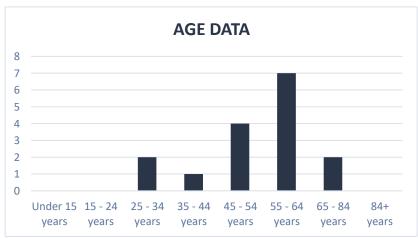
## **SHAPING BANYULE FEEDBACK**

# Banyule City Council Sporting Facility User Guide and Allocation Policy

The below information is representing the feedback that was received throughout the Shaping Banyule consultation period between 18 October and 16 November 2022 for the Banyule Sporting Facility User Guide and Allocation Policy.

## **DEMOGRAPHICS DATA**



Graph 1 – Represents age data

Summary: 75% of responses were from males 19% of responses from females and 6% preferred not to say



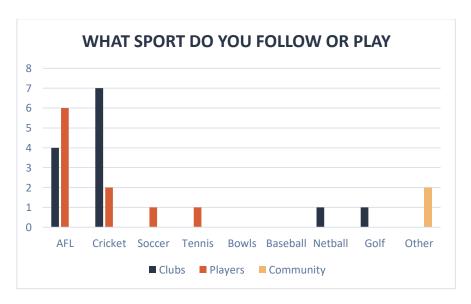
Graph 2. Represents Location of the people who took the survey

Summary: Just over 30% of people said they were from the Heidelberg area



Graph 3. Represents group type

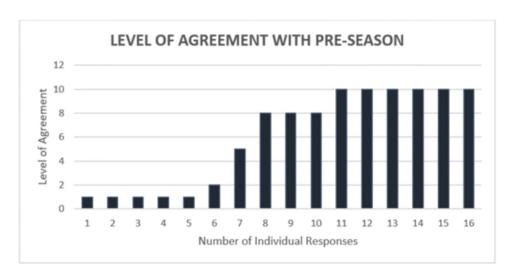
Summary: Majority of people who filled in the survey were from a Sports club as a committee member



Graph 4. Indicates what sport they play or are involved with if any. Noting there were Golf and Active Recreation

Summary: Majority of people that filled in the survey are involved with or play AFL or Cricket

## SURVEY RESPONSES- LEVEL OF AGREEMENT AND DIRECT QUOTES



Graph 5. The above shows the level of agreement about pre-season for winter clubs starting in mid-January

Summary: There were 3 football clubs who took part in the survey giving an average score of 1. There were 5 Cricket clubs who took part in the survey giving an average score of 9.6. The total average score overall was 6.

#### **Direct Quotes**

"Quality of grounds throughout the comp remains an issue, so this is a good start!

"Because the over use of grounds by football clubs effectively ruins the surface and ruins the amenity and usage of the ground for local families and sporting clubs other than football clubs"

"Its time cricket clubs had more use of ovals without the continual pressure from winter tenants to use the oval. Over use of ovals by winter clubs severely impact the start of cricket seasons. The destruction of grounds needs to be limited during winter."

"It's important that all grounds are usable for the summer sports. The grounds take quite a hit from the winter use and takes a lot of work to get them to playable conditions. Pre-season training hampers these efforts. Pre-season training for Winter sports can take shape in many forms without the use of grounds as such. "Quality of grounds throughout the comp remains an issue, so this is a good start!"

"Football clubs are consistently requesting earlier start times to commence preseason training. They place pressure on the summer tenant to access grounds and whilst they appear to reach agreement on the conditions of use it requires the summer tenant to observe the usage to limit damage to the surface. When dealing with larger football clubs it is also difficult to monitor the agreed conditions being adhered too. Whilst clubs have reached agreement on preseason usages, I have found that the football club at times can be demanding on the times and usage conditions. Moving to mid-January will allow the summer tenant some extra "breathing time" before the football clubs commence making requests and will obviously allow surfaces to be protected from over use and therefore provide cricketers the opportunity to play on surfaces that have not been overused as well as not competing with times for training days that cause clashes and has been seen arguments between the different clubs. It will be a good move to delay the winter pre-season training to mid-January but expect football clubs to reject the move."

"Whilst we agree with council with their policies around having people play sport to keep active and fit, we do not agree with council pre-season training limitations. If club want to maintain players fitness, this should be encouraged by council. Most sporting clubs (AFL), start preseason training prior to Xmas. By not allowing Banyule clubs to train pre-xmas, this will place these clubs at a disadvantage to competing clubs within

their league/association who subside outside of Banyule council. Any pre-season training, should always be approved by the winter club and ensure appropriate footwear is worn to limit damage to the grounds"

"Junior clubs should be able to do clinics during December to promote their club. Consideration needs to be taken on how much use they have had during the year and sometimes grounds are too muddy to get full use during their allocated time. Also if they have a Sporting Club that operates during the year this should also be in favor of the club can work out between themselves."

"The standard of grounds has gone down"

"Clubs of all kinds are based on community connection and that means keeping the club active with preseason activities and so on. With no allocations at all means that clubs are disconnected up until January and seasons often start in March. That disconnect for so long will create a loss of participants for clubs of all kinds and ages. people will just move on. Preseason also allows clubs to fund raise for the coming season. that will no longer be there. Preseason is less active and done in runners for less time and your grounds have been doing this for the last 50 years that I remember. This is a major issue."

"More work for overworked volunteers to find training facilities for winter sports not to mention the cost. Seriously the damage done to the grounds from mid November to mid December would not be worth talking abound when approx 50 players are wearing runners. More damage would be caused from the dogs that are tearing up grounds. At the moment your grounds are the most expensive DOG PARKS in Melbourne. This policy will seriously affect all winter clubs and will make it difficult to attract and retain players"

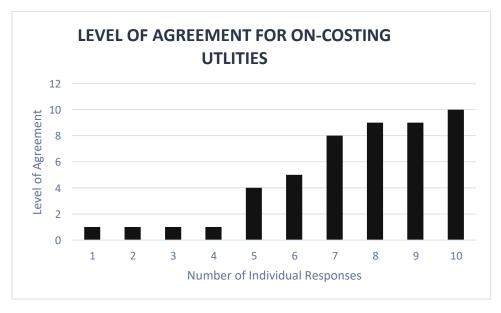
"I think this is a joke due to the grounds being in great condition and the clubs would be using runners and wouldn't wreck the ground"

"Grounds/grass rest. Heat stress of participants. Sharing of space with non-sport users"

"I wouldn't think that the level of preseason training would greatly impact the playing surface"

"Agree with comments re rejuvenation. Also grounds may be used casually for community activities/festivals at that time of year"

"I think this is reasonable and probably means the grounds will be in better condition for the playing season"



Graph 6. The above graph shows the level of agreement for the on costing of utilities change

Summary: Overall the average score is 5 with mixed responses from Football and Cricket clubs.

### **Direct Quotes:**

"Good decision"

"Clubs should pay for what they use at the time. Not average out"

"We are happy with this, providing it is the previous year. We have solar panels installed and expect zero to minimal electricity charges at Warringal Park"

"How will this work with dual occupancy?"

"I disagree council has billed us over \$10k and when we reviewed this it worked out that the council owed the club approx. \$375.00. How would this be fair?" This gives no advantage to clubs working out averages in trying to save power etc"

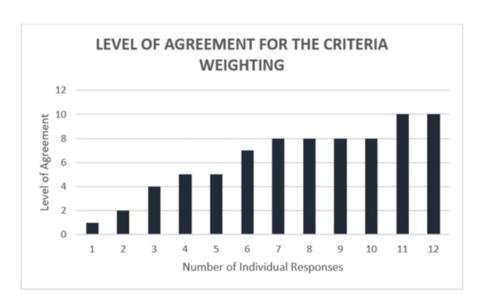
"Clubs need to be responsible for usage in that same year"

"Cost is fine if we can get to use the facilities"

"Good idea hopefully it works"

"Cost is fine if we can get to use the facilities"

"This seems unfair unless you are providing some kind of retrospective adjustment upon receipt of actual costs"



Graph 7. The above graph shows the level of agreement for the weighting criteria (outlined on page 7 of user guide)

Summary: Overall the average score is 6 with mixed responses from Football and Cricket clubs.

### **Direct Quotes:**

"Our club straddles two councils and using addresses to weight allocation of grounds is wrong in particular clubs that play all over Melbourne. Do other councils ban clubs that come from elsewhere. This is grossly unfair. We provide a service for the municipal areas residents not just to players but people who watch and enjoy the game"

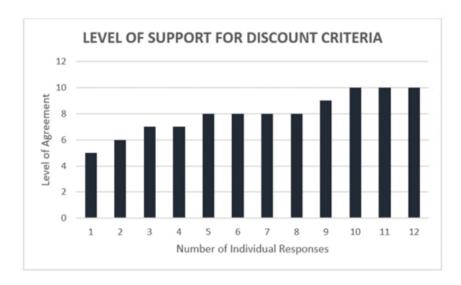
"Historical length of tenure should have much higher rating"

"These seem reasonable numbers"

"I believe that Historical length of tenure should have the highest rating as a reward for the tenant who has continued to provide a service to the Banyule Community. Track Record should also have a higher rating as a reward for complying with the user guide and policy. The 20% weightings could be reduced to allow the abovementioned items to take their place"

"The number of users that come from outside municipal areas should not be a criteria. Because what if other councils did the same! Banyule sports people would be disadvantaged from pursuing sporting careers"

"fair!"



Graph 8. The above graph shows the level of agreement for the discount criteria (outlined on page 12 and 13 of user guide)

Summary: Overall the average score is 8 with mixed responses from Football and Cricket clubs.

**Direct Quotes:** 

"The carrot is better than the stick"

"If a club does meet the full 6-point allocation, i would have thought a higher % would be received. for example, 20%"

"Fair"

"Give clubs a discount for providing a community service which is not acknowledged by councils. All councils see is the cost!"

"This seems fair"

## FURTHER COMMENTS ON WHAT IS MOST LIKED

**Direct Quotes:** 

"It focusses on inclusion and growing the respective sports"

"The incentive of a discount"

"A better arrangement for summer tenants"

6

"A	uniform	approach	for	all	users

# "Clarity of information"

## FURTHER COMMENTS ON WHAT IS MISSING OR NEEDS IMPROVING

**Direct Quotes:** 

"None that stand out to me"

"Using peoples addresses to guide allocation and usage of grounds and pavilions"

"Would like to see a more, formal commitment or program around ensuring ovals are prepared or transitioned properly from the winter season to the summer season. Council should release a block plan of when and what grounds are being prepared in accordance with winter clubs completing their seasons. At the moment it does not seem like there is any plan whatsoever and works are completed on an ad hoc basis. More communication and consultation needs to take place between, council, the Parks team and the summer clubs"

"The need for compassion in charging clubs that are struggling. And the user pays at attitude towards clubs without taking into consideration the positive's clubs provide. Support for wicket curators, not just seeing them as a cost"

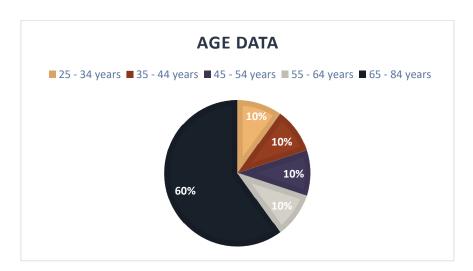
"The proposed training schedule for winter tenants is un workable for clubs"

"Totally missing is a review of the equitable distribution of sporting facilities across Banyule LGA. Totally missing is a review mechanism of adjoining community satisfaction or dissatisfaction with parking, noise, nuisance, cooperation of sports groups with "shared use" concepts. Totally missing is an evaluation of what the local community wants from the public land/open spaces - all focussed on the needs of sports groups which are inevitably being subsidised by the community"

# **Banyule City Council Sports Facilities Capital Works Policy**

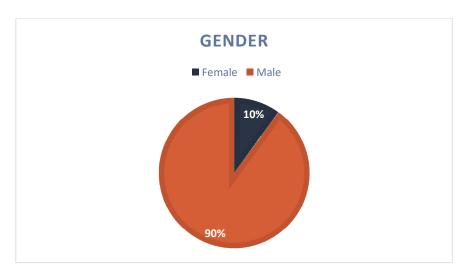
The below information is representing the feedback that was received throughout the Shaping Banyule consultation period between 18 October and 16 November 2022 for the Banyule City Council Sports Facilities Capital Works Policy.

### **DEMOGRAPHICS DATA**



Graph 9 illustrates the breakdown of age groups who took part in the survey.

Summary: Overall 60% of the responses were from people who are aged between 65-85 years of age



Graph 10 illustrates the breakdown of gender selected of who took part in the survey.

Summary: Overall 90% of the responses were male and 10% selected female



Graph 11 illustrates the location of the individual responses

Summary: Overall 40% of the responses were from Heidelberg with next highest being 20% from Ivanhoe



Graph 12 represents group type

Summary: Majority of people who filled in the survey are committee members or a registered member of a club. 15% of people selecting other. These were detailed ad 'Former committee member', 'Gym/Swim member' and 'Rate payer'



Graph 13 represents the sports or codes respondents chose that represents them

Summary: AFL and Bowls are the most selected with 28% and 27%. Followed by Cricket 18% and 'Other' 18%. Those who selected other specified the following, Swimming and Quiddich.

## SURVEY RESPONSES- LEVEL OF AGREEMENT AND DIRECT QUOTES

The survey asked the following six questions and asked to what extent do you agree or disagree with the key focus areas identified?

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Respondents
Inclusive welcoming and safe community sports facilities	70%	30%				10
Flexible and Multi- use Sports Pavilions	30%	70%				10
Clubs supported with the right standard of infrastructure to meet expectations and support future growth	60%	20%		10%	10%	10
Diverse infrastructure needs of clubs are understood and supported	10%	80%		10%		10

Projects enhance open space and contribute to a sense of place and community	20%	70%		10%	10
Sustainability and positive environmental outcomes are at the forefront of projects	20%	60%	10%	10%	10

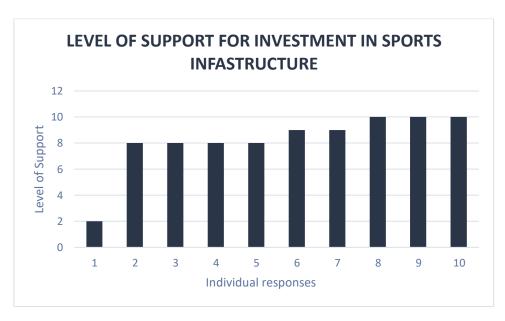
### Direct Quotes:

"Fluffy survey. At least you asked for comments. All loaded questions. We have to support community groups and clubs, when a club or group ceases to survive then we all lose. Put a path in and it is there for 40 years. Lights on a court 30 years. Top dress a sporting ground or new tennis surface 30 years. New toilets or kitchen 40 years. We all win in the long term"

"There needs to be a reflection within Council as to readiness to accede to sporting club "wants" compared to the needs of the wider community. For example access to public toilets of a decent clean standard right across Banyule for the entire population - not just within sporting pavilions. Note that 1 of over 40 nominated sports facilities is south of Banksia Street - more than 2.5% of Banyule's population is south of Banksia Street. The ratepayers in the two southern wards pay rates of around \$38 million - well in advance of any 2 other wards yet get a miserable allocation of sports grounds, pavilions etc"

Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Total Respondents
The policy makes it clear what Council considers when making decisions about sports facilities and infrastructure	80%	70%				10
Utilising state sporting standards is an important tool to guide facility development	30%	70%				10
A classification system to grade sporting fields and pavilions is a fair and equitable approach to assist in setting fees and establishing infrastructure priorities	60%	20%		10%	10%	10

Council's investment in sports infrastructure and facilities has been clearly demonstrated over the last 5 years



Graph 13 represents the level of support for sports infrastructure

Summary: There is an overall high support level for investment in Sports infrastructure. With and Average support level of 8. The following was provided as to why the scores above were given.

### **Direct Quotes:**

"It's an obvious must!"

"The Council has shown little commitment in supporting the Greensborough Bowling Club by way of financial investment in recent years. The provision regarding leased facilities is unfair and out of touch with the current costs of maintaining a Bowling Club and is heavily biased towards seasonal sports facilities. The concept of keeping rentals low but expecting Clubs to have sinking funds sufficient to support replacement or upgrade infrastructure is misguided. Audits of Bowling Clubs have been undertaken but poorly managed, with some audits contracted out and in turn sub-contracted out. No communication on the results, no conclusions, recommendations or commitments made. A \$50K per year allocation across 6 Clubs provided Clubs themselves make a \$ contribution is insufficient to deliver any meaningful improvements"

"The role of Council is critical for survival of sporting clubs. Major infrastructure investment is beyond the reach of the majority of sporting clubs. A balanced and fair approach for all sports makes decision making easier for all parties."

"Sport is great for our community. So many positives come from competition at all age levels for a healthy life"

"Council has the ability to provide for the future. Council can provide and build for the future by supporting community groups and infrastructure"

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"There is far too much focus on the wants and aspirations of sports clubs/participants and too little on the needs of the population at large.

Sports groups are necessarily focused and organised, are being heavily subsidised, and are massively advantaged in access to Council officers, services and facilities by comparison to the general community - which has huge unsatiated needs for non-sporting facilities."

"In community interests to have good sport facilities for many reasons: contributes to community health, sense of place, social networking, skill development, fun, business development, pride in community, safety"

"Sport is important for children and provides an outlet for the community in their free time"

### SURVEY RESPONSES- ANY FURTHER COMMENTS

"Financial Contributions and Responsibility – Facility Fit Out Items. When a new building is being replaced, i strongly believe the council should replace all equipment which is in a working manner and not for the club tpo cover these costs. For example, Deep Fryer which cannot be stored and then re-installed, should be part of the council costs for the fit out. Another example is for a PA system, where I believe council should cover the costs of the wiring and this is installed during construction of the pavilion. The PA itself, agree this would come at the expensive of the club"

"As the Chairperson of a Bowling Club, I noted on page 7, that Bowling Clubs will be required to demonstrate the capacity to make a co contribution for any new or upgraded infrastructure. There will need to be consultation with Bowling Clubs to put some framework around this issue."

"The main purpose of opening this document is to highlight that the Heidelberg greater area lacks a good swimming venue see: Greensborough, Doncaster, and the new facility under construction at Northcote. A similar such facility located down near the Heidelberg football ground parkland would be a massive bonus for this area. Why is swimming left off any sporting agenda on the council?"

"Council should undertake a fundamental review of the level of its commitment to organised competitive sport, and the health/social benefits of this investment, compared to its level of investment in non-competitive, non-combative public health/exercise activities. Council is focussed on inclusion - measuring the age, gender, ethnicity of users of public facilities and money via organised sports would likely reveal how excluding competitive sport is for most of the population."