bus stops have no rain cover or any shade for hot days, yet we need to wait up to 40mins on the weekends, 20 mins on working days. Do you council people use public transport often? I doubt it.

Buses should connect Banyule's neighbourhood centres, libraries, nursing homes, shopping hubs, schools and sport centres, plus run all along steep streets like Lower Plenty Road.

Can Banyule's council set up a council owned transport company, or hire a private one, that runs a few routes frequently to efficiently connect our council key public spaces mentioned above with nursing homes and schools as a priority?

Improve public transport so people go out and about more locally without needing their car, thus reducing carbon emissions and energising our local community.

Have more trees planted but be clever so the roots don't break the walking path or other nearby infrastructure.

More trees in parks.

More recycling bins.

Regular repair workshops on libraries and community centres. Not just one-off events.

Educate people to stop throwing perfectly working appliances to the street nature strips. They can bring them to op shops or sell them online. The same for perfectly functional furniture which is often ditched on our streets without booking the hard rubbish collection.

Education and options for reusing and repairing of goods before throwing them to the recycling bin or in the worst cases, ditching them to the street. More recycling bins on the streets and more education on recycling to business owners and adults over 35 years in general.

Also, increase bike path coverage in a safe way for cyclists. Add bike repair posts on some bike paths spots.

5.1.3 Priority Theme 3 - Our Well-Built City

In response to the question 'Do you agree that these [14] actions will deliver on the Priority Theme to become a Well-Built City?', the average rating from the three respondents on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree) was 7, suggesting medium-level support for the 14 actions under this Theme.

Of the four people that elected to provide feedback on actions under Priority Theme 3, three provided written feedback, which can be found in **Table 4** below.

Table 4 - Council Plan feedback via Shaping Banyule and email under Priority Theme 3

Should any of the actions under this theme be changed, or should new ones be added?	Do you have any suggestions to improve the services we provide to create our Well-Built City?
Council Plan feedback 12 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
Happy with the list.	Improved green spaces. Improved noise control and reduction from Greensborough Hwy and new East Link roadworks.
Council Plan feedback 13 (received 17 Feb 2023)	
West Heidelberg is scary and needs to be fixed.	Provide additional street staff to address West Heidelberg people in need. People walking around with no shoes, ripped clothes and smelling of urine needs to be addressed.
Council Plan feedback 14 (received 21 Feb 2023)	
Remove all built city, it's already built. No one wants to be confined to an area of 20mins from their home like an animal in a cage.	Remove the 20-minute city. No one wants it. I remind council it is there to advocate for the people of Banyule, not dictate to them. Council must represent the people. You can't pass actions if the people of Banyule have largely not agreed with it, percentage of population wise. This is an example of poor governance.

5.1.4 Priority Theme 4 - Our Valued Community Assets and Facilities

In response to the question 'Do you agree that these [17] actions will deliver on the Priority Theme of Valued Community Assets and Facilities?', the average rating from five respondents on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree) was 8.6, suggesting high level of support for the 17 actions under this Theme.

Of the seven people that elected to provide feedback on actions under Priority Theme 4, all provided written feedback, which can be found in **Table 5** below.

Table 5 - Council Plan feedback via Shaping Banyule under Priority Theme 4

Should any of the actions under this theme be changed, or should new ones be added?	Do you have any suggestions to improve the services we provide to create our Valued Community Assets and Facilities?
Council Plan feedback 15 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
<i>No response.</i>	Keep the vibes of Rosanna library at the new temporary site and the new permanent site when it's finished. I don't mind the Woolworths. Fight for the lid on the north east link.
Council Plan feedback 16 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
Council should re-assess all actions against the principle of minimum standards and of equitable access to all residents. Too much emphasis presently on "upgrade, extend, renew" - and too little thought to who/where is missing out. Very attractive to "partner" with state and Fed government due to the money they tip in - but they want their agenda fulfilled, which does not necessarily coincide with what Banyule needs. Also benchmark with neighbouring Councils re access to facilities	Gap analysis needed. Community wants local and accessible. Council tends to prefer "regional" - larger, more elaborate facilities. All facilities should be reviewed to see how they can be multi-functional. Dedicated sports pavilions "commandeered" by a single sporting club is no longer acceptable. Precedence for community use if neighbourhood parks over miniscule soccer clubs viz St James Reserve and Cartledge Reserve.
Council Plan feedback 17 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
Do not agree money should be spent on the Ivanhoe golf course. Should be paid for by the limited number of people who use the facilities.	Even approach to service across all suburbs. Feel left out in Watsonia.
Council Plan feedback 18 (received 16 Feb 2023)	
Sealed bike link between Lower Plenty Road at Plenty River (near Lower Plenty Hotel), along Main Yarra Trail to Heidelberg, then from Banksia St to Burke Road. Helpful to get all of Banyule connected with sealed off road bike paths - make things safer for residents and help get more cars off road.	<i>No response.</i>
Council Plan feedback 19 (received 17 Feb 2023)	
I strongly support the completion of the surface renovation of Ford Park oval 2 in Bellfield. This project should include: 1. Upgraded lighting	<i>No response.</i>

-
2. Addition of an Electronic scoreboard
 3. Bench areas for athletes and officials
 4. New goal posts at both ends and cricket pitch
 5. New netting/fencing at both ends of the ground behind the goals
 6. Finishing of the black chain link fence around the entire circumference of the oval, rather than only the side closest to the new pavilion.
-

Council Plan feedback 20 (received 17 Feb 2023)

In addition to Action Plan #1

As per comments already provided.

REMOVE:

1. Railway crossing on Ruthven Street, Macleod.
2. Railway crossing at Ivanhoe station.

UPGRADE:

1. Ivanhoe railway station making it user friendly for the disabled.
 2. Public toilets at Macleod Park and install signage for the public to know where they're located.
 3. Footpaths in Banyule area need trip hazard assessment and rectification.
 4. Banyule Council to work with the energy companies to improve street lighting and change to solar.
-

Council Plan feedback 21 (received 17 Feb 2023)

The overdue upgrade of tennis courts, including the renovation of tennis clubs around Banyule, should be added to the list of actions. Some tennis courts are so run down they present safety risks. Tennis is a sport for anyone of any age and promotes health, wellbeing and sport participation in the community. This project should be more of a priority and replace the continued upgrade of Ivanhoe library.

On the Banyule website, the community have the option to report things like graffiti, dumped rubbish, dumped cars, motorbike noise. What about providing a channel where the community can suggest things that can be fixed or improved in their area. For example, if a footpath needs replacing or the dog park gate needs fixing, etc. The community are out and about and often notice things that they can bring to Councils attention. Having a central source of receiving feedback will help Council collate, prioritise and action.

5.1.5 Priority Theme 5 - Our Thriving Local Economy

In response to the question 'Do you agree that these [12] actions will deliver on the Priority Theme Our Thriving Local Economy?', there were no responses. It is therefore not possible to gauge the level of support for the 12 actions under this Theme.

Written feedback from the one person that responded to this Theme can be found in **Table 6** below.

Table 6 - Council Plan feedback via Shaping Banyule under Priority Theme 5

Should any of the actions under this theme be changed, or should new ones be added?	Do you have any suggestions to improve the services we provide to create our Thriving Local Economy?
Council Plan feedback 22 (received 17 Feb 2023) <i>No response.</i>	More cafes and the development of a 'village of shops' on the other side of Banksia Street where the Fields development is proceeding in Bellfield.

5.1.6 Priority Theme 6 - Our Trusted and Responsive Leadership

In response to the question 'Do you agree that these [19] actions will deliver on the Priority Theme of Our Trusted and Responsive Leadership?', only one person responded, which does not provide a balanced data set to gauge the level of agreement with the 19 actions under this Theme.

Written feedback from the one person that responded to this Theme can be found in **Table 7** below.

Table 7 - Council Plan feedback via Shaping Banyule and email under Priority Theme 6

Should any of the actions under this theme be changed, or should new ones be added?	Do you have any suggestions to improve the services we provide to build Our Trusted and Responsive Leadership?
Council Plan feedback 23 (received 21 Feb 2023) All council should act on behalf of what the people want, not to act as dictators and implementers of things they don't want.	No new strategy should be implemented without at least 25% feedback from the people of Banyule. Your consultation and engagement with your stakeholders are a joke.

5.2 Budget 2023-27

Eighty-six pieces of feedback were received from 68 individuals and organisations on the financial principles being used by Council to develop Budget 2023-27, the draft Capital Works Program and the draft Initiatives Program. 43 of the submitters were individuals and 25 represented organisations or community groups.

Table 8 shows the split of this feedback across the three components of Budget engagement.

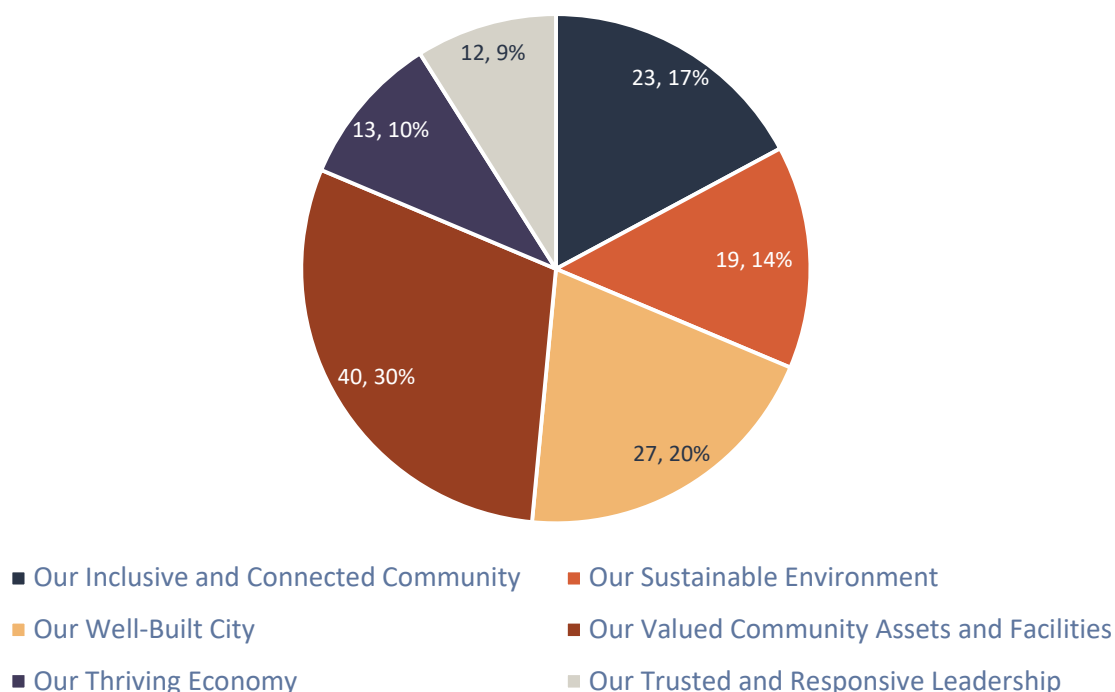
Table 8 – Number of pieces of feedback by component of Budget engagement

Component of Budget engagement	Number of pieces of feedback
Financial Principles	29
Draft Capital Works Program	39
Draft Initiatives Program	18
TOTAL	86

People who provided feedback on the Draft Capital Works and Initiatives Programs were asked to choose one or more of the six Council Plan/Community Vision 2041 Priority Themes to which their feedback related. They could also attach supporting documents with their feedback.

Figure 2 shows the split of the 57 pieces of feedback for the Capital Works and Initiatives Programs by Priority Theme. Note that people could choose more than one Priority Theme for each piece of feedback. Feedback for the financial principles was not categorised by Priority Theme.

Figure 2: Draft Capital Works and Initiatives Programs - feedback by Priority Theme



5.2.1 Financial Principles

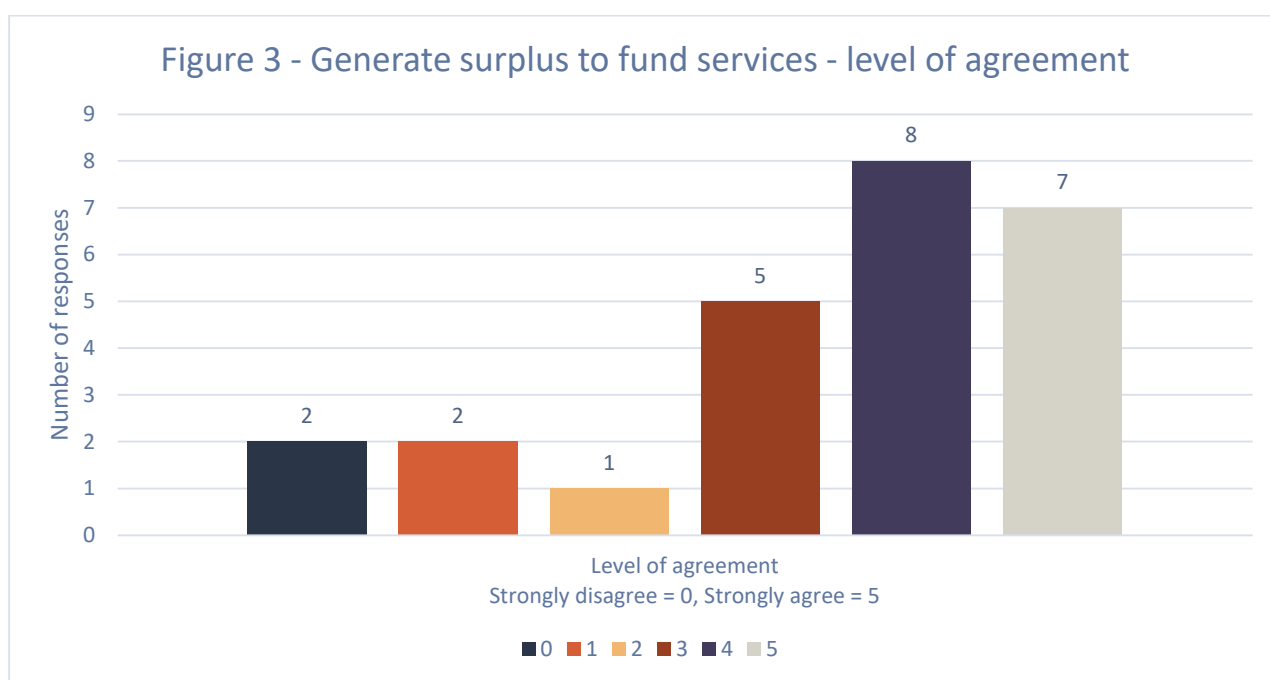
Community members were provided with the opportunity to state their level of agreement for each of the six financial principles being used to develop Budget 2023-27 online via Shaping Banyule and in-person at the drop-in sessions on 1 and 2 February 2023. They could choose from 0 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree). Following their selection, each person was asked the follow up question 'Why did you choose this response?', to gather qualitative understanding of people's choices.

29 people elected to provide feedback, including 13 on Shaping Banyule and 16 during the drop-in sessions. It is noted that not all 29 people stated their level agreement with each of the six principles.

5.2.1.1 Principle 1 – Generate surplus to fund services

25 people stated their level of agreement with the principle 'Generate surplus to fund services', which was defined as 'generating enough case to fund capital works and meet the asset renewal requirements outlined by the Victorian Auditor General's Office'.

The average rating from the 25 people that participated was 3.16 out of 5, suggesting medium level support for this principle. Data is presented in **Figure 3**.



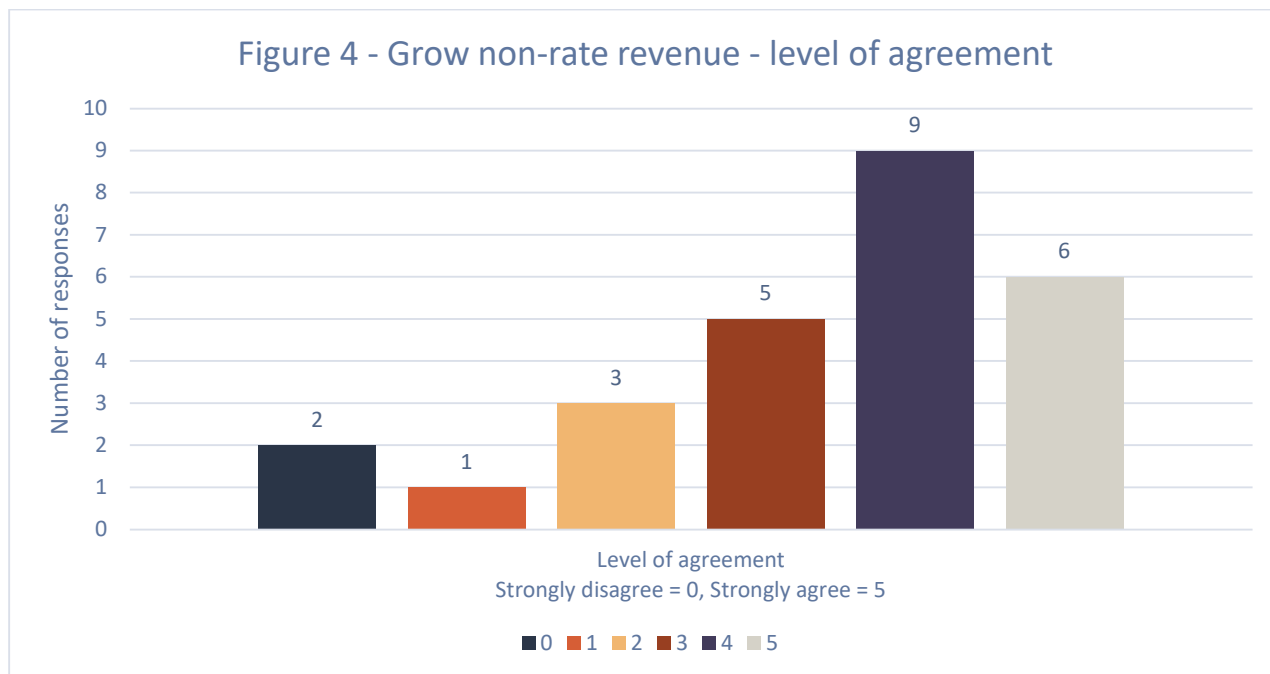
The five people who stated their level of agreement between 0 and 2 all provided follow up comments to qualify their ratings. Comments included a perspective that this principle is code for selling Council land or airspace, a view that surplus should be invested in road infrastructure and two comments that having a surplus suggests taxes are higher than expenditure and that Council should reinvest close to 100% of its income, particularly during a cost-of-living crisis.

Three of the people that rated this principle 5 also provided comment, stating that revenue is important to fund capital works, improvements to infrastructure and more community works.

5.2.1.2 Principle 2 – Grow non-rate revenue

26 people stated their level of agreement with the principle 'Grow non-rate revenue', which was defined as 'looking for non-rate sources of income to have a more diverse funding base and greater flexibility to manage rate increases within the rate cap'.

The average rating from the 26 people that participated was 3.39 out of 5, suggesting medium level support for this principle. Data is presented in **Figure 4**.



The three people who rated this principle 0 or 1 provided follow up comments. Two people interpreted the principle as meaning Council land or buildings will be sold, whilst the third understood that this principle will result in greater fees and charges and mentioned metred parking at Heidelberg Parkland as the example of this happening.

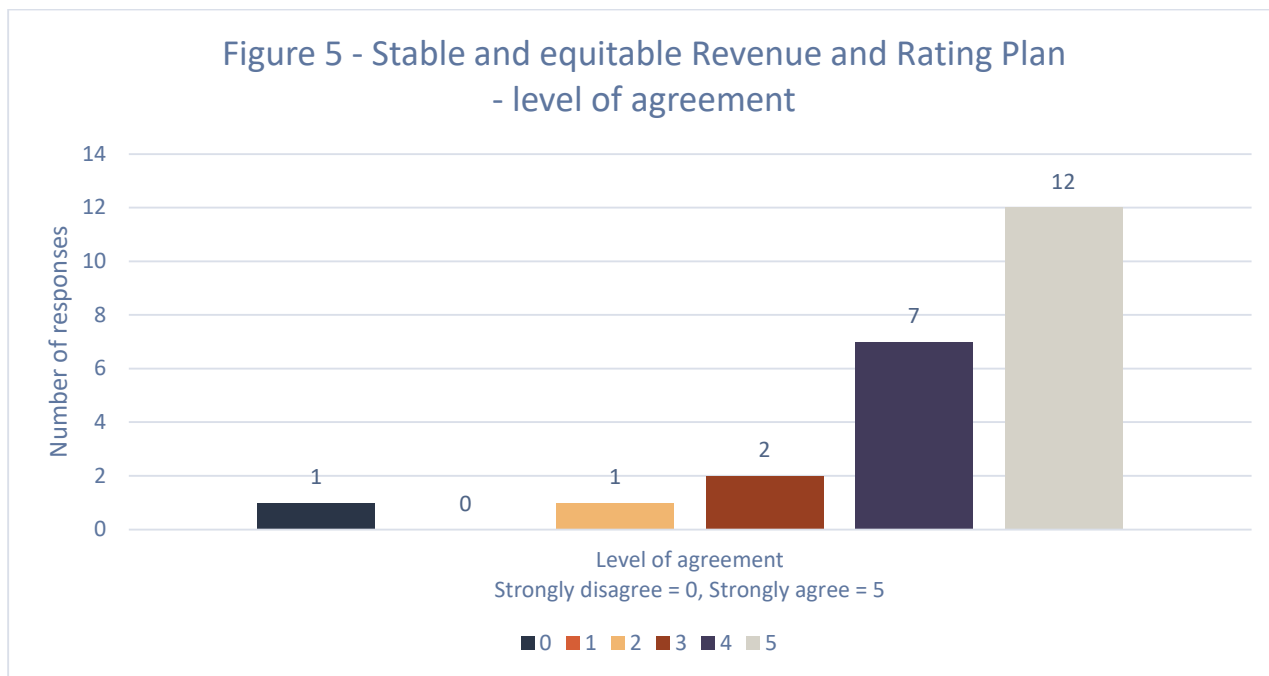
Six people who agreed with this principle at a level 4 or 5 noted that it is important for Council to diversify its revenue to ensure long-term viability of Council funding, that growth in non-rate revenue should be in-line with future program requirements, and that increasing revenue in any business should be the aim. One person was specific in suggesting that it would be great to see Council explore advertising space revenue and other forms of income generation that do not directly impact community.

Finally, one person did not rate the principle but commented that they are concerned about Council investing in shares given their current volatility.

5.2.1.3 Principle 3 – Stable and equitable Revenue and Rating Plan

23 people stated their level of agreement with the principle 'Stable and equitable Revenue and Rating Plan', which was defined as 'delivering a Revenue and Rating Plan based on stability, equity, efficiency and transparency'.

The average rating from the 23 people that participated was 4.17 out of 5, suggesting high level support for this principle. Data is presented in **Figure 5**.



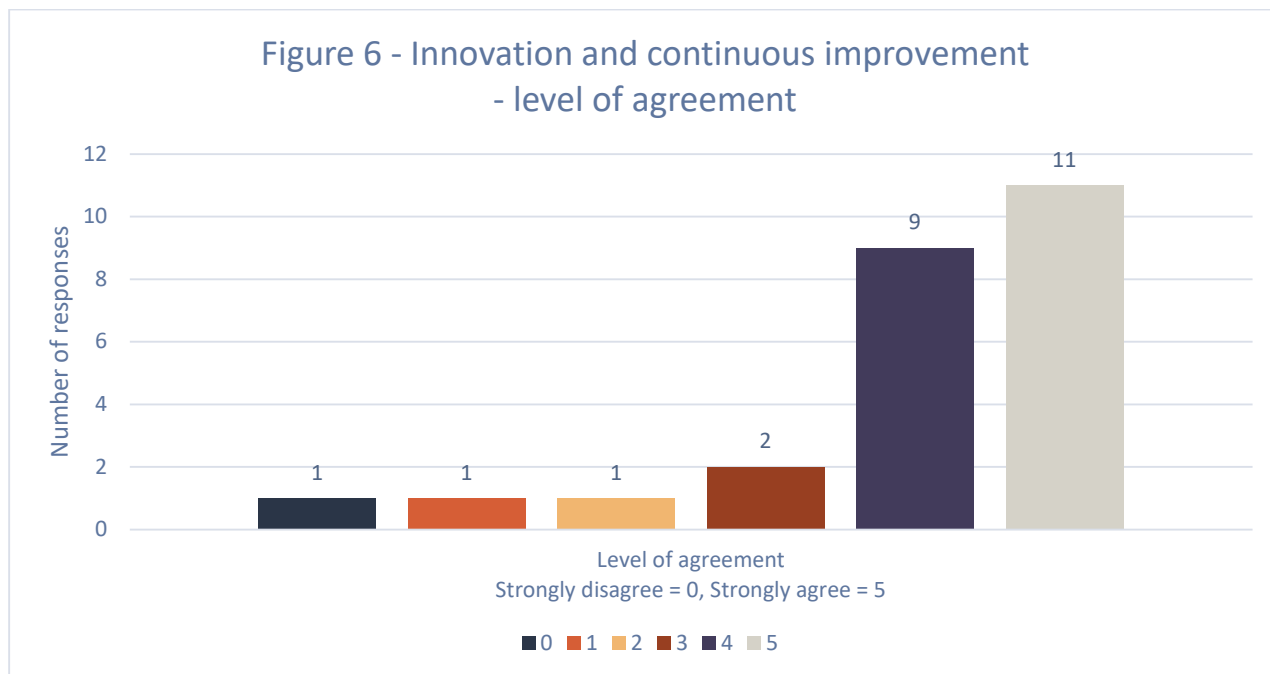
The two people that rated this principle as 0 or 2 felt that the principle was too vague and that there are too many facets to the question to be able to answer.

Four of the people that agreed to a level of 4 or 5 provided comment, noting that they agree with the principle and that it is important to have a robust plan in place to achieve Council goals and community expectations.

5.2.1.4 Principle 4 – Innovation and continuous improvement

25 people stated their level of agreement with the principle 'Stable and equitable Revenue and Rating Plan', which was defined as 'encouraging innovation and enhancing how we do business to manage expenses at levels that can fund the capital works program and quality service provision'.

The average rating from the 25 people that participated was 4 out of 5, suggesting high level of support for this principle. Data is presented in **Figure 6**.



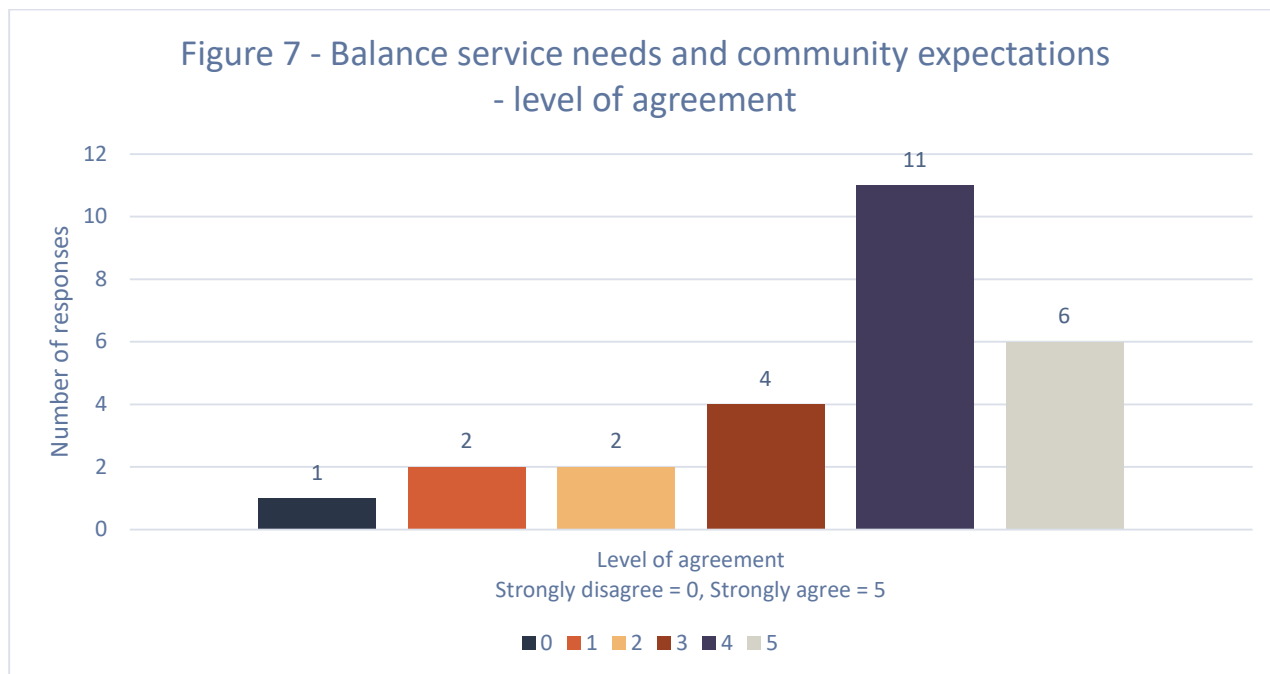
The three people that rated this principle between 0 and 2 provided comment, noting that the question is vague and difficult to answer, that it was unclear what was meant by 'innovation' given the broad nature of the term, and that Council's innovation often 'results in a reduction of transparency'.

Of the five people that commented and rated the principle at a 4 or 5, it was noted that it is always a good idea to use the strategy that utilises best practice to maintain efficiency and effective use of funds within current restraints, and that Council should always be looking to improve to remain efficient and ensure funds are not wasted.

5.2.1.5 Principle 5 – Balance service needs and community expectations

26 people stated their level of agreement with the principle 'Balance service needs and community expectations', which was defined as 'balancing the core service needs of our community, expectations of quality delivery and long-term financial sustainability'.

The average rating from the 26 people that participated was 3.54 out of 5, suggesting medium level of support for this principle. Data is presented in **Figure 7**.



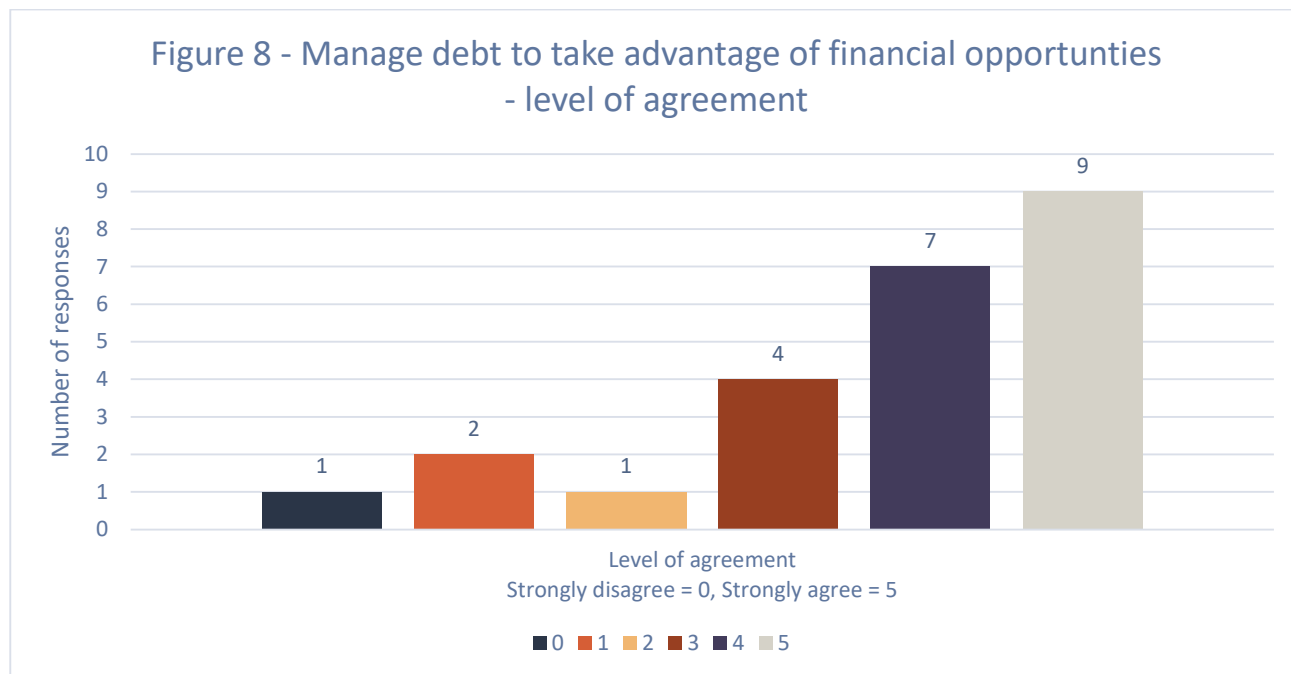
The five people who responded 0 to 2 qualified their ratings. They wrote that Council should focus on core services first and that Council's income/budget should dictate the spend, not the other way around. It was also said that there has been an increase in dog attacks and Council is not resourced sufficiently to enforce current laws. One person also said that they think Council's idea of core services is different to community expectations, and another that different groups have different perspectives on the correct balance and that Council appears to focus on blingy building projects rather than maintaining existing infrastructure.

Of the five participants that rated this principle at four or five and provided comment, it was said that it is not possible to fund every good idea and that the projects delivered should be the ones that deliver the best value for money. Another person was appreciative of the challenges associated with balancing service needs with community expectations, noting that Council should always try to do what is best for community. Finally, it was said that the main job of Council is to address rates, roads and rubbish, not spending money on other things.

5.2.1.6 Principle 6 – Manage debt to take advantage of financial opportunities

24 people stated their level of agreement with the principle 'Manage debt to take advantage of financial opportunities', which was defined as 'delivering a debt management plan that ensures decisions and opportunities are accommodated as part of responsible financial management'.

The average rating from the 24 people that participated was 3.71 out of 5, suggesting medium to high level of support for this principle. Data is presented in **Figure 8**.



The four people who rated this principles from 0 to 2 and provided comment noted that the principle is weighted towards land sales and heavy development without transparency, that Council should be wary of taking on too much debt because it is the community that will suffer, and that we should be minimising debt with a view to creating a surplus.

Of the four comments from people who rated this principle 5, there was agreement that this principle aligns with sound financial management, that debt should be managed, and that responsible financial management is important for the long-term viability of Council.

5.2.1.7 Other feedback on the financial principles

Finally, people who provided feedback on the financial principles were also asked, 'Is there anything missing that you think Council should consider as it builds its Budget 2023-27?'

Eight people responded to this question and raised the points listed in **Table 9** below.

Table 9 – General feedback on financial principles via Shaping Banyule

Feedback received	Organisation
Financial Principles feedback 1 (received 8 January 2022)	
More resources should be included in animal management and enforcement of laws of dogs on leads.	NA
Financial Principles feedback 2 (received 31 January 2023)	
Council should build efficiencies into its works. For example, Council's biodiversity aspirations should be stipulated in capital works repairs.	NA

Financial Principles feedback 3 (received 1 February 2023)

More clarity provided on the process for requesting investments in the coming budget year and future years. How does an item become a longer term, possibly phased, investment? What is the consultation required and how are possible investments prioritised? An example might be the need by a community organisation to upgrade the facilities they are leasing from Council.

Diamond Valley
Athletics Club

Financial Principles feedback 4 (received 3 February 2023)

Council should reflect on the actual core services to be provided. Reading the Banyule Banner shows a lot of money is spent on items that do not fit comfortably with Council's mandate.

NA

Financial Principles feedback 5 (received 13 February 2023)

The proposed budget for road rehabilitation of \$2.394M is only 5.5% of the total budget investment, which is very low given the state of roads within areas such as Heidelberg Heights, Heidelberg West, Bellfield and Ivanhoe. More funds should be attributed to repairing and rehabilitating roads in these areas given the significant rate of growth due to redevelopment of land to townhouses.

NA

Financial Principles feedback 6 (received 14 February 2023)

The cost-of-living crisis will be a key issue for Banyule for the next few years at least. It is important that Council remembers this and weighs up the need for service and capital uplifts against the impact to tax/rate payers as well as the broader community.

NA

Financial Principles feedback 7 (received 21 February 2023)

As members of the St Helena /Greensborough community that live and work in the area, we respectfully request Banyule Council to substantially improve the safety of pedestrians by providing pedestrian crossings, refuge islands and taking other safety measures along St Helena Road.

NA

Financial Principles feedback 8 (received 24 February 2023)

Council should act for the ratepayers and residents and be completely transparent. Council should not be a developer. We don't trust Council when these sort of statements are put out for review. The initial statements on best practice are always nullified and contradicted by the second part of the statement. These statements are written in such a way as to be able to rely on whatever the decisions or outcome selected, where councillors can arbitrarily decide any outcome. Where are the statements that require real action and obligation of Council to act with integrity and in a specific manner that is transparent, inclusive and responsive to policies such as the environment and responsible debt management.

NA

5.2.2 Draft Capital Works Program

Community members were provided with the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Capital Works Program. The draft Program was made available from 20 December 2022 to 24 February 2023 on Shaping Banyule. It was also available in hardcopy at drop-in sessions with Council officers on 1 and 2 February 2023.

Thirty-six people provided written feedback on the draft Capital Works Program via Shaping Banyule and three by email, which can be viewed in the **Table 10** below. Note that while text has been altered slightly to improve legibility and reduce length, the meaning and essence of feedback has not been changed.

Table 10 – Draft Capital Works Program feedback via Shaping Banyule and email

Feedback received	Organisation	Attachments
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 1 (received 21 December 2022)		
Banyule has a lot of older legacy type facilities in its sports and public toilets. I am interested to know how many of these facilities have a budget for inclusion of non-gendered change rooms and toilets.	Transgender Victoria	No
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 2 (received 9 January 2023)		
I would like a large focus on two areas. The first is accessibility. I have noticed first hand in Greensborough and Montmorency where the entrances to paths are not exactly pram or wheelchair friendly, as when they were constructed there were different regulations. I understand there are a lot to fix, but some areas are in urgent need to be brought up to regulation. They all need to be 'pram ramps' to provide safe and accessible access for all pedestrians and to not create a tripping hazard. My second concern is shading at local playgrounds. I have particularly noticed this at playgrounds such as the playground between Montmorency and Lower Plenty football grounds, and the playground on the corner of Henry Street and Louis Street. While there are lots of trees around and you would assume these provide shade, majority of the day these playgrounds are actually in full sun and not appropriate to play in due to the playground being hot to touch and also not being ideal for young children to be in direct sun for a long period of time. I would like to see playgrounds have shade cloths or shelters to help be able to use year-round.	NA	No
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 3 (received 18 January 2023)		
Do I read the capital works budget correctly that there is only \$80,000 dedicated to bicycle capital works? My feedback is that Council should provide more significant funding to further develop the cycling infrastructure in Banyule for safety, sustainable and better lifestyle outcomes.	NA	No
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 4 (received 31 January 2023)		
We recently had large rain events, which flooded local waterways and left a large amount of plastic debris along the creeks. I see items within the draft capital works which include drainage and road rehabilitation works. I would hope to see that consideration is made to make improvements to the infrastructure, such as gravel pits/reed beds to slow/stop water from entering drains and allowing it to enter the ground water, thus providing	NA	No

water for street planting/habitat and preventing creeks from turning into a drain, while also catching rubbish before it enters the system.

Local groups such as the Darebin Creek Sweepers do a fantastic job, but this will be continually overshadowed until improvements are made on the infrastructure side.

This is particularly important with Council's biodiversity goals, in particular supporting the No Local Extinctions plan. Without addressing urban stream syndrome, creeks will remain un-habitable by platypus, not to mention the many other local wildlife which rely on healthy habitats to survive.

I would like to see a commitment from Council to make improvements and consideration of sustainable design into repair works, and infrastructure design.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 5 (received 1 February 2023)

There is an item under Lighting for a piece of design work. I presume this is related to the design for the upgrade of the Willinda Park facility for which an engineering piece of work was done. I'd like this confirmed as I'm surprised this is under the lighting section. The expectation is that this design work will be much broader than that.

Diamond Valley
Athletics Club

No

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 6 (received 2 February 2023)

I'm a community member of Beale ward. In the last months, I've had conversations with Beale and Sherbourne Ward Councillors and Banyule City Council's Transport and Environment Manager regarding the urgent need to improve safety of Sherbourne Rd. At the end of this month (February 2023), I'll present a petition to the Council. The petition has more than 80 signatures, demonstrating the strong community support to see works that improve the road's safety and amenity. Please consider the following works along Sherbourne Rd to be part of the operating and capital works budget 2023/2024:

NA

No

1. Reducing the current speed limit: to minimise the risk of a severe or fatal accidents to pedestrians and other road users accessing the road's extensive commercial, educational and medical abutment development, and the numerous bus stops. We are concerned it is only a matter of time before a fatal accident occurs in this road.

2. Adding pedestrian refuge island. The current lack of pedestrian crossings along long sections of the road poses a high risk of harm to pedestrians accessing shops, bus stops, medical clinics and educational centres.

3. Upgrading old bus stations that are unsafe and not fit for purpose, and which also provide a perfect hidden spot for littering.

4. Upgrading foot paths. The footpaths are old, narrow (some with drains) and uneven. They are unsafe, especially for elderly with reduced mobility, children and families with prams.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 7 (received 3 February 2023)

Please put more than 0.1% into the arts!

NA

No

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 8 (received 3 February 2023)

Nellie Ibbott is a beautiful space, that could be enjoyed and accessed by more of the community with a few upgrades. It is close to us, and we

NA

No

spend considerable time there, however it is probably not used as much as it could be. Workers often sit in the park for lunch, but facilities for this are limited. I would love to see the 'centre piece', which is currently a bluestone toilet block (!!), changed to a bluestone seating area with shade. Perhaps the aging toilet block could be something smaller and less 'central'?

Many people walk their dogs in this park. The closest fenced dog park is near Ford Park and is always so well used. I'd love to see a section at the top of Nellie Ibbott (which is steep and largely unused) fenced for dogs to play freely and safely.

Any additional sporting facilities would also be great. The basketball court is very frequently used. It would be great to see other things like soccer goals with a tall net fence, a brick wall that kids can hit a tennis ball against, table tennis tables, etc. There are a huge number of kids in the area and giving them outdoor options for play is always going to benefit their wellbeing.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 9 (received 3 February 2023)

The newly formed Friends of Nellie Ibbott (FONI) would strongly support budget allocation for a master plan for Nellie Ibbott Reserve in Ivanhoe. It is a valuable and valued asset situated strategically well for numerous municipal health and wellbeing outcomes.

Friends of
Nellie Ibbott
Reserve,
Ivanhoe

No

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 10 (received 3 February 2023)

Please stick to delivery of core Council services and get that right before spending on costly extra nice to haves. Providing grants to 60 ppl for new air conditioners is utterly ridiculous and not how rates money should be spent.

NA

No

When providing services and or grants they need to be accessible by all, not a select few. E.g energy efficiency assessment open to a first in approach - released during a working day - significantly restricts applicants and provides an inequitable outcome.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 11 (received 10 February 2023)

Would hope to see significant immediate attention of resources directed to the redevelopment of the Olympic Village Leisure Centre as outlined in a Concept Plan presented to Council in 2022, such that this work can begin immediately.

Olympic Village
Exodus
Community

No

Also, resources to purchase of property, The Hub, Oriel Road, Heidelberg West and rebuild of the facility housing Heidelberg West Neighbourhood House/Olympic Adult education.

Significant upgrade of facility, particularly toilets of 233 Southern Road, Heidelberg West.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 12 (received 11 February 2023)

When will more work happen on our community works?

NA

No

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 13 (received 11 February 2023)

Can you please invest in more bike hoops for cycle parking at the Ivanhoe Shops. I like to ride my bike to the Coles supermarket and Light Space Yoga

NA

No

studio and there are no bike parking hoops near either of these destinations. It would be fantastic and not very expensive for Council to put more bike parking hoops across all shopping centres to support more bike riding to local centres.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 14 (received 12 February 2023)

I am writing to ask you to consider an upgrade to the old seventies treated pine log boundary fence at Greenwood Reserve. This park is now seeing many more visitors and the old fence is a real eyesore. I'm hoping an upgrade could be considered in the upcoming budget.

NA

Yes

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 15 (received 13 February 2023)

We intend to fence in the eastern side of the college to develop another site suitable for agricultural and environmental education. This will limit community access to the college site, and we would like to work with council to create new paths for students and locals. Project documentation shows the location of the new 'paddock' in red, and the locations of two gravel paths (in blue) which would ensure good access to the college oval area. If Banyule City Council can assist with the construction of these simple pathways it would be a great outcome for the school and the community. Happy to provide any extra details or to meet and discuss the project with a member of the relevant department within council.

Bundoora
Secondary
College

Yes

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 16 (received 13 February 2023)

Location – Whatmough Park, Kalparrin Ave Greensborough

Description – High Catch Ball Net

Dimension – 30m wide x 10m high

Funding - \$45,000

On behalf of St Marys Senior Football and Netball Club, I would like to apply for funding of a High Catch Ball fence.

The fence is to be located to the east end of Whatmough Park Oval to prevent balls entering the Plenty River and club members having to retrieve them from the river and step bank, and also protect pedestrians and cyclists using the walking / bike track around the oval. The issue of safety for club members retrieving balls and the protection of pedestrians has always been a problem but has become a much bigger issue with the increased use of the oval, which is heavily used all year round by both men and women senior and junior football clubs and Riverside Cricket Club. This increased use has games being played not only during the day but at night, where safety becomes a much bigger issue. The ball net will eliminate this problem by stopping balls entering the river and landing on the pedestrian path.

St Marys Senior
Football and
Netball Club

Yes

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 17 (received 13 February 2023)

The proposed budget for road rehabilitation of \$2.394M is only 5.5% of the total budget investment which is very low given the state of roads within areas such as Heidelberg Heights, Heidelberg West, Bellfield and Ivanhoe. More funds should be attributed to repairing and rehabilitating roads and pavements in these areas given the significant rate growth being realised due to redevelopment of land to townhouses. The rate growth in this area should be reinvested in the direct area. A large number of these

NA

No

pavements are over 60 years old and have not been rehabilitated. Council will see additional rates through increased property values if the road infrastructure is of a high quality. It currently is not.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 18 (received 14 February 2023)

Lower Plenty rear Car Park has been waiting on an upgrade of fresh plants, and on upgrade of much needed lighting in the rear Car Park. The small budget allocated is inadequate.

Lower Plenty
Traders
Association

No

The Car Park is very dark of an evening. The lighting has been requested a number of times. As has planting.

We have had a number of people complain re the lighting and it is dangerous to be out back with very little lighting available to get to your car.

Further to this, the Car Park on Main Rd beside Suan Thai restaurant at 82 Main Road, is in need of repair, drainage and proper allocated Car Park with upgraded asphalt. Drainage needs real attention as does the levelling of the Car Park. Traders have requested this previously as have the owners of Suan Thai Restaurant.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 19 (received 14 February 2023)

It is important that Council maintains community assets and facilities to an acceptable standard. The primary role of Council is to look after our local roads, parks and community spaces. Too often we see Council voicing concern over major state-based infrastructure projects that actually benefit the community. It would be great to see Council focus on its own community assets and facilities, and instead work more collaboratively with the State to deliver better outcomes for the community. What can BCC bring to the table instead of asking for a handout from the State?

NA

No

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 20 (received 15 February 2023)

For a start, the labels above need further explanation - perhaps put in brackets what this label means e.g. what does Our Well-Built City mean? It's too confusing, not specific enough.

NA

No

Our community assets and facilities need to be of a really good standard, remembering we are not holding the Olympic Games, but need to ensure they are accessible to all disabled persons (ramps, auto opening toilet doors, CLEANING of toilets regularly).

One of the initiatives I have absolutely loved is the introduction of the FOGO bins. Fantastic. Any improvements on this initiative would be welcomed.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 21 (received 16 February 2023)

The gravel carpark for the 1st Eaglemont Scout Hall in Irvine Road Ivanhoe reduces the amenity of the area and washes away during high rainfall events. A solution has been discussed with Banyule Traffic engineering and we request the project be included in the next Council budget.

1st Eaglemont
Scout Group

Yes

The proposal includes making use of the existing Irvine Road access, formalising the 90-degree parking adjacent to the Scout building, kerbing and protection/shielding the light pole, modification to the bollards as needed and providing a sealed path for pedestrian access.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 22 (received 18 February 2023)

I would like to know when the council is actually going to proceed with the redevelopment of the Powlett St Heidelberg Reserve. Works have been completed in the Burgundy Street component, but I get no sense of a budget that will provide direct benefit to the immediate community.	NA	No
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 23 (received 20 February 2023)		
<p>Greensborough Baseball Club is going to apply for the North East Community Funds Round 2. We need an upgrade of lighting for our field. To upgrade the lights, we are applying for \$100,000. This will replace the existing 4 flood lights with 1200w Sylvania Briteline Led Raptor Fittings. We are also installing 2 new light poles.</p> <p>We need this upgrade for the safety of the players when they train. Greensborough is mainly a winter Club but are expanding to Summer. We are currently unable to train past 7pm at night due to the deficit in lighting infrastructure. This impacts us as a club to train our players, both seniors and juniors, and to be able to improve player skills.</p> <p>This also becomes a deterrent for attracting new players. With the current lighting we are restricted from having too many players train at the one time as it is a duty of care to our members.</p> <p>Over the last 2 years the ground has not only been used by Greensborough Baseball Club, but also Research Baseball Club have used the ground.</p> <p>We have been working with Council to complete a Resident approval and are now just waiting for the Grant to open.</p> <p>We are hoping that Council sees the need for the upgrade and if we are unsuccessful are willing to work with us to achieve this.</p>	Greensborough Baseball Club	Yes
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 24 (received 21 February 2023)		
<p>The Research-Lower Plenty Baseball Club requests that the funding for lighting design that was originally in the draft budget for 2023/24 and construction for 2024/25 be reallocated to this project. The club has been waiting many years for this critical lighting upgrade and was very disappointed to have it removed from this year's budget without notification. The currently lighting is manifestly inadequate for the club to run match practice in a safe manner, and it limits the use of our field to one small portion only as there are sections of our field that currently receive no light assistance and the current lighting does not meet the minimum Australian Standard AS2560 for amateur baseball.</p> <p>The club is mindful that council has invested heavily in the infrastructure at Glenauburn Park in recent years to support the huge growth the club has experienced with its junior and senior women's programs in particular, but we feel this should not be a reason for justifying the removal of this draft funding. It is more of a reflection that for many years there was little to no improvement to any of the facilities over many years and we are now playing catch up.</p> <p>Without this upgrade to the lighting we have to limit the amount of time, and participants, that can train during the week and this is not conducive to running a successful and community minded sporting club that currently runs the largest junior baseball program in metropolitan Melbourne and one of the largest Women's baseball programs.</p>	Research-Lower Plenty Baseball Club	Yes

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 25 (received 21 February 2023)

A proposed pedestrian crossing on St Helena Road.	NA	No
As a resident on St Helena Road with children attending local schools, involved in local sporting communities and a regular walker, there is no safe place to cross St Helena Road. Numerous cars use this as a cut through and don't always follow the speed limit. It is dangerous trying to turn out of our service roads, with traffic, poor visibility as shrubs and trees have grown. My children walk to school and utilise the crossing at the top of St Helena Road, where it is manned for school drop off and pick up times but if you try and use outside of those times, cars don't stop and they speed through.		
A pedestrian crossing with signals closer to Anthony Beale or Allumba Drive would certainly assist with crossing the road safely and slowly down traffic.		
We would greatly appreciate if the proposed crossing is seriously looked at, particularly for the safety of St Helena Road residents.		

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 26 (received 21 February 2023)

As members of the St Helena/Greensborough community that live and work in the area, we respectfully request Banyule Council to substantially improve the safety of pedestrians by providing pedestrian crossings, refuge islands and taking other safety measures along St Helena Road. Specifically, a pedestrian crossing at the intersection of Allumba Drive and St Helena Road.	NA	Yes
Traffic moves very fast along this road and it is very unsafe for Pedestrians.		
There is no safe pedestrian crossing on St Helena Road between Karingal Drive and Wallowa Road.		

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 27 (received 22 February 2023)

Ivanhoe Tennis Club has identified the need for the removal and replacement of retaining walls around the east and south boundary of the courts and the replacement of all fencing around the courts and extending up Young Street.	Ivanhoe Tennis Club	Yes
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Draft Capital Works Program feedback 28 (received 22 February 2023)

Viewbank Scouts' hall renovation project consists of an upgrade and expansion of much needed storage space, and the refurbishment of the indoor bathrooms which will also include an accessible bathroom. This project was initially raised with Council through Sport and Recreation in September 2019.	Viewbank Scout Group	No
The original budget allocated to this project was \$180k. We have been notified by Council officers that the initial cost estimates that have come through for this project will exceed the budget allocated in the 2022/23 budget. As such, Viewbank Scouts are asking Council to continue to support the project into the upcoming budget by providing extra funding that will be required towards the project in the 23/24 budget as an additional amount to the \$180k, which will need to be carried forward.		
The redevelopment will provide multiple tangible benefits to Viewbank Scout Group and greater Banyule Community, including (but not limited to):		

- The enabling capacity for the Viewbank Scout Group to serve the rapidly increasing community demands for growth.
- Optimal and safe access to and storage of equipment.
- Greater utilisation of Hall assets by community/sporting groups and associated events, such as Jiu Jitsu martial arts classes (existing), New Varangian Guard (existing), group fitness classes, Winston Hills Pre-School functions (existing) and Viewbank Tennis Club (high potential).
- The introduction of Accessible toilets and change facilities – including entrances to the Scout hall.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 29 (received 23 February 2023)

The residents of Briar Hill and in particular the geographical area near the new Railway crossing and the works surrounding the upgrades, should be updated why certain areas of feedback have been ignored and access missed for Rate Payers.

NA

No

1. There are significant safety concerns surrounding the access and ability to cross major roads along Para Road. Shared pathways and accessibility are a cornerstones of the development agenda.
2. There is no access for bikes, prams or wheelchairs from Railway Road to the proposed shared walking path for residents
3. Traffic Issues can be avoided by connecting the Briar Hill side of Para Road with the Plenty River Trail and the Shared walking path, removing the need for pedestrian lights
4. Why feedback for the upgrades of EJ Andrews parklands was ignored, how the budget number was reached - Why are able bodied children being ignored? How many children will benefit from the planned upgrades of musical posts, talking tubes and sensory art posts in comparisons to the items requested within the feedback form (including Basketball Courts and physical activities)?
5. Can the council please explain why residents of the Briar Hill suburb are being ignored for the following
 - a. Connections to the Plenty River Trail
 - b. Access to the Shared Walking Path
 - c. Why there is no footpath available at the end of Railway Road
 - d. Why there is no wheelchair access, Pram Access or Bike Access from Railway Road

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 30 (received 23 February 2023)

The Watsonia Tennis Club has a newly formed committee in 2021. The club has collaborated and worked hard to bring attention back to club operations and participation in Banyule. We are currently involved within the Inclusion@sport project within the sport team at Council. As part of this we have been coaching some new players at the courts who are in wheelchairs and were excited to launch our new programs in 2023. Our courts are perfect for this. We have 4 hard courts that are perfect for wheelchair tennis. This urged us to apply for a grant with NELP in 2022. We wanted to introduce accessible access for people in a wheelchair to the club house and introduced accessible outdoor undercover area for functions and viewing of matches. The club were successful in obtaining funding for the amount of 100k. We are currently working with Council on this project. As the next stage of this we are asking council to support the club to cater for people in wheelchairs by assisting us in introducing

Watsonia
Tennis Club

Yes

accessible bathrooms. We have been working with officers on the design and the fact that these two projects would be done together with the state funding and the extra requested funding by Council, means that our venue would become accessible. Officers have approached the club with a concept for the changerooms and have advised that the project would cost up to 250k to complete. We believe a wheelchair accessible tennis club in Banyule will be a valuable community asset.

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 31 (received 23 February 2023)

<p>I am both a local resident as well as a staff member at St Helena Secondary College. I note in the draft plan for Capital Works that there are planned road works for Wallowa Road (St Helena Rd To Nimary Ct, St Helena). However, I cannot see any reference to works being done to alleviate the traffic and congestion which occurs at peak school times (start/end of school day). We already have a dangerous situation on Wallowa Road where traffic from families turning right into the schoolgrounds banks up across the roundabout (St Helena/Aqueduct Rd). This is impacted by both internal and external school crossings where large numbers of students are moving, as well as buses from the college needing to traverse the incoming school traffic in order to exit (at peak time). On wet days, it is an absolute nightmare and local families have reported to the school they are sometimes unable to exit their own driveways. With the addition of the nearby Community Hospital, and all the construction works this will entail, traffic on Wallowa Road will only worsen. Are there plans to widen Wallowa Road? Or use the easement located opposite the school to facilitate improved traffic flow (e.g. a school drop off zone with an overhead bridge for pedestrians)?</p> <p>I am disappointed that there seems to be no provision to consider the impact of the Hospital, improve traffic flow and plan for safe crossing conditions for our school and wider community on this road.</p>	NA	No
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Draft Capital Works Program feedback 32 (received 24 February 2023)

<p>This submission is made jointly by the Banyule Cricket Club (BCC), Banyule Junior Football Club (BJFC), and Banyule Football Club (BFC) ("the Clubs"), who are co-tenants of the Beverley Road Pavilion.</p> <p>The clubs are of the opinion that the pavilion, for the reasons set out in these submissions, is no longer fit for purpose. There are some aspects of the pavilion that require immediate attention, which include a lack of female friendly changerooms and amenities, and a kitchen that is out dated, unreliable and inefficient.</p> <p>The shortcomings associated with the pavilion have placed limits on the growth of the clubs and do not allow for the pavilion to achieve maximum potential as a sporting facility.</p> <p>The submissions request Council to demolish and rebuild the facility. The clubs have prepared an indicative design for a new pavilion. Please refer to the floor plan in Appendix B and the artist's impression on page 11.</p> <p>The Beverley Road precinct has the potential to become a vibrant community hub. A purpose built, modern, eco-friendly and multipurpose facility will benefit both the clubs and broader community for many years to come.</p> <p>The clubs would be grateful if our submission for a significant redevelopment to the Beverley Road pavilion can be included in the Draft Capital Works Program when formulating Budget 2023 – 2027.</p>	Banyule Junior Football Club	Yes
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Draft Capital Works Program feedback 33 (received 24 February 2023)

Eaglemont Village Traders association request consideration of funding the beautification of #75 Silverdale road 'the hole in the wall' and #80 Silverdale road which has a fascia of glass and unsightly and now ceased building zone behind the glass. The Village Traders Association are seeking \$2,695.00 for window signage on #75 (which has been a hole in the wall since 2016) and # 80 Silverdale road Eaglemont.

Eaglemont
Village Traders
Association

Yes

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 34 (received 24 February 2023)

The Montmorency Community Hub respectfully requests that Council urgently consider investment into the Montmorency Hub site, either through direct site purchase, share purchase, or a loan. This will enable the relatively low-cost completion of the community effort to create a multi-purpose hub in support of community mental health. We strongly believe that there is a relative lack of such facilities in the Montmorency area. We have achieved considerable community mobilisation (thousands of volunteer hours, and 680K community-raised funding so far in support of this effort, and have also raised \$285K in grant funding, particularly from the State Government, and also from the Federal Government as well as Council). These funds are being directed towards site repair. Council investment in the site itself is urgently needed, as we are unable to obtain further bridging finance at reasonable terms until we have demonstrated the Hub in operation to lending institutions. Council's assistance would capitalise on the extraordinary community effort to secure and renovate the site. The initiative would be very cost-effective, low risk (the site is a prime site in central Montmorency), and very well aligned with Council's community vision.

Montmorency
Community
Hub

Yes

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 35 (received 24 February 2023)

The Watsonia Baseball Club gratefully supports Banyule Council's draft budget regarding implementing a drainage system at Loyola Reserve. Approaching our 50th year, we have struggled to maintain training during our winter season, and last season alone we lost five home rounds as the ground was waterlogged. With seven senior teams plus juniors, we look forward to a more sustainable surface moving forward.

Watsonia Baseball would also like to note our accompanying submission to council for the installation of a '4th generation' recyclable artificial infield playing surface at Loyola Reserve. We understand this is a separate project to the draft drainage program, so we are aiming for 2024/25 support from council.

The current grass infield area is approximately 40x40 metres and is in the north east corner of the playing arena. This is an excessively high wear area, and as we are a winter club, one damp day and the grass is damaged and does not heal over winter, becoming a slip hazard.

Along with Bundoora United Cricket Club, we are also submitting a proposal to remove the first row of the sugar gum trees on the west side of Loyola Reserve, and the subsequent moving of the west stone retaining wall. The trees are not conducive to supporting the playing surface for both clubs and moving the wall will allow the cricket pitch to move west, bringing the cricket playing surface closer to an A Grade standard.

Watsonia
Baseball Club

Yes

Draft Capital Works Program feedback 36 (received 24 February 2023)

<p>As I did not get notified of this project opening, I have to read the documents more thoroughly before providing more detailed feedback.</p> <p>However, I notice that Rosanna Library and precinct has an allocated spend of 500k but does not make comment about how this relates to the funds made available in 2016 or how the progressions of the private partnership with Woolworths have contributed to the funds for 2023. The subject of Rosanna Library relates (unfavourably) to all the categories that you have listed above being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our Inclusive & Connected Community - Our Sustainable Environment -Our Well-Built City -Our Valued Community Assets and Facilities -Our Thriving Economy -Our trusted and Responsive Leadership <p>The sale of public land and non-transparent private-public partnerships to sell land and/or airspace is contrary to principles and the themes as well.</p> <p>I have done a submission to the Financial Principles but was not offered the same as this page to speak to councillors at a meeting of 7th March. Why not?</p> <p>I also note that this meeting is not on the meeting page of council's website and seems not to be currently considered a public meeting - why not?</p>	NA	No
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 37 (received 24 February 2023)		
<p>In regard to the implementation of a drainage system at Loyola Reserve as outlined in Banyule Council's draft budget for 2023/24, the Bundoora United Cricket Club fully support this initiative.</p> <p>The ongoing issue of sodden turf on the Eastern side of the ground has severely affected the amount of playing days for both clubs, and we see this being rectified as a must, to better assist the surface in being able to deal with excess water.</p> <p>Alongside our co-tenants, Watsonia Baseball Club, we would also be submitting a proposal for consideration in 2024/25, which was first discussed and noted with key Council stakeholders in 2017, to extend the Western boundary of the playing surface.</p> <p>Although this would include removing a row of sugar gums, and relocating the stone retaining wall, this has been a constant issue for well over a decade, and with minimal grass growth possible, it's a safety hazard waiting for a major injury to occur. We see many injuries each year, and the clearing of these trees would greatly assist in cleaning this area up and maintaining a safe playing area.</p> <p>A further submission for joint funding of a 40x40m square of a recyclable artificial grass to cover the existing baseball diamond will also be lodged. This area encroaches the cricket arena, reducing the playing size, and this addition would aid with the widening of the entire arena.</p>	Bundoora United Cricket Club	Yes
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 38 (received 24 February 2023)		
<p>All these themes are important to consider in the Budget and how the Budget is managed, but the questions in this survey are too vague to give detailed answers and get ideas across to Council.</p>	NA	No
Draft Capital Works Program feedback 39 (received 28 February 2023)		

Banyule Ratepayers Action Group has provided feedback on a number of components relating to Banyule City Council's financial position, financial decision-making and Capital Works and Initiatives Programs.	Banyule Ratepayers Action Group	Yes
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5.2.3 Draft Initiatives Program

Community members were provided with the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Initiatives Program. The draft Program was made available from 20 December 2022 to 24 February 2023 on Shaping Banyule. It was also available in hardcopy at drop-in sessions with Council officers on 1 and 2 February 2023.

Sixteen people provided written feedback on the draft Initiatives Program via Shaping Banyule and two by email, which can be viewed in **Table 11** below. Note that while text has been altered slightly to improve legibility and reduce length, the meaning and essence of feedback has not been changed.

Table 11 – Draft Initiatives Program feedback via Shaping Banyule and email

Feedback received	Organisation	Attachments
Draft Initiatives Program feedback 1 (received 31 January 2023)		
This could simply require further explanation on the individual items, but on the Sustainable Environment aspect, I see very little that pertains specifically to improving the current status quo in regard to creeks, urban forest or local wildlife.	NA	No
Could we see initiatives include encouraging residents to plant native habitat to support wildlife or join their local Gardens for Wildlife program and planting out their nature strip, or care about their local creeks, for example Darebin Street Sweepers pick rubbish out of the Darebin once a month.		
Could Council encourage this kind of engagement each year by proactively inviting community to nominate a couple of local street drains to install a gravel pit/reed bed to catch rubbish and slow water from running straight off the street into the creek?		
At my local reserve, the Darebin Creek Forest Park, there are constantly lawn mowers every month or so, and I wonder every time what that is doing to the local lizards and insects. Could we instead plant a wildflower and grass paddock like they are doing in Royal Park in the city, improving the health of the local trees and providing habitat for local pollinators? Perhaps council can manage it with local indigenous knowledge and a fire regime?		
Draft Initiatives Program feedback 2 (received 1 February 2023)		
None.	Diamond Valley Athletics Club	No
Draft Initiatives Program feedback 3 (received 3 February 2023)		
We don't have a trusted or responsive leadership.	NA	No
Draft Initiatives Program feedback 4 (received 7 February 2023)		
Do you reckon we could finally beautify the IGA Watsonia carpark? I tried council previously to little avail. I believe the carpark may be owned by IGA?	NA	Yes
In any case, there should be some compulsory clean-up/upgrade launched by council in association with the traders' association if necessary. Total resurfacing of the bitumen, decorative planting instead of overgrown weeds (in the already plantation areas) and perhaps one or two murals similar to that of Bundoora Square.		

I reckon there would be change out of 50 K - I have done some sums. I can also help facilitate or oversee this work if Council agrees - this work is not unfamiliar to me. Be assured I just want it fixed.

I have lived in Banyule all my life and for about 25 years in Watsonia - I like the shire and Watsonia. I am embarrassed by the IGA carpark and so too should council - in my opinion.

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 5 (received 10 February 2023)

Direct attention, thought, planning and significant resources to the redevelopment of Olympic Leisure Centre as proposed and presented to Council in 2022. To bring equity of resources, support and facilities to Heidelberg West.

Olympic Village
Exodus
Community

No

This support of a somewhat neglected area of the Council could also be directed to purchase the property, The Hub, Oriel Road, Heidelberg West and the rebuild of a modern Neighbourhood House in partnership with Olympic Adult Education. Another opportunity to acknowledge the demographic of that area of Council and build capacity, pride and future resources.

Similarly, upgrade the Council facility, used by local community at 233 Southern Road, especially the toilets.

Make significant representation to State Government concerning the redevelopment of Public Housing in the Bell Street/Bardia site.

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 6 (received 11 February 2023)

What is happening to our works along St Helena and more working paths?

NA

No

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 7 (received 11 February 2023)

Can you please provide some lighting in Donaldson Reserve after dark to make it safe (particularly for women) to use at night. Particularly during winter when it gets dark so early it's difficult to go for a walk after 5pm.

NA

No

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 8 (received 14 February 2023)

No one can see the image.

NA

No

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 9 (received 15 February 2023)

We need to spend a lot less on things like sculptures. I'm not saying don't make them available, just reduce the costs/spending which in many cases is too expensive. The focus of Council should be roads, rates and rubbish.

NA

No

I've noticed recently that the word "SMUG" has been graffitied onto the side of the train line which crosses Sherbourne road by somebody with a pea-sized brain. Graffiti should be removed within 24 hours. If you'd like to contact me I'm happy to contribute some payment to the cost of removing this eyesore. Graffiti shouldn't be tolerated in our beautiful city.

Thanks for the opportunity to give my feedback.

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 10 (received 17 February 2023)

We see a huge growth phase for the Heidelberg West Business Park in the next 12 months and provide a budget which has been prepared in order to facilitate this growth phase.

Heidelberg
West Business
Park

Yes

We aim to be financially self-sustainable in the coming years with a Special Charge and have a newly formed Grant Sub-Committee to further enhance our financial sustainability.

We are requesting consideration of a Grant of \$55,000 in order to carry out the specific functions and events planned. Our investigations are that the expenses will be approximately \$80,000 to achieve our goals and we hope to be successful in securing other Grants to cover the shortfall.

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 11 (received 21 February 2023)

I am disappointed to see that the current initiative of working with the Somali Australian community has not been captured here. It appears that there does not exist any commitments to working with our CALD communities, especially those of Somali-Australian backgrounds living in Heidelberg West. As our community makes up a sizeable and long-standing minority group of the area, our efforts must be recognised and it is crucial that this is captured here.

East African
Women's
Foundation

No

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 12 (received 22 February 2023)

We welcome that Council has invested in the development of an Urban Food Strategy. While this work has not concluded, we believe that provision should be made to commence implementation during 2023-4.

Local Food
Connect Inc

No

We suggest that Council makes provision for \$250,000 to be spent on items such as: a dedicated staff resource, support of food related projects led by community groups and a program of diverse food related events across Banyule.

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 13 (received 23 February 2023)

Farm Raiser is an Urban Farm located in Bellfield. We believe we fit into many of Banyule's strategies and would like to be supported financially in the upcoming budget to continue to provide fresh, nutritious food to the local area along with the many other social and community benefits the farm provides. Below are a few examples of how Farm Raiser fits into these plans.

Farm Raiser

No

- The Farm aligns with 3 out of the 5 priority areas as named in the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025.
 - The Community Climate Action Plan 2020 names a circular economy as a priority action and local food production is stated as a way to achieve this.
 - Farm Raiser fits into the Public Open Space Plan 2016-2031 under Pillar 5: Diversity.
 - The Social Enterprise Action Plan 2020-2025 has many aspects to it that align with the farm as a recently formed social enterprise.
 - Inclusive Local Jobs Strategy 2020-2025 states that it would like to create 1000 local jobs for local people experiencing barriers to employment by 2025. Situated at a Special Developmental School, with some help from council we are well-placed to provide some of these employment opportunities.
 - While not yet an adopted strategy, the Urban Food Strategy will align with Farm Raiser. Farm Raiser is one of the largest Urban Farms in Melbourne and we are proud to be part of an upcoming group of urban food enterprises that are located within Banyule.
-

Please consider supporting Farm Raiser financially within the Initiatives Program.

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 14 (received 23 February 2023)

The Veggie Empire is an urban farm social enterprise that employs a neurodiverse range of people. We have members of our group who have intellectual disability who work alongside those that are neurotypical in a guide beside model of disability support. The organisation wishes that its efforts are supported financially by Banyule City Council. The Veggie Empire aims to create an inclusive workplace while also providing seedlings to the community as well vegetables to Greenhills Neighbourhood House for their food relief packages. The farm meets many of the Councils strategic plans including:

The Veggie
Empire

No

- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2021-2025
- Community Climate Action Plan 2020: Circular economy fits into our extensive worm farm composting system
- Towards Zero Waste Management Plan 2019-2023: The Veggie Empire collects waste from local cafes and organic veggie shops to compost at the farm.
- Public Open Space Plan 2016-2031: The Veggie Empire would be considered outside of 'core' open space, it is not fenced and freely accessible by the public.
- Social Enterprise Action Plan 2020-2025: As a recently formed social enterprise the organization needs support to thrive.
- Inclusive Local Jobs Strategy 2020-2025: The Veggie Empire already employs two people with intellectual disability who are long term unemployed. We wish to employ more local people with help from council.

We hope that council will consider financially supporting The Veggie Empire within the next budget.

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 15 (received 24 February 2023)

Reconciliation Banyule has actively supported the development of the City of Banyule's Reconciliation Action Plan and is a key contributor to the local campaign in support of the Voice to Parliament. We conduct awareness raising community events that contribute to cultural understanding and stronger connections between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and non-Aboriginal residents in Banyule.

Reconciliation
Banyule

Yes

This year, we have an historic opportunity for the Australian community to have their say on the referendum for the Voice to Parliament. This submission seeks Council support to rebuild our capacity after the COVID-19 pandemic in order to provide opportunities for community conversations about the referendum. We plan to do this by using existing partnerships and networks across Banyule, organising community events, and distribution of accessible, factual information. There is strong alignment between the strategic objectives of Reconciliation Banyule and those of Council, in particular to: Reconciliation Action Plan Implementation, Barrbunin Beek Activation and the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

This submission seeks \$9000 investment from Council to support the community engagement activities of Reconciliation Banyule in 2023. If supported, this investment would increase our volunteer outreach to deliver a \$2 return in benefits to the community for every \$1 invested. We look forward to contributing to Council's objectives for an Inclusive and Connected Community.

Draft Initiatives Program feedback 16 (received 24 February 2023)

I'm disappointed to see the current project Saldhig is not represented here in the budget. Banyule council needs to value its Somali-Australian community more and have representation. It's very disappointing that there is nothing in the budget about initiatives working with CALD communities, especially the Somali- Australian community in West Heidelberg	NA	No
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Draft Initiatives Program feedback 17 (received 24 February 2023)

Construction Management of capital works projects 1.6m and the respective (750m) transferred to Capital - from where was it transferred? What is this for? How many FTE's are required? What is being reimbursed from state, private companies etc? Transport Advocacy - 400k. What is this for? What advocacy has council done for protection of trees at Macleod. It seems council are working contrary to their principles. I have more feedback to add when read more thoroughly - I was not notified of this project opening on Shaping Banyule.	NA	No
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Draft Initiatives Program feedback 18 (received 24 February 2023)

More time needed to give this feedback. Why are suggested initiatives available so late and close to the closing date? Surely more discussion needs to be available. Why aren't we having Ward Meetings around these topics, if not whole of community discussions? These budget items are not part of a normal Council Process - of Council Reports seeking individual Budget release for Individual Programs in a Public Council Agenda? This is how it should be done and then a budget is drawn up. And why are the headings as vague as "INNOVATIONS". We should be seeing what the innovations are that are seeking funding. When Items are included in a Council Report, the funding costs should be apparent and itemized in a way that explains all the various parts of the projected costs, for the public to see and to approve or disapprove, in a detailed way. If they think the explanations fall short, they should be able to point this out at a Council Meeting. Any extra funding for Council Works should have to be justified in a Public Document in a detailed way and as a matter of course in Council doing its Business and via a Public Council Meeting and for each project or item of extra funding separately - NOT IN categories.	NA	No
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