



**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
STRATEGY**

VOLUME 2

**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
REPORT**

DECEMBER 2006

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VISION FOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

A Shire that offers a range of recreation and open space environments for residents and visitors:

- through which they can achieve their recreation aspirations,
- through which they can engage with the community,
- that encourage participation in healthy lifestyle pursuits, and
- that raises awareness of the Shire's unique natural environment.

The Recreation and Open Space Strategy is presented in 3 volumes:

Volume 1: Executive Summary:

This volume provides the context for the strategy, key issues and analysis and summarises the priorities for implementation over the next 10 years.

Volume 2: Recreation and Open Space Report:

This volume provides the background, information and rationale for the priorities that emerge from this strategy.

Volume 3: Working Papers:

This volume contains detailed results from research, policy frameworks and guidelines for the implementation of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy.

1. INTRODUCTION

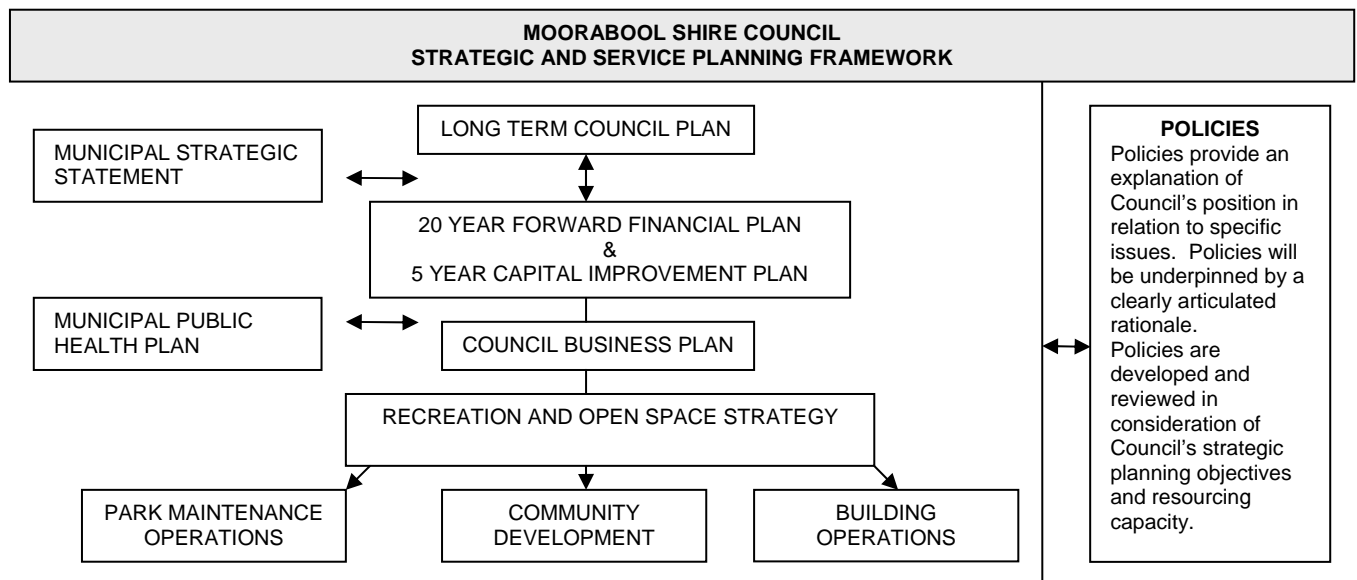
1.1: The Recreation and Open Space Strategy

The purpose of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy is to provide a framework to guide Council's decision making over the next 10 years.

The responsibility for the implementation of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy will sit with a number of Departments across Council, with the Community Development Unit having responsibility for monitoring the implementation process in conjunction with an Implementation Committee (Council) and a Recreation Advisory Committee (community based).

The following diagram provides a simple representation of the important relationships that need to exist to ensure that recreation planning is effective, responsive and relevant within the organisational context and for the community.

Diagram 1 – Relationship of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy to other Strategic Planning Documents



The Recreation and Open Space Strategy was developed with extensive consultation, including:

- Household Telephone Survey conducted with 300 households in Moorabool,
- School Survey, completed by young people in Moorabool's primary and secondary schools,
- Recreation and Sporting Club Survey, completed by 28 clubs,
- 3 Sports Forums attended by 31 (Bacchus Marsh), 7 (Ballan) and 19 (Dunnstown) people,
- 22 additional recreation and sporting club questionnaires,
- Preparation and Distribution of Discussion Paper, raising issues for discussion and response,
- 9 submissions to the project,
- 24 stakeholder telephone interviews,
- 2 Community Forums,
- Numerous meetings and discussions with Councillors, Council staff, and the Reference Group, and
- 14 submissions on the draft report

2. GLOSSARY

The following terms are used throughout this Strategy.

| Term | Definition |
|--|---|
| Public Open Space (Recreation) | Refers to those outdoor areas in public spaces that are used for sport, 'play', other forms of physical e.g. bike riding and social activities, and for preservation of environmental values. |
| Structured Sport/ Recreation Activities | Activities that are governed by formal club or activity protocols including rules, regulations and competition. |
| Active Participation | Refers to recreation pastimes that involve/require 'physical activity' e.g. sport, bike riding. May relate to structured e.g. sport, or unstructured activities e.g. skateboarding. |
| DE&T | Department of Education and Training |
| LGA(s) | Local Government Authority/ies |
| The Subdivision Act | The Subdivision Act 1988 Act No. 53/1988 states the powers of an LGA in relation to land acquisition for public open space purposes. |
| Unstructured Sport/Recreation | Activities that are not subject to formal club or participation requirements e.g. horse riding, walking, jogging, social cricket. |
| MSC | Moorabool Shire Council |
| DSE | Department of Sustainability and Environment |

Throughout the Strategy, year numbers (ie: 1,2,3) are interchangeable with actual financial years (ie: 06/07). The following provides the definition of year numbers to actual years for easy reference:

| | | | |
|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| Year 1: | 2006/07 | Year 6: | 2011/12 |
| Year 2: | 2007/08 | Year 7: | 2012/13 |
| Year 3: | 2008/09 | Year 8: | 2013/14 |
| Year 4: | 2009/10 | Year 9: | 2014/15 |
| Year 5: | 2010/11 | Year 10: | 2015/16 |

3. BACKGROUND:

3.1: Demographic Profile

The Shire of Moorabool is located some 80 kilometres west of Melbourne and straddles the Western Freeway amid a rural landscape that includes the growing urban centre of Bacchus Marsh; a diversity of unique township communities; a range of primary industries relating to fruit growing and agriculture; and a range of landscapes and natural amenities.

The resident population of Moorabool was 25,087 in 2001 (id consulting, 2006) and is estimated to be 36,482 by 2021 (id consulting 2006), with the Department of Infrastructure forecasting that Moorabool will become the third fastest growing ex-urban area in Victoria in the near future (*Victoria in Future Overview, 2000*). A greater proportion of residents live in the main centres of Bacchus Marsh (45 km west of the Melbourne CBD) and Ballan (70 km west of the city), and about 40% of residents travel to Melbourne to work.

Moorabool has an age structure that reflects its attraction for residents seeking a semi-rural lifestyle and for young families. The resident profile indicates an average household income in excess of \$37,000, which is 17% higher than the average for non-Metropolitan Victoria, and a low unemployment level of 5.3% compared to the Victorian average of 6.1%. (2001 census data)

Growth and Development

Significant development has occurred in and around Bacchus Marsh and Ballan in recent decades, especially during the 1990s. The Shire's population has grown from 20,700 in 1991. This growth has been most heavily concentrated in the areas closest to Melbourne such as Bacchus Marsh, Darley, Hopetoun Park and Maddingley. It is expected that this population growth will continue, especially in the eastern area.

Major Features

Major features of the Shire include Brisbane Ranges National Park, Lerderderg State Park, Bungal State Forest, Lal Lal State Forest, Pyrite State Forest, Wombat State Forest, The Little Forest, Long Forest Nature Conservation Reserve, Werribee Gorge Park, Lerderderg Gorge, Bostock Reservoir, Korweinguboorra Reservoir, Lal Lal Reservoir, Merrimu Reservoir, Moorabool Reservoir, Pykes Creek Reservoir, Ballan Mineral Springs, Blackwood Mineral Springs, Bacchus Marsh Village Shopping Centre, Bacchanalia Estate Winery and St Anne's Winery. The Shire is served by the Western Freeway and the Melbourne-Ballarat railway line

Country of Birth

There was a low percentage of the population born overseas in this area in 2001 compared to other areas in the Central Highlands Statistical Division and a less diverse range of countries.

Employment

The unemployment rate in Moorabool Shire was lower than the Central Highlands Statistical Division in 2001 (6.4% compared to 8.5%). The reason for the lower rate in Moorabool Shire includes a comparatively smaller share of the population aged 18-24, who often have higher unemployment rates than older workers (25-59). The unemployment rate decreased substantially between 1996 and 2001 in Moorabool Shire, while the Central Highlands Statistical Division also decreased over this period. It is interesting to note that 64.8% of the Shire employed population travel outside of the Moorabool Shire for work, compared to 35.2% that stay within the Moorabool Shire. Of the 64.8% that travel outside of the Moorabool Shire, 12.1% travel to the City of Ballarat, 8.2% to the City of Melbourne and 6.7% to the Shire of Melton.

Household Structure

The most significant differences between the household structure of the Moorabool Shire and the Central Highlands SD in 2001 were:

- a greater share of total family households
- a higher percentage of total couple with child(ren)
- a lesser proportion of lone person household

The most significant changes in household types experienced in the Moorabool Shire between 1996 and 2001 were:

- total couple with child(ren) which declined from 55.9% to 53.2%

| Key statistics (summary statistics) | 2001 | | | 1996 | | | Change 1996 to 2001 |
|---|--------|-------|------------------------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | number | % | Central Highlands SD % | number | % | Central Highlands SD % | |
| POPULATION | | | | | | | |
| Total population* | 23,832 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 21,904 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 1,928 |
| Males* | 11,842 | 49.7 | 48.8 | 10,968 | 50.1 | 49.0 | 874 |
| Females* | 11,990 | 50.3 | 51.2 | 10,936 | 49.9 | 51.0 | 1,054 |
| Indigenous population | 135 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 144 | 0.7 | 0.7 | -9 |
| Australian born | 19,906 | 83.5 | 86.6 | 18,630 | 85.1 | 88.1 | 1,276 |
| Overseas born | 2,822 | 11.8 | 8.5 | 2,646 | 12.1 | 8.8 | 176 |
| Australian citizens | 21,885 | 91.8 | 92.9 | 20,353 | 92.9 | 94.2 | 1,532 |
| Australian citizens aged 18+ | 15,045 | 63.1 | 67.8 | 13,581 | 62.0 | 67.4 | 1,464 |
| Institutional population | 317 | 1.3 | 3.9 | 234 | 1.1 | 3.7 | 83 |
| AGE STRUCTURE | | | | | | | |
| Infants 0 to 4 years | 1,823 | 7.7 | 6.7 | 1,937 | 8.8 | 7.4 | -114 |
| Children 5 to 17 years | 5,439 | 22.8 | 20.1 | 5,087 | 23.2 | 20.5 | 352 |
| Adults 18 to 64 years | 14,310 | 60.1 | 59.8 | 12,932 | 59.0 | 59.2 | 1,378 |
| Mature adults 65 to 84 years | 2,041 | 8.6 | 11.8 | 1,780 | 8.1 | 11.5 | 261 |
| Senior citizens 85 years and over | 218 | 0.9 | 1.6 | 169 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 49 |
| HOUSEHOLDS | | | | | | | |
| Households (occupied private dwellings) | 8,294 | -- | -- | 7,504 | -- | -- | 790 |
| Persons counted in households | 23,561 | -- | -- | 21,708 | -- | -- | 1,853 |
| Average household size (persons) | 2.84 | -- | -- | 2.90 | -- | -- | -0.06 |
| DWELLINGS | | | | | | | |
| Dwellings (total) | 9,266 | -- | -- | 8,533 | -- | -- | 733 |
| Owned | 3,402 | 41.0 | 44.2 | 3,076 | 41.8 | 46.1 | 326 |
| Purchasing | 3,215 | 38.8 | 28.9 | 2,800 | 38.0 | 28.0 | 415 |
| Renting | 1,169 | 14.1 | 20.9 | 1,190 | 16.2 | 21.4 | -21 |

Source: Derived from the *Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2001, 1996 and 1991*.

| Age structure age group (years) | 2001 | | | 1996 | | | Central Highlands SD % |
|------------------------------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|--------|------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | number | % | Central Highlands SD % | number | % | Central Highlands SD % | |
| 0-4 | 1,823 | 7.6 | 6.7 | 1,937 | 8.8 | 7.4 | |
| 5-11 | 2,989 | 12.5 | 10.7 | 2,819 | 12.9 | 11.0 | |
| 12-17 | 2,450 | 10.3 | 9.4 | 2,268 | 10.4 | 9.5 | |
| 18-24 | 1,821 | 7.6 | 9.3 | 1,600 | 7.3 | 10.1 | |
| 25-34 | 2,947 | 12.4 | 12.6 | 3,184 | 14.5 | 13.6 | |
| 35-49 | 5,834 | 24.5 | 22.0 | 5,393 | 24.6 | 21.9 | |
| 50-59 | 2,894 | 12.1 | 11.7 | 2,043 | 9.3 | 9.7 | |
| 60-69 | 1,505 | 6.3 | 7.7 | 1,349 | 6.2 | 7.7 | |
| 70-84 | 1,350 | 5.7 | 8.2 | 1,143 | 5.2 | 7.6 | |
| 85 and over | 218 | 0.9 | 1.6 | 169 | 0.8 | 1.4 | |
| Total | 23,831 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 21 | | | |

The age structure of Moorabool Shire in 2001 was represented by large numbers of persons in both young and more mature family age groups, with 67.3% of the population aged 0-17 and 25-49, which is indicative of substantial residential development in the area over a number of decades.

The major differences in age structure between Moorabool Shire and the Central Highlands Statistical Division includes:

- A higher percentage of persons aged 35-49
- A lower percentage of persons aged 70-84
- A higher percentage of persons aged 5-11
- A lower percentage of persons aged 18-24

The most significant changes in age structure in this area between 1996 and 2001 were in the age groups:

- 50-59 year olds (+851 persons);
- 35-49 year olds (+441 persons);
- 25-34 year olds (-237 persons)

3.2: Community Profile and Population Projections

Small Areas

i.d. consulting has prepared population information based on 9 small areas that cover the Shire as a whole. These areas have been used for the purpose of demographic and provision analysis and for the development of Small Area Actions.

The following is a summary of these Small Areas:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Small Area 1 | Bacchus Marsh |
| Small Area 2 | Darley |
| Small Area 3 | Maddingley |
| Small Area 4 | Ballan |
| Small Area 5 | The towns of Blackwood, Greendale, Myrniong and the localities of Barrys Reef, Blakeville, Bullarto South (part), Colbrook, Dales Creek, Korobeit, Lerderderg, Myrniong, Pentland Hills and Trentham (part). |
| Small Area 6 | Coimadai, Long Forest, Hopetoun Park, Merrimu. |
| Small Area 7 | The towns of Gordon and Wallace and the localities of Barkstead, Bolwarrah, Bullarook, Bunding, Bungaree, Claretown, Clarkes Hill, Glen Park (part), Korweinguboorra, Leigh Creek, Mollongghip (part), Pootilla, Spargo Creek, Springbank, Wallace and Wattle Flat (part) |
| Small Area 8 | The towns of Lal Lal, Clarendon, Grenville and the localities of Buninyong (part), Cargarie, Clarendon, Dunnstown, Durham Lead (part), Elaine, Grenville (part), Lal Lal, Meredith (part), Millbrook, Mount Doran, Navigators, Scotsburn (part), Warrenheip (part) and Yendon. |
| Small Area 9 | The towns of Rowsley, Balliang, Fiskville, Mount Egerton and the localities of Balliang (part), Balliang East, Beremboke, Bungal, Fiskville, Glenmore, Ingliston, Morrisons (part), Mount Wallace, Parwan (part) and Rowsley |

The Small Areas defined above have been grouped for the purposes of producing forecast data. The areas identified for this purpose are:

- Bacchus Marsh
- Darley
- Maddingley
- Bacchus Marsh and Surrounds (the 3 areas above collated into one group)
- Rural East: Small Area 6 and parts of Small Areas 5 and 9
Includes Trentham, Pentland Hills, Myrniong, Lerderderg, Greendale, Dales Creek, Blackwood and Barrys Reef, from Small Area 5 and Rowsley, Parwan, Mount Wallace, Ingliston, Glenmore, Fiskville, Beremboke, Balliang East and Balliang from Small Area 9
- Rural West: Small Areas 7 and 8 and parts of Small Areas 5 and 9
Includes Colbrook, Blakeville and Bullarto South from Small Area 5 and Mount Egerton, Morrisons, and Bungal from Small Area 9

A summary of the population characteristics of each of these small areas is provided below:

| Area | Forecast Year | | | | | Comments |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---|
| | 2001 | 2006 | 2011 | 2016 | 2021 | |
| Moorabool Shire | 25,087 | 27,131 | 30,174 | 33,208 | 36,482 | |
| Small Area 1: Bacchus Marsh | 5,761 | 6,313 | 7,114 | 8,131 | 8,585 | |
| Small Area 2: Darley | 5,739 | 6,500 | 7,337 | 8,126 | 9,505 | |
| Small Area 3: Maddingley | 1,764 | 2,026 | 2,861 | 3,353 | 4,077 | |
| Small Areas 1,2,3 combined: Bacchus Marsh and surrounds | 13,264 | 14,839 | 17,313 | 19,610 | 22,167 | |
| Small Area 4: Ballan | 2,283 | 2,500 | 2,674 | 2,856 | 3,073 | |
| Small Areas 5, 6, 9: Rural East | 3,864 | 4,129 | 4,511 | 4,977 | 5,334 | Includes Trentham, Pentland Hills, Myrniong, Lerderderg, Greendale, Dales Creek, Blackwood and Barrys Reef, from Small Area 5 and Rowsley, Parwan, Mount Wallace, Ingliston, Glenmore, Fiskville, Beremboke, Balliang East and Balliang from Small Area 9 |
| Small Areas 5, 7, 8, 9: Rural West | 5,675 | 5,663 | 5,676 | 5,764 | 5,908 | Includes Colbrook, Blakeville and Bullarto South from Small Area 5 and Mount Egerton, Morrisons, and Bungal from Small Area 9 |

Source: id consulting – Moorabool Shire: Population and Household Forecasts, 2006

The most significant growth for the shire is forecast for the Bacchus Marsh and surrounds area, comprising Bacchus Marsh, Darley and Maddingley, with 60% of the population of Moorabool residing in these areas in 2021. Just under 10% of the projected population will live in Ballan and approximately 15% will live in each of the rural areas East and West.

The implications for recreation and open space planning are:

- some facilities that need to be centralised to cater for the majority of the shire are more likely to be located in and around the Bacchus Marsh area,
- it will be important to ensure that infrastructure for the rural and smaller areas of the shire are provided at the local level, and
- access to facilities and services will be an important consideration for the western and rural parts of the shire.

4. CURRENT PROVISION OF RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

Management of Recreation and Open Space

There are a significant number of departments within Council that play a key role in the planning and management of recreation and open space services, facilities and opportunities. This role is made particularly challenging because of the diversity of landscapes, environments, infrastructure, maintenance regimes and community and sporting clubs that have to be considered when providing the service.

The Community Development Unit has a significant responsibility for the overall planning of recreation and open space services, and for liaison with clubs, committees and associations.

The following table provides an overview of the Council Units that play a key role in the management of recreation and open space services, programs and assets and the type of role that they play in relation to the service.

Table 1 – Council Units and their Role in Managing Recreation and Open Space Assets and Services.

| DEPARTMENT | ROLE | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|--------|------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------|--------------------|------------------|
| | Planning | Policy | Advice/ Information | Training | Liaison/ Facilitation | Community Development | Advocacy | Maintenance | Data Management | Capital Works |
| Community Development | √√√ | √√√ | √√√ | √√√ | √√√ | √√√ | √√√ | √ | √√ | √ |
| Assets | √ | √ | √ | | √ | | | | √√ | √√√ |
| Works | √ | √ | √ | | √ | | | √√√ | | √ |
| Projects | √√ | √ | √√ | √ | √√ | | | √√ | √ | √√√ |
| Planning and Building | √√√ | √√ | √√ | | √ | | | √√√ | √ | √√ |
| Customer Communications | | | √√ | | | | | | √√√ | |
| Sustainable and Strategic Development | √√√ | √√√ | √√ | | √ | √√ | | | | √√ |

Code: √√√ = Major Role

√ = Lesser role

The following table provides a summary of the range and type of recreation and open space assets for which Council has a role (in some cases the role is advisory and project funding and in other cases it is a more direct management and/or maintenance role). Please note that this list is not exhaustive and should be added to over time, but it gives an indication of the best estimate of recreation and sports assets.

Table 2 – A Summary of Recreation and Sport Assets in Moorabool

| Facility | Total Number |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Recreation Centres | 2 |
| Swimming Pools (outdoor) | 2 |
| Public Scout/Guide Halls | 10 |
| Sporting Pavilions / Buildings | 62 |
| Aust Football/cricket Ovals | 14 |
| Tennis Courts | 57 |
| Netball Courts: Indoor/Outdoor | 3 / 7 |
| Athletic facilities | 1 |
| Bowling Green Facilities | 3 |
| Softball/Baseball Fields | 1 |
| Golf Courses | 3 |
| Basketball/Indoor Courts | 3 |

The recreation and sport opportunities available for the communities of the Shire of Moorabool are provided by the following clubs, organisations and associations:

| TYPE OF CLUB or ORGANISATION or ASSOCIATION | NO. IN MOORABOOL | TYPE OF CLUB or ORGANISATION or ASSOCIATION | NO. IN MOORABOOL |
|--|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| Aviation | 4 | Golf | 3 |
| Bowling - Lawn | 4 | Horse/Pony/Riding | 3 |
| Bowling – Carpet | 1 | Little Athletics | 1 |
| Bowling - Indoor | 1 | Motorcross | 1 |
| Baseball | 2 | Speedway | 1 |
| Cricket | 12 | Netball | 10 |
| Football | 9 | Soccer – Goalkick | 1 |
| Football – auskick | 6 | Tennis | 9 |
| Dog Obedience | 1 | Organ Club | 1 |
| Hobby | 5 | Anglers | 1 |
| Calisthenics | 1 | Dance | 1 |
| Fire Brigades | 24 | Further Education | |
| • Auxiliaries | 3 | Adult Education Centres | 2 |
| • Support Groups | 1 | | |
| • SES | 1 | | |
| Halls | 14 | Martial Arts | 3 |
| • Committees Of Management | 3 | | |
| Parks and Reserves | 22 | Community Centres: | |
| • Committees Of Management | 8? | Playgroup/Health | 7 |
| • Advisory Committees | 1 | Community Groups Misc | 5 |
| Community Radio | 1 | Cubs, Scouts & Venturers | 1 |
| Basketball | 1 | Guides and Brownies | 2 |
| Historical Societies | 3 | Land Care | 9 |
| Welfare Groups | 4 | Poultry Clubs | 2 |
| Service Clubs | 4 | Progress Associations | 1 |

There is a diverse range of local organisations that are very active around the Moorabool communities, providing a range of opportunities for residents to participate in. In addition to these organisations there are a number of associations and clubs in neighbouring municipalities who are also attracting residents from Moorabool Shire. Equally, Moorabool based clubs will be attracting some membership from outside the shire.

5. LITERATURE REVIEW

This section summarises key sections of the Corporate Plan and the previous Recreation Strategy (1998).

The Corporate Plan

This plan has been developed in accordance with Council's Mission

'Moorabool Shire Council respects and serves our communities through planning and delivering sustainable growth; advocating to protect our rights, heritage and diversity; managing and fairly distributing resources for the overall well-being of the community', (Council Plan 2005-2008, page 2), and the objectives that underpin the Mission. In particular the recreation and Open Space Strategy responds to the following corporate objectives:

Objective 1.3 - Developing Productive Partnerships and Alliances.

'To develop regional partnerships with local and other levels of government, the private sector and not-for-profit agencies to ensure we initiate discussions and influence decisions critical to Moorabool.'
(Corporate Plan 2005-2008, Page 7)

Objective 2.1 - Strengthening Communities

'To build capacity in communities across the Shire, empowering them to achieve their goals, recognising their different needs and priorities and supporting, encouraging and valuing their individual approaches.'
(Corporate Plan 2005-2008, Page 9)

Objective 3.1 - Quality Infrastructure and Facilities

'To maintain and develop infrastructure and initiate new capital projects to meet current and future community needs.'
(Corporate Plan 2005-2008, Page 12)

Objective 3.3 - Sustainable Natural Environment

'To protect and enhance the natural environment and ensure that Moorabool's growth and Council's activities support environmental sustainability.'
(Corporate Plan 2005-2008, Page 9)

Objective 4.2 - Innovative Systems and Processes

'To be a leading and innovative organisation through improved Council systems and processes.'
(Corporate Plan 2005-2008, Page 15)

Objective 5.3 - Long Term Strategic Approaches

'To plan for the long term viability of services, assets, land use and environment that achieve the agreed vision for the Shire.'
(Corporate Plan 2005-2008, Page 18)

1998 Recreation Strategy

Council completed a Recreation Strategy in 1998. Consistent with the findings of the current study the 1998 Recreation Strategy found that passive/non-traditional activities rated as the most commonly participated in activities by residents. These activities included recreational swimming (33%), walking for exercise (26.7%), fishing (15.6%), bush walking (14%). These were followed by tennis (13%), golf (12.5%) recreational cycling (12%), netball (10.4%), and Australian Rules Football (9.4%).

In addition the following issues raised in the 1998 Recreation Strategy are still key issues that need to be addressed:

- Maintenance of sporting (pavilions) and community buildings (halls).
- Management of facilities – multi-use over single purpose use
- Resurfacing of ovals and sports courts.
- Improving amenity standards at reserves and parks.
- Priority is to better manage what currently exists than to develop new facilities.
- The need to develop minimum standards for facilities and open space assets.
- Development of new and upgrade of existing walking trails and improved maintenance.
- Improved signage.
- Masons Lane Reserve – future directions for the reserve including the addressing of salinity issues, potential relocation of cricket from the site and improved amenity e.g. plantings.
- Racecourse Reserve – master planning, standard of facilities, water.
- Playgrounds – safety, compliance and standard of provision, integration of facilities, provision for male and females.

- Indoor Aquatics Facility – feasibility.
- Recreation Management – integration, resourcing, information.
- Information to community – opportunities, grants programs, funding programs.
- Consideration of fees and charges system.
- Programs – Including holiday programs for young people, recreation programs for the broader community.

The following table provides a summary of the recommendations made in the 1998 Recreation Strategy and the status of those recommendations (*Refer page 17-18 of The Recreation Strategy 1998*). As will be observed from the table the great majority of the recommendations from the 1998 Recreation Strategy have not been addressed and are still very relevant for this current strategy.

(Key X = Not undertaken/Not completed, √ = Completed, P = Partially completed/undertaken)

| | Recommendation | Status of Recommendation | | | Relevant for 2006 Recreation and Open Space Strategy? |
|-----|---|--------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | | | | |
| 1. | Audit of sporting facilities and open space parklands areas with reference to minimum standards | | | X | YES - There is no audit & therefore no basis on which to determine priorities. Significant non-compliance & safety issues. |
| 2. | Identify schedule of future upgrades. | X | | | YES - Priorities cannot be determined in the absence of asset condition and usage audit. |
| 3. | Audit of playground facilities to identify non-compliance with Australian Safety Standards. | | | P | YES – Rectification works following completion of audit need to be undertaken. |
| 4. | Centralising of information relating to recreation opportunities, assets etc. | X | | | YES - No effective, reliable or centralised database of information. No strategy for communicating and updating information. |
| 5. | Centralising of recreation operations | | | P | YES - No co-ordinated and integrated approach to dealing with recreation priorities and issues. |
| 6. | Assess salinity problems at Mason's Lane reserve. | | √ | | YES - Report received late 2005. Council direction to be determined. This report recommends no further open space development at the site. Future use for existing baseball and athletics users and synthetic surface sports. |
| 7. | Develop Master Plan for Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Reserve. | | √ | | YES - An opportunity still exists for this location to be explored further by Council and the community |
| 8. | Feasibility for Indoor Aquatic Facility | X | | | YES - Not a high priority in view of other issues but will have to be addressed over the next 5-10 years. |
| 9. | Develop a signage strategy for recreation and visitor sites of interest. | X | | | YES - Needs to be undertaken as an overall signage (directional, interpretive, awareness) strategy. |
| 10. | Employ a Recreation Officer. | | √ | | YES - Insufficient resources to address recreation and open space planning and management priorities. |
| 11. | Increase funding to Community Grants | | √ | | YES |
| 12. | Implement 'minimum' standards for facilities. | X | | | YES - A comprehensive listing of standards has been developed for each open space type as part of this strategy. |
| 13. | Develop linear parkland areas. | | | P | YES - This needs to be integrated with the trails and footpath network and an overall strategy for developing these put in place. |
| 14. | Develop surface and signage for cycle and walking trails. | X | | | YES - As part of the above. |
| 15. | Develop a centralised 4-court netball complex. | X | | | To be further investigated |
| 16. | Redevelop Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Reserve with an additional 2 cricket ovals and multi-purpose pavilion. | X | | | YES – to be determined through Master Plan development |
| 17. | A playground development program. | | | P | YES |
| 18. | Holiday Programs for young people. | | | P | A higher priority is for strong and mainstream opportunities for young people. |
| 19. | Youth recreation programs. | | | P | Given limited resources these need to be through existing networks and programs. |
| 20. | General recreation promotion to residents. | X | | | YES |

The 1998 Recreation Strategy made a number of recommendations relating to individual Council Ridings in relation to specific issues such as playgrounds, tennis, youth programs without there being a shire wide context for such recommendations.

6. KEY ISSUES

The Recreation and Open Space Strategy identifies 6 categories of provision and this section summarises the key issues that must be addressed within the identified categories.

CATEGORY 1: THE SCOPE OF RECREATION

Summary of key issues

*The need to provide for both structured and unstructured recreation. *Increasing participation in unstructured recreation.
*Lower level of participation in Moorabool in some activities than other regional areas. *Health and wellbeing implications of inactivity. *The need to cater for non-traditional sports.

Discussion of key issues:

For ease of definition this document talks about 'structured' recreation' and 'unstructured' recreation opportunities. 'Structured' recreation activities are those that involve competition, rules and codes of conduct as in the case of sport, equestrian eventing or motorbike trials. 'Unstructured' recreation activities do not have any formal participation requirements and can be undertaken at times and venues suited to the participants. Unstructured activities can be very active as in the case of bike riding and jogging, or more sedate as in the case of tai chi or picnicing.

This strategy recognises that recreation pastimes can also include activities associated with the arts, heritage and libraries and can be undertaken in the home or at public venues.

The primary focus of this strategy however is on those recreation activities that take place in the community setting and that generally involve some type of physical activity. The built and natural environments in which these activities take place are also examined.

There has been a shift away from physical activity that involves competition and structured participation, instead people are choosing options that are more flexible, and are not as time consuming e.g. training/competition/volunteering. The table below shows that there is likely to be a higher level of participation in activities outside the *formal* structures of sport/recreation 'engagement' as is the case with walking, swimming, cycling, running and bushwalking.

Even activities where participation in the past has been largely through competition and club programs are showing a similar level of participation on an unstructured and structured basis as is the case with aerobics, tennis, and golf. This leaves only football and basketball in the top 10 participation activities that have a significantly higher level of participation through the formal competition structures.

Refer Section 7 – Trends, for a summary of relevant statistics about participation in recreation pursuits throughout Victoria and relevant to the Central Highlands region.

There are significant health and wellbeing implications for a community that is not physically active and does not have good social engagement opportunities. These implications relate to obesity, diabetes, mental disorders and social isolation to name a few, all of which can be partially addressed through a healthy provision of sport and recreation infrastructure and strong related networks.

The research undertaken as part of this strategy took a 'health and wellbeing' approach to identifying the type of activities that residents prefer to engage in. The actual participation data has been drawn from state and sporting membership trends.

The Moorabool community is likely to engage in unstructured recreation activity more frequently overall than structured sporting activity, however sport is likely to have a significant level of participation. While over 66% of the community stated that they engaged in a physical activity relating to sport on a regular basis it is likely that up to 22% of these participants do not undertake their sport through formal club or competition channels. This together with the finding that a significant level of the community (67%) are likely to undertake some type of leisurely recreation activity such as walking on a regular basis, suggests a high level of participation in unstructured recreation activities.

Sport is an important social and health and wellbeing pastime in the Shire. It is essential that the growth and development of sport be supported, particularly where it responds to changing community needs.

There has however been a strong focus in the past on the development of infrastructure for sporting activities, as compared to recreation facilities such as trails, and in particular on traditional sporting activities such as football and cricket. This has occurred for a number of reasons including the formal nature of sport and therefore the ability of this sector to advocate in a co-ordinated manner, the role of traditional sport in small and rural/semirural communities, the close relationship between Shire decision makers and sporting organisations in smaller communities, and historical factors relating to funding.

CATEGORY 2: ACTIVE PARTICIPATION

Summary of key issues

*Aquatic Facilities *Multi-purpose and flexible playing fields. *Soccer. *Netball. *Cricket. *Golf. *Provision for junior, senior and women. *Private and public provision. *Peak Associations.

Discussion of key issues:

The need to provide for both structured and unstructured recreation opportunities has been discussed in the previous section. To achieve this effectively and encourage all age groups to engage in a level of physical activity that achieves health and wellbeing outcomes requires a mix of well organised and accessible facilities and opportunities.

There has been a significant level of unsolicited feedback in relation to indoor aquatic facilities. The household survey indicates that 43% of the community are using aquatic facilities located in Ballarat or Melton on some basis, with 15% once a fortnight or more. Industry research undertaken by the SGL Group (Recreation Planners) suggest that it is reasonable to expect around 50-55% of the community to participate in aquatic activities on a regular/semi-regular basis. Preliminary indications are that participation levels in Moorabool are well below this level, but despite the lack of indoor aquatic facilities in the Shire preliminary information suggests that there may be a significant number of the population accessing facilities in adjoining LGAs.

SGL have developed a number of catchment thresholds (viability) for aquatic facilities, however viability will also depend on other issues relating to population number travelling outside the area for work, the type and level of other aquatic provision in or close to the catchment, and the ability (financial, social) of the population to access these.

The 'sustainability threshold' for Moorabool needs to be determined in consideration of the Shire's capacity to subsidise such facilities and its policy in relation to aquatic provision for more isolated/local communities.

It is anticipated that a lack of facilities relating to soccer and indoor netball could be key challenges in the near future. Only one third of all registered netball players living in Moorabool compete in the Shire. With a more proactive local netball association particularly in relation to junior sport development and club development, and in view of the growing population, it is reasonable to expect an increase in demand for indoor court space into the future. Netball facilities relating to the football-netball competition are also a priority consideration in terms of quality of facility and amenity provision.

Basketball numbers remain static and the current demand is satisfied with existing facilities, however again, with the increasing population this will need to be monitored.

Information suggests that there have been attempts to establish soccer teams in the Shire, but due to the lack of ground availability this has not been successful. Soccer is continuing to grow at the grass roots level at significant rates particularly in the junior male and female and senior female ranks. Work undertaken by Council's Youth Services also identifies soccer as a priority for young women for whom there are limited active participation opportunities in the Shire.

Multi-purpose fields that can cater for participation fluctuations across all field sports must be considered. Junior cricket is also facing immediate and significant challenges with insufficient grounds to cater for the

growth in the sport at this level. Cricket requires support to gain maximum access to local facilities including school facilities and to provide for future demand in growth areas.

The Shire is also challenged by the range of climatic and geographic conditions that impact on the capacity of grounds to cater for sporting activities into the future.

Golf has one of the highest levels of participation on both a national and state level and given the general ageing of the community this is likely to continue. Clubs are reporting an increase in junior participation at the local level. Golf is a key lifestyle and tourism attractor that is particularly relevant to Council's economic development strategy, and given that these facilities are user pays and run independently of Council they are a valuable asset. Opportunities to support strategies by clubs to remain sustainable into the future should be investigated e.g. promotion, security of tenure.

There is an opportunity to develop a closer relationship with the Regional Sports Assembly and peak sporting associations to maximise promotion of sport and recreation opportunities, increase active participation and improve sport administration and development in the Shire.

The Community Survey undertaken as part of the project shows that, similar to adults, active participation priorities for young people are also likely to relate to unstructured recreation activities followed by sport rather than other types of recreation activities. Priorities for boys are likely to be outdoor sports fields/courts (41%), indoor sport facilities (29%), skate and bmx facilities (28%), picture theatres (27%), followed by trails (20%). Priorities for young women are likely to be picture theatres (38%), outdoor sports fields/courts (29%), indoor sport facilities (29%) followed by indoor swimming pools (23%) and undercover areas in parks (14%)

Barriers to young people participating in recreation activities are likely to be the non availability of opportunities (42%), not wanting to go on their own (39%), not knowing how to find about the activity (38%), not knowing what they want to do (36%) followed by not being able to get there (33%).

CATEGORY 3: ACCESS

Summary of key issues that relate to Objective 5

*Accuracy and relevant information. *Effective communication and consultation. *Barriers affecting access to opportunities (physical, social, financial, transport). *Health benefits information. *Infrastructure that supports access. *Scheduling of programs/hours. *Signage. *Priority population groups (teenagers, people with disabilities, low income groups, older adults, families).

Discussion of key issues:

The ability to access recreation and open space opportunities relies on relevant and current information, effective communication of this information, having the physical and financial means or ability, having the confidence or support to breakdown real or perceived barriers, having access to relevant facilities, and being able to access opportunities at relevant and appropriate times.

Information held by Council in relation to sport and recreation clubs and opportunities is significantly out of date and there is no strategy in place to address this issue. This impacts on Council's ability to effectively communicate and consult with organisations and to provide reliable referrals to these organisations.

Research indicates that there are sectors of the community that use Council as a primary source of information. It is therefore necessary to ensure that the information is accurate, easily accessible and opportunities for accessing it well promoted.

Research tells us that people are far more likely to participate in active pastimes if they know how it is benefiting their health and wellbeing. This requires effective partnerships with the medical sector and other relevant service providers and channels of communication. 95% of survey respondents believe that Council should promote the benefits of physical activity to encourage people into healthy life long activities (47% 'strongly agree').

There is a significant lack of directional signage around townships and along main access roads to townships. Signage is important in providing a passive reinforcement of recreation and visitor opportunities in the Shire in addition to the more obvious benefit of providing clear direction to sites of interest and local community facilities. Effective signage is also a reinforcement of the extent and type of provision that Council is supporting through annual budget (maintenance and development) allocations. In addition there is a high expectation by visitors that there will be a level of interpretive (environmental, historical etc.) signage. This type of signage also supports local educational programs e.g. schools, historical societies.

People with limited mobility and those that depend on personal mobility aids are a high priority group. Access considerations for these groups relate particularly to public buildings, park infrastructure e.g. shelter, pathways/trails, public toilets and to and from car parks. The lack of footpaths in some areas exacerbates issues relating to community isolation not only for this group but the broader community.

As with most rural and fringe communities there is a dependence on private transport because of the lack of public transport networks within the Shire and the scheduling of services (routes, timing). The most effective use of Council resources in relation to transport is in advocacy for a better integration of existing services e.g. school, subsidised transport, and a review of routes and scheduling.

Other options such as community bus programs need to be carefully researched and costed. Working with sport and recreation organisations to encourage greater involvement by parents and promote shared transport options is a more practical option than Council's involvement in transport provision.

Given the significant level of the community that commutes to work outside the Shire it is necessary to ensure that participation opportunities respond accordingly. Activities and facilities that provide flexible participation options are essential e.g. walking trails, lighting of tennis courts, but must be based on substantiated need.

The community has also identified a number of priority population groups. By far the most important group to survey respondents is young people in the 12 to 19 age groups (88% of respondents) followed by people with disabilities (83%), children (74%), people with low or limited income (74%) followed by older adults (73%) and families (73%).

The significant growth of the children and young people demographic in the Shire together with the limited range of local recreation opportunities (particularly for young women) and the decreasing capacity (in some areas and for some sports) to cater for the increasing demand is providing an immediate challenge and will continue to do so if young people are to be encouraged into active lifestyles

CATEGORY 4: PARTNERSHIPS

Summary of key issues

*Use of school facilities. *Declining populations and sustainability of infrastructure. *Department of Education and Training * Department of Sustainability and Environment. *Multi-purpose and integrated facilities. *Type and level of Council support to clubs and organisations. *Information and advice for community groups. *Volunteers (support and capacity). *Community strengthening. *Regional Sports Assembly.

Discussion of key issues:

Effective partnerships with other organisations and agencies will maximise access to community infrastructure and prevent unnecessary duplication of facilities. Some clubs have negotiated access to school facilities, particularly in relation to the shortfall of playing fields for junior sport. There is the need to further investigate access opportunities in relation to both indoor and outdoor facilities at schools and to formalise access agreements in conjunction with clubs.

Because of the settlement patterns across the Shire Council faces a difficult challenge in terms of access to facilities and services for its various communities. Many communities have declined over the years making it difficult for these communities to sustain existing infrastructure. In many cases this infrastructure is not as relevant to the community as in the past and is significantly deteriorated. The challenge for these communities and Council relates to the maintenance of these facilities often in a climate of minimal use, or a reallocation of resources.

Indoor recreation facilities in Moorabool have generally been developed in conjunction with the Department of Education and Training (DE&T). Partnerships between different government sectors are to be encouraged, however they must be undertaken in a spirit of fairness and equity and with a view to the longer term implications e.g. expansion, design, access, management. This cannot be said of the current arrangement with the DE&T in relation to the Bacchus Marsh Secondary College, nor would it seem in relation to community access to the Ballan Stadium. This needs further investigation and a Local Government industry approach to resolving these types of issues.

Feedback received during the project indicates that communities are pleased that Council is entering into dialogue regarding local community needs and priorities, and reinforces Council's consideration of local reference groups to determine local priorities. Clarification is being sought as to the type and level of support that communities may expect from Council in relation to specific projects and/or service areas so that they can plan for opportunities or put in place alternative options.

This assistance is not necessarily being sought in terms of cash but assistance with project management, advocacy for funding, referrals, information about community initiatives in other LGAs and so on. In view of Council's limited personnel resources there is a need to identify opportunities to strengthen existing skills, networks (with Council and with other communities in and out of the Shire) and knowledge in the community.

Sporting and recreation clubs are indicating frustration with Council in relation to information and advice, maintenance of playing areas and buildings, a lack of equity between clubs in particular between clubs that operate on non-Council and Council managed land. Clubs are also feeling poorly placed to deal with the demands of maintaining community infrastructure and finding strategies to promote and develop their sport. There is a need for a better understanding of the role of various stakeholders including the Regional Sports Assembly, Council and peak associations and for the sharing of information relating to common issues.

Strategies to more effectively support the work of volunteers need to be considered. These should be developed within the framework of Council's overall 'community strengthening' program that identifies volunteer information, support and training initiatives. To maximise resources and minimise duplication partnerships with other agencies and sporting associations to centralise information on training and development opportunities for volunteers should be identified. 91% of respondents from the community survey identified the need to better promote volunteer opportunities (29% 'strongly agree').

There are significant and rapidly growing populations across the eastern and north-western boundaries of the Shire with adjoining LGAs developing significant facilities to cater for these populations. Partnerships with these LGAs should be considered for facilities that would not be feasible and therefore not a priority for Moorabool over the next 10 years e.g. regional soccer or hockey centre.

Funding of infrastructure involving joint partnerships are complicated given that adjoining LGAs are subject to different 'levels' of infrastructure funding based on their 'Rural', Metropolitan or 'Fringe' location. If joint partnerships are to be contemplated then discussions with the State Government would need to determine an equitable funding solution.

CATEGORY 5: PLANNING AND PROVISION

Summary of key issues

*Priorities relating to trails, open space generally, playgrounds, facility management. *Lack of planning and policy guidelines.
 *Lack of consistency in decision-making. *Inequity in the type and level of support to clubs and groups. *Minimal encouragement of non-traditional sports/activities e.g. equestrian. *The need to cater for non-traditional sports. *Improving access to facilities. *Amenity standards. *Consolidation/collocation of facilities. *Lack of criteria for determining development priorities. *Subdivision contributions to open space. *Implementation of master plans. *Organisational systems and protocols.
 *Community satisfaction.

Discussion of key issues:

The lack of Council policy and planning guidelines and frameworks has meant that there has not been a co-ordinated and consistent response to issues and requests from the community. In addition, there is uncertainty as to the type and level of support that various community groups can expect from Council and an inconsistency in this support because community groups are treated on a 'one on one' basis and in accordance with their ability to advocate for support.

Policies provide a statement of Council's position, an explanation of the rationale that underpins the policy, defines partnership roles and responsibilities, and provides the framework for future planning and decision making. There are a number of recreation and open space related policies that need reviewing or developing as a priority. Some of these relate to funding of sporting reserves, the funding of capital works, the funding of halls, development on non-council owned land, and disposal and acquisition of public open space.

In addition there is a need to develop forward plans that address key recreation and open space needs and issues e.g. playgrounds and trails, and in some cases undertake cost benefit analysis as is the case with aquatic facilities.

There has been a tendency in the past not to recognise the value of opportunities provided through some alternative recreation clubs. This is particularly relevant to equestrian activities that have been unsupported in the past, ignoring the demographic largely involved in the sport at the grass roots level. This is one of the few sports that offer opportunities for women of all ages in the Shire.

Work carried out by the Shire of Melton suggests that there is likely to be at least twice as many participants in non-club equestrian activities as there are in club activities. This makes roadside trails and shared use trails an important consideration into the future particularly given the Shire's rural landscape.

While some of the more traditional activities such as cricket and football have dominated the recreation scene other of these activities such as netball and tennis have not received the same level of focus in terms of planning and funding. While it is easy to dismiss this in light of declining participation numbers in the past, consideration must be given to the possible reasons behind declining numbers including inappropriately configured facilities, deteriorating facilities and the inability to access facilities at relevant times.

There is likely to be over 60% of residents (household survey) in the Shire who engage in some type of unstructured recreation activity on a weekly basis. This type of activity relates significantly to tracks, trails and footpaths, the standard of which is very inconsistent or lacking, particularly in relation to access to key community facilities and amenities. A significant number of residents are travelling out of the Shire to access trail and park experiences on a frequent basis indicating that this type of activity is important to them.

Little consideration has been given to making provision for safe pedestrian access to key community sites with the expansion of towns. Recreation environments including parks are not well linked to the broader open space network and are not necessarily providing the 'experience' being sought by residents. Future planning for these environments must consider the needs of targeted users and the type/quality of amenity desired e.g. playgrounds with adequate shade and seating, skate facilities with appropriate social environments.

Feedback from this study would indicate that there are access issues in relation to both the Ballan and Bacchus Marsh recreation stadiums both of which are on DE&T land. While there may be some potential for expansion of these facilities, opportunities are limited.

This is a particular issue for the Bacchus Marsh facility which ideally would have been the site for any future aquatic and indoor recreation facilities and associated outdoor facilities. Other developments on the site have significantly diminished the capacity of the site for future community recreation development. Feedback suggests that there is an opportunity to improve the programming of some activities at the facility and to more effectively promote opportunities.

Future options for indoor facilities must maximise the opportunity for consolidation and co-location of complementary activities. This will ensure that families and other facility users can have access to a range of indoor, outdoor and professional health and wellbeing opportunities e.g. physiotherapy opportunities at any one site. This mix of related services and activities will result in cross referral and promotion that reinforce active lifestyle benefits.

It is recognised that Council has limited resources. Therefore resources must be allocated according to clear and strategic criteria. This criteria needs to relate to risk management/minimisation, compliance with regulations and codes of practice, substantiated need, level/expansion of use, external funding opportunities and the capacity of various communities to contribute.

Recreation and open space planning priorities as identified in this study relate to playgrounds, trails, facility upgrades and development, and open space provision. Worth noting is that 81% of survey respondents agree that Council should not be solely responsible for providing for the recreation needs of the community (22% 'strongly agree'), 74% agree that organisations should not have sole use of Council facilities (24% 'strongly agree') and 65% agree that it is better to have fewer but better quality and larger facilities in the Shire (20% 'strongly agree').

Council has worked with clubs and Committees of Management to develop master plans for a number of key recreation sites. Some of these master plans have been developed in isolation to other recreation and open space needs and therefore priorities are not considered in relation to the wider needs and priority context. There is a community expectation that many of the developments proposed in these master plans will be supported by Council. In addition, there are works occurring at reserves that are contrary to the directions proposed in the master plans.

Council is suffering the consequences of inadequate open space planning in relation to new subdivisions and inappropriate 'developer contributions'. This has resulted in the acquisition of:

- 'unusable' land such as escarpments and subdivision entrances,
- land that is inappropriate for required use such as small allotments and low lying land,
- inappropriate orientation towards key open space areas e.g. back fences along waterways,
- land that has environmental value but that is not accessible/usable for public open space requirements as per the Subdivisions Act.

Inappropriate planning of subdivisions has also resulted in:

- inappropriate/incomplete storm water infrastructure e.g. open barrel drains, that present risk management issues and reduce recreation access opportunities,
- poor linkages within estates and with adjoining areas and community facilities,
- lack of footpaths and/or trails in some areas that discourages pedestrian/ healthy lifestyle activities e.g. walking, bike riding, 'parents and prams',
- inappropriately finished/undeveloped allotments

These issues significantly impact on Council and State Government objectives relating to encouraging increased participation in physical activity and creating 'liveable' environments.

Additional and formalised Council protocols and more effective organisational partnerships are required in relation to a range of recreation and open space services. There needs to be a greater understanding across all Council Departments as to the opportunities and benefits of integrated planning for recreation, open space and related community services and infrastructure.

There are very few service areas within Council that do not have a role to play in relation to recreation and open space, hence the need to develop formal protocols and processes. This will ensure appropriate input and referral of projects, effective information exchange and will ensure that all staff have access to relevant service 'management tools'. It is essential that all staff (maintenance, planning, community development, specific service areas e.g. older adults, family) are included in the internal service planning, management and review processes for recreation and open space.

Organisational protocols that need to be developed as a priority to enhance recreation and open space outcomes relate to:

- service planning and review,
- capital works projects (planning, development and referral to asset register),
- subdivision applications,

- data management (consolidation, access and management),
- asset maintenance and upgrade (priority status, referrals, roles)

Encouraging the community to engage more actively in consultation for key projects and strategies should be an immediate priority. A review of consultation and communication protocols should be reviewed to ensure that they are well targeted, have clear outcomes, are specific to the issues/project and are seen by the broader community to have real benefits.

This project was challenged by the lack of community response to consultation and feedback opportunities despite a range of opportunities for engagement being provided and numerous followup. This suggests that some sectors of the community are disengaged.

Nearly 100% of the community regard open space areas as important social and relaxation assets (53% 'strongly agree'). Also important in terms of Council's attraction and development strategies is to note that 57% of survey respondents (15% 'strongly agree') agree that Moorabool residents miss out on many *good quality* recreation facilities that are found in other municipalities, however 63% of survey respondents agree that there is a *good range* of facilities (10% 'strongly agree'). Further, 88% of survey respondents agree that roadside reserves are an important recreation and conservation asset (34% 'strongly agree').

Levels of satisfaction with provision vary considerably in relation to a number of facilities/assets. Generally, residents in Ballan are likely to be less satisfied than residents elsewhere. No resident from Ballan gave outdoor pools, riversides/creeksides, sports fields or greens, indoor courts, playgrounds or roadside reserves a 'very satisfied' rating.

Residents from more remote areas are likely to be least satisfied with equestrian trails and facilities and roadside reserves neither, of which received 'very satisfied' rating from these survey respondents. These were followed by playgrounds, creeksides and wetland areas which received a 'very satisfied' rating from approximately 18% of these communities.

Residents from Bacchus Marsh are likely to be generally more satisfied than other residents, but are likely to be least satisfied with equestrian trails and facilities, followed by trails, outdoor courts and greens and wetland areas.

CATEGORY 6: SERVICE AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

Summary of key issues

*Complexity of recreation and open space management. *Lack of audit of recreation and community facilities (condition, use etc.). *Non integration of asset and information databases. *Council resourcing of recreation (planning, management, advocacy etc.). *Management of capital works. *Multi-purpose and integrated facilities. *Equity between DSE/Council land/assets. *Social 'amenity'. *Management and provision standards. *Operational practices and protocols. *Opportunities for future provision.

There are a number of service areas that have a responsibility for the management of recreation and open space, however many of these areas are working independently to achieve 'on the ground' outcomes because of internal 'barriers'. Some of these barriers are process related and others relate to communication styles and 'segregated' planning.

There is a lack of asset information relating to recreation and open space facilities. An audit of community and recreation infrastructure e.g. pavilions and halls, has not been undertaken so that there is little information on the condition of facilities, cost of compliance, risk management status and so on. This information needs to be developed in conjunction with key user information including the type and extent of community use, and relevant asset management strategies put in place with the community. There are separate databases of information relating to recreation and open space assets that need to be integrated, updated and maintained.

The capacity of Council and in particular Recreation Services, to deal with the issues that are confronting it in relation to recreation and sport has to be questioned. There is a need for strong service planning and process management skills, and project implementation/management skills, community development skills, advocacy and liaison skills. In addition to the skills (capability) requirement there is a need to ensure

that the relevant capacity (time, funding support) to address the priorities is available. Neither the capacity nor the capability is there to deal with the demands on the service area.

The Community Development Unit is expected to manage capital works projects, some with little or no assistance from the Works Unit and in some cases with the expectation that 'expert advice' will be sourced from within the community (volunteers). This has the potential to expose Council to risk and is an ineffective use of staff time when they do not have the skills or knowledge to carry this function out efficiently. Consideration needs to be given to increasing the resourcing to the management of capital works projects.

Similarly there is the expectation that service units will also address risk management issues identified through various risk audits. In the case of recreation this can require both significant infrastructure and procedural remedies neither of which the Unit can resource. Risk management issues need to be addressed on a corporate level.

Further, as an organisation there needs to be a commitment to a common direction that is underpinned by a united and co-operative operational environment and associated relationships.

There has been a history of developing single purpose facilities (urban areas) and not co-locating facilities on one site (rural areas). Integration and co-location of facilities on any one site maximises opportunities for shared use of facilities, encourages joint initiatives, maximises the use of space on the site, minimises duplication of amenities e.g. toilet and kitchen facilities, minimises visual impact of built structures and reduces development and ongoing operational costs.

In the past there has been a differentiation between Council owned/managed land and non-Council owned/managed land in terms of the level and type of resourcing provided by Council. The reasoning for this partly relates to the resources that Council has available to support community infrastructure programs. Future policies need to consider the comparable benefits to local communities between one facility and another and not land ownership/management status.

The development of much community and sporting infrastructure has relied heavily on the skills and commitment of community groups with little in the way of project support and guidance from Council. This has achieved a significant level of community infrastructure that would not otherwise have been possible. The downside to this relates to the quality of finish, the lack of integrated site planning, minimal site/project management by Council and a focus on built structures and amenities with a lesser consideration of site amenity and presentation.

The quality of the environs associated with sport and recreation precincts is a key determinant in the level and type of use of these areas. In many cases the basic facility has been developed with little regard to landscaping and accompanying social amenities. This situation is typified by skate/bmx facilities that have been developed with minimal attention to the accompanying 'social environment'. This amenity is essential if the precinct is to attract increased usage by families and in particular young women.

Consideration should also be given to opportunities to reflect a 'sense of community' through public open space areas. This may include interpretation of local history e.g. 'picture boards', and public art that is commissioned or developed as part of community engagement/strengthening projects.

Management and development frameworks for different open space types and associated recreation facilities are not in place. It is essential that this be done to ensure that facilities are not 'over developed' in relation to the type and level of use and resources not inappropriately allocated. A management and development framework provides both the community and Council with a forward planning tool and a clear understanding of the scope of development and level of maintenance at any one site.

Once management and development guidelines have been developed it is necessary to develop works e.g. maintenance, protocols and practices, that respond to prescribed standards and to ensure that staff are adequately trained and works monitored. This is particularly relevant in areas of significant vegetation as in roadsides and parklands.

The lack of accountability back to Council by some Committees of Management and the lack of partnership protocols has resulted in some committees and clubs actively pursuing relationships with third

parties. This has the potential to expose Council to risk liabilities and negative public press if a situation has to be challenged or retracted.

Council is facing significant challenges in relation to a number of open space areas including salinity issues at Masons Lane Reserve, the inability of some sporting reserves to carry increasing training and competition loads, pest and weed management, climatic and geographic issues, and the inappropriateness of some open tracts of land to accommodate activities as in the case of Telford Reserve (gradient and former land uses) and the former water catchment/treatment site in Bacchus Marsh (ground suitability).

As a priority Council needs to examine opportunities at the Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Reserve for sport and recreation. This needs to be done so that other alternative development/use at the site doesn't eliminate it as an option for regional sport. This site has significant potential to address the shortfall of sporting fields (current and future).

7. TRENDS SUMMARY

This section provides an overview of key trends that are likely to have implications for the Moorabool Recreation and Open Space Strategy.

SECTION 1 – National ‘Active Participation’ Trends

1. National Trends – Adult Population

- Nearly two-thirds (62.4% or 9.1 million people) of the Australian population aged 18 years and over participated in sport and physical activities in the 12 months prior to interview in 2002. Slightly more males (65.0%) than females (59.9%) participated in sport and physical activities at least once during this period.)
- The highest participation rate was recorded for walking for exercise, with over one-quarter (25.3% or 3.7 million people) having participated in this activity during the reference period. This was followed by aerobics/fitness and swimming, both with 10.9% or 1.6 million participants.
- Walking for exercise, swimming, cycling and running were the most common ‘non-organised’ activities undertaken.
- Almost one-third (31.4%) of the population aged 18 years and over had participated in some sport and physical activities that were organised by a club, association or other organisation. Males (34.3%) were more likely to participate in organised activity compared to females (28.5%).
- Over one-half (50.4% or 7.3 million) of people aged 18 years and over had participated in some ‘non-organised’ sport and physical activity. Over one-third of these (2.8 million) had also participated in sport and physical activities organised by a club or association.
- Age groups most likely to have participated in sport and physical activities in the 12 months prior to interview are:
 - people aged 18–24 years (72.6%) followed by
 - people aged 25–34 years (71.8%).

Rates of participation declined with increasing age, with the lowest participation rate being recorded for those aged 65 years and over (45.6%). More males (4.7 million or 65.0%) than females (4.4 million or 59.9%) participated in sport and physical activities.

National ‘Attendance’ Trends – Adult Population

- Nearly one-half of the Australian population aged 18 years and over (48.2% or 7.0 million people) attended at least one sporting event. The highest rates of attendance were recorded for Australian Rules Football (17.1%), horse racing (12.9%) and motor sports (10.2%).
- People aged 18–24 years (64.5%) were most likely to have attended at least one sporting event in the 12 months prior to interview, with attendance declining in each subsequent age group.
- The lowest rate of attendance (21.2%) was recorded for those aged 65 years and over.
- More males (4.0 million or 56.0%) attended a sports event than females (3.0 million or 40.7%). Attendance rates were higher for males than for females in all age groups.
- People born in Australia had the highest attendance rate (53.0%). This was 6.6 percentage points higher than the attendance rate for people born in overseas mainly English-speaking countries (46.4%) and 23.9 percentage points higher than the rate for people born in non-English speaking countries (29.1%).

2. National Participation Trends - Children

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) conducted a survey on culture and leisure activities undertaken by children (aged 5-14 years) in Australia. The following is an overview of that information

- 52% of girls aged 5 – 14 years and 66% of boys participated in sport or physical activity.
- 2,641,500 (99.8%) of children participated in selected leisure activities (outside of school hours), the most frequent activities being watching television or videos (98%), reading for pleasure (75%) and playing electronic or computer games (71%).
- 1,630,400 (62%) young people participated in organised sport
- 780,400 (29%) were involved in selected organised cultural activities, with more girls than boys participating in these activities.
- 755,400 (29%) did not participate in any organised sport or selected organised cultural activities.
- An estimated 1.6 million children participated in sport, outside of school hours, organised by a school, club or association. Boys had a higher participation rate (69%) than girls (54%) across all age groups.

- The most popular sport for children was swimming (17%), followed by soccer (13%). The most popular activity for boys was outdoor soccer (22%) followed by swimming (16%) and Australian Rules Football (14%). Whereas for girls the most popular sports were netball (18%), swimming (17%) and tennis (8%).
- Key changes in participation since 2000 include:
 - 8 percentage point decrease in the proportion of children who skateboard or rollerblade
 - 5 percentage point increase in the proportion of children who did art and craft.
 - Overall increase in the participation rate for girls in organised cultural activities from 40% in 2000 to 43% in 2003, largely attributable to dancing.
 - Overall there was a 2 percentage point increase in the rate of participation in organised sport.

(Source: ABS, *Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities Australia, 2003*)

SECTION 2 – Victorian Participation Trends

1. Victorian (and Regional) Participation Trends

The publication *'Victorian's Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport (2001-02)'* provides an analysis of participation statistics and trends in Victoria. The following provides a summary of the key findings:

- Activities most frequently engaged in are outlined in the following table

| Activity | % of Population engaged in all types of participation | % engaged in 'Unstructured' activity only | % engaged in 'Structured' activity only e.g. sport |
|-------------|---|---|--|
| Walking | 30.5 | 29.6 | 0.9 |
| Aerobics | 15.9 | 7.5 | 8.4 |
| Swimming | 13.5 | 10.8 | 2.7 |
| Cycling | 10.5 | 9.6 | 0.9 |
| Tennis | 8.8 | 4.0 | 4.8 |
| Golf | 8.1 | 3.8 | 4.3 |
| Running | 7.5 | 6.7 | 0.8 |
| AFL | 4.8 | 1.4 | 3.4 |
| Basketball | 4.7 | 1.2 | 3.5 |
| Bushwalking | 4.5 | 3.6 | 0.9 |

- The Central Highlands region (which includes Moorabool), has:
 - 17.0% of the population involved in 'organised' participation i.e. sport (14.6% for Melbourne).
 - 29.2% involved in 'unstructured participation' (38.0% for Melbourne).
 - 66.4% involved in all forms of participation (76.9% for Melbourne).
- Central Highland Region participation in the 5 most popular activities in Victoria are outlined in the following table.

| Activity | Total Participation (%) | Participation in Central Highlands (%) | Comments |
|----------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Walking | 30.5 | 25.3 | Central Highlands had the 4 th lowest level of participation (of the 14 regions). Lowest level of participation was found in the Melbourne-North west region (21.2%), and the highest level of participation was in the Melbourne-South region (37.3%). |
| Aerobics | 15.9 | 10.6 | Central Highlands had the 4 th lowest level of participation (of the 14 regions). Lowest level of participation was found in the All Gippsland region (9.8%), and the highest level of participation was found in the Melbourne-Inner East region (25.4%). |
| Swimming | 13.5 | 7.5 | Central Highlands had the lowest level of participation (of the 14 regions). The highest level of participation was found in the Melbourne-Inner region (20.6%). |
| Cycling | 10.5 | 9.1 | Central Highlands had the 6 th lowest level of participation (of the 14 regions). Lowest level of participation was found in the Melbourne-South East region (6%), and the highest level of participation was found in the Melbourne-Inner East region (16.3%). |

| Activity | Total Participation (%) | Participation in Central Highlands (%) | Comments |
|----------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Tennis | 8.5 | <6 * | Central Highlands had the lowest level of participation (of the 14 regions). The highest level of participation was found in the Melbourne-Inner region (13.6%). * Note the survey revealed such an extremely low level of participation in tennis that it could not accurately be measured and assumes a participation rate of less than 6%. |

- The Central Highlands Region has 66.4% of its population participating in sport and recreation. This represents the lowest percentage of population participation across all of the statistical regions in Victoria. (Victoria's population participation rate is 76.0%)
- While a greater proportion of men participate in sport and recreation, they are less active than women measured by frequency of activity. Women from households with children under 6 participate less frequently than other women.

Source: 'Victorian's Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sport (2001-02)'

SECTION 3 - Health and Well-being Trends

Burden of Disease

- In Victoria, the mortality burden attributable to physical inactivity is 9.3% in females (males 7.3%) and obesity 9.5% (males 8.4%). (Victorian Burden of Disease Study (1999))
- Currently, nearly half the Australian population is not sufficiently active to produce a health benefit. *According to recent estimates, physical inactivity is responsible for about seven per cent of the total burden of disease in Australia

Obesity

In Australia:

- Some studies suggest that there has been a 2.5-fold rise in obesity levels over the past 20 years from 7.1% to 18% of the total population, however the prevalence appears to have stabilised in men since 1995, but a continuing rise is apparent for women.
- Characteristics associated with obesity tend to be low educational attainment, high television viewing, high energy (food) intake, high rate of diabetes 2.
- Australia has one of the highest rates of type 2 diabetes in the developed world).

In the Grampians Region (*Note: Moorabool is a part of the Grampians region*):

- 57% of males (Vic 53.4%) and 41.1% of females (Vic 38%) are either overweight or obese.
- 17% of males and 14.5% of females are classified as obese.
- 40.9% of males and 49.1% of females are of an acceptable weight.

Source: Department of Human Services Grampians Region Physical Activity, Healthy Eating and Overweight/obesity 2003

Dietary Health

The following is a summary of key data relating to the dietary health of people living in the Grampians region (*Note: Moorabool is a part of the Grampians region*):

- only 44.3% of males and 57.4% of females consume the recommended level of fruit per day.
- 11% of males and 17.5% of females consumed the recommended level of vegetables per day.
- 37.2% of females and 50.8% of males met neither the fruit nor vegetable consumption guidelines.

Source: Department of Human Services Grampians Region Physical Activity, Healthy Eating and Overweight/obesity 2003

Community Strength (*this is derived from data relating to group memberships, support structures, perceptions of safety, attitudes to multi-culturalism, and mental health referrals*)

In the Grampians region (*Note: Moorabool is a part of the Grampians region*):

- 67.1% of males and 67.4% of females are members of a community group (e.g. church, club).
- 80.9% of males (Vic 78.3%) and 48.2% of females (Vic 40.8%) stated that they felt safe walking down the street alone after dark.
- 50% of males (Vic 52.6%) and 56.7% of females (Vic 55.4%) stated that they felt valued by society.

- 76.6% of males (Vic 63.5%) and 77.4% of females (Vic 64.9%) reported favourably about multiculturalism.
- 5.9% of males (Vic 5.7%) and 98.3% of females (Vic 7.6%) sought professional help for mental health related problems in the past year. The percentage was highest in the 45-54 age groups.
- There were more people with secondary and tertiary education qualifications that sought assistance for mental health problems, while across Victoria generally the trend is reverse with more people with low education levels seeking assistance.

Source: Department of Human Services Grampians Region, 2003 Patterns of Health, Wellbeing and Community Strength

- The Victorian Population Health Survey 2001 found that people with few social networks were more likely to report fair to poor health and to be experiencing some level of psychological distress. They were also less likely to feel valued by society.
- According to the World Bank and the World Health Organisation, mental health disorders constitute 10% of the global burden of disease. Estimates suggest that depression alone will constitute one of the largest health problems worldwide by the year 2020.
- Civic participation, even more than participation in activities and recreational pursuits is very powerfully linked with wellbeing. Volunteers stand out from other workers in having the highest levels of wellbeing. Mostly aged over 55, they enjoy high levels of satisfaction with their lives, work and leisure, health, sense of community connection and religion or spirituality.

Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA)

An explanation of SEIFA

- The index value of an area is constructed from attributes of the population in that area such as educational attainment, income, employment and occupation. A higher index value indicates that an area has attributes such as a relatively high proportion of people with high incomes or a skilled workforce. It also means an area has a low proportion of people with low incomes and relatively few unskilled people in the workforce. Conversely, a low index value indicates that an area has a higher proportion of individuals with low incomes, more employees in unskilled occupations, etc.; and a low proportion of people with high incomes or in skilled occupations.
- The Index of Advantage/Disadvantage is a continuum of advantage to disadvantage. Low values indicate areas of disadvantage and high values indicate areas of advantage. If a Statistical Local Area (SLA) has a ranking of 1 then it would fall within that group of SLAs that comprise the lowest 10% of SLAs in terms of its Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage. Conversely, if an SLA has a ranking of 10 then it would fall within that group of SLAs that comprise the highest 10% of SLAs in terms of its Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage/Disadvantage.
- **The SEIFA indexes for Moorabool are as follows**
 - Moorabool (S) – Bacchus Marsh SEIFA Index = 6
 - Moorabool (S) – Ballan SEIFA Index = 5
 - Moorabool (S) – West SEIFA Index = 6

8. ANALYSIS OF RECREATION NEEDS AND PROVISION

This section is an analysis of sporting reserves, parks, trails and other facilities, in the context of each of the small areas of the shire. These conclusions have been based on an analysis of number of facilities based on current and future population levels, site visits and observations. Please note that Section 2 of Volume 1 has included an assessment of need based on consultation results within the discussion of Key Issues.

Provision ratios that have been used in the development of these comments are:

- Total public open space requirement for urban communities: 5 ha per 1000 people
 - 3ha of recreation / parkland open space
 - 2ha of sporting reserve open space
- Total public open space requirement for urban communities: 2.5 ha per 1000 people
 - 0.5ha of recreation / parkland open space
 - 2ha of sporting reserve open space
- 1 football/cricket facility for every 2,500 people
- 1 tennis court for every 1,100 people
- 1 netball court for every 2,500 people
- 1 lawn bowls green for every 6,250 people
- 1 soccer pitch for every 4,550 people

SMALL AREAS 1, 2, & 3 (BACCHUS MARSH, DARLEY AND MADDINGLEY)

Sporting Reserves

Adequate provision for senior football and senior cricket; likely to be an under supply in the next 10 years. Currently an inadequate provision for junior cricket and junior football, soccer at all levels, and netball. Consolidation of buildings on reserves should be a priority to improve the visual amenity. 'Minor sports' including athletics and hockey will not be adequately provided for into the future at current levels. There is currently an over provision for tennis, however quality of facilities needs to be reviewed as part of an overall future plan that should include rationalisation and consolidation.

Parks

Many reserves, particularly in the Darley District are revegetation areas and have a low level of amenity at present e.g. Bald Hill and Telford Park. The majority of these revegetation areas have the potential to become 'parks' as vegetation matures. Local parks are generally of a low standard of development and maintenance. Many parks in developing areas are small, linear connections, with limited usability. Some small / 'pocket' parks need to be considered for consolidation / 'asset transfer / realisation'. A consistent level of provision relating to seating, tables, under surfacing, signage is required, and the quality of other recreation amenities including play spaces and BMX facilities needs improvement. There also needs to be a focus on the establishment of vegetation at all reserves to improve visual amenity which, at other than the main reserves, is poor.

Trails

Generally poor linkage between 'estates' and into main recreation and social hubs. The lack of footpaths in some estates means that an effective trail network is imperative. There are poor pedestrian linkages across the highway, however the trail network along waterways is improving (access, level of provision).

Other Facilities

Indoor sports will not be adequately catered for into the future with an undersupply of facilities likely in relation to basketball and netball in particular. Indoor facilities (local and regional) relating to aquatics and fitness will not be adequate to service the community into the future.

SMALL AREA 4 (BALLAN)

Sporting Reserves

The current pressure on sporting reserves is expected to increase into the future. It is anticipated that there will be an adequate provision for lawn bowls but an inadequate provision for all other sports apart from tennis by 2021. Playing field standards at Ballan Recreation Reserve are of good quality. Buildings and structures on the sporting reserve require rationalisation. Tennis courts also require rationalising and / or upgrading where appropriate. The removal of unnecessary signage and structures at all reserves is required.

Parks

Parks along the creek, including Caledonian Park, are being developed to a good standard. The outer edge of the residential area has poor access to parks. There needs to be a focus on the establishment of vegetation at all reserves to improve visual amenity.

Other

Access to current indoor facilities is not catering for community needs, and there is likely to be an undersupply of indoor sporting facilities into the future.

SMALL AREA 5

(BLACKWOOD, GREENDALE, MYRNIONG AND THE LOCALITIES OF BARRYS REEF, BLAKEVILLE, BULLARTO SOUTH (PART), COLBROOK, DALES CREEK, GREENDALE, KOROBET, LERDERBERG, MYRNIONG, PENTLAND HILLS AND PART OF TRENTHAM)

Sporting Reserves

There is an adequate current level of provision for sporting reserves – oversupply is not occurring due to the requirement for small townships to have standard sized facilities. Inadequate provision for 'growth sports' into the future is anticipated e.g. soccer. Buildings and structures on the sporting reserve require rationalisation. There needs to be a focus on the establishment of vegetation at all reserves to improve visual amenity. Playing surfaces are of a good standard. Built facilities are of a poor standard. Tennis courts require rationalisation and / or upgrading where appropriate.

Parks

There would appear to be an over supply of parks, however many of these are associated with the protection of environmental values as a priority, and not recreation. Parks are generally developed and maintained to a low standard.

SMALL AREA 6

(COIMADAI, LONG FOREST, HOPETOUN PARK, MERRIMU)

Sporting Reserves

Adequate provision for parks and an inadequate provision for sport, however, the population level may not justify sports facilities other than tennis.

Parks

Provision for recreation and play spaces in parks is poor / non-existent. The standard of park development and maintenance needs to be improved to be consistent with the residential amenity.

SMALL AREA 7

(GORDON AND WALLACE AND THE LOCALITIES OF BARKSTEAD, BOLWARRAH, BULLAROOK (PART), BUNDING, BUNGAREE, CLARETOWN, CLARKES HILL, GLEN PARK (PART), KORWEINGUBOORA (PART), LEIGH CREEK, MOLLONGHIP (PART), POOTILLA, SPARGO CREEK, SPRINGBANK, WALLACE AND PART OF WATTLE FLAT).

Sporting Reserves

Possibly oversupply of sports reserves and tennis and netball facilities. Inadequate provision for soccer, and possibly lawn bowls. Likely to be inadequate provision for mainstream sports apart from tennis by 2021. Playing surfaces are of a good standard, however tennis courts require rationalisation and / or upgrading where appropriate. Opportunities to consolidate and / or rationalise buildings and structures on reserves and to remove unnecessary signage and structures should be considered.

There should also be a focus on the establishment of vegetation at all reserves to improve visual amenity.

Parks

Superficial over supply of parks, however this is associated with one major park that protects environmental values. Generally inadequate provision of parks and park amenities e.g. play spaces.

SMALL AREA 8

(LAL LAL, CLARENDON, GRENVILLE AND THE LOCALITIES OF BUNINYONG (PART), CARGARIE, CLARENDON, DUNNSTOWN, DURHAM LEAD (PART), ELAINE, GRENVILLE (PART), LAL LAL, MEREDITH (PART), MILLBROOK, MOUNT DORAN, NAVIGATORS, SCOTSBURN (PART), WARRENHEIP (PART) AND YENDON)

Sporting Reserves

There is an adequate provision for football and cricket based on township / population distribution, and netball with an over provision for tennis. There is currently inadequate provision for soccer and lawn bowls. There is likely to be an adequate provision for most sports apart from netball which may require an additional court into the future if current levels of provision are brought up to standard. Playing surfaces are of a good standard.

Parks

Marginal inadequacy of provision for parks although sports reserves also fulfill a recreation function. The standard of park development and maintenance needs to be improved.

SMALL AREA 9

(ROWSLEY, BALLIANG, FISKVILLE, MOUNT EGERTON AND THE LOCALITIES OF BALLIANG (PART), BALLIANG EAST, BEREMBOKE, BUNGAL, FISKVILLE, GLENMORE, INGLISTON, MORRISONS (PART), MOUNT WALLACE, PARWAN (PART) AND ROWSLEY)

Sporting Reserves

Adequate provision for football and cricket and an over provision for tennis. Inadequate provision for soccer, netball and possibly lawn bowls. Sports currently not provided for could be accommodated within existing reserves. Condition of playing surfaces varies. Opportunities to consolidate and / or rationalise buildings and structures on reserves and a program for the removal of unnecessary signage and structures at reserves should be considered. Focus on the establishment of vegetation at all reserves to improve visual amenity.

Parks

There is an adequate provision for parks however the standard of park development and maintenance needs improvement.

9. VISION, PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES

Vision

Council's Vision for Recreation and Open Space is as follows

A Shire that offers a range of recreation and open space environments for residents and visitors:

- **through which they can achieve their recreation aspirations,**
- **through which they can engage with the community,**
- **that encourage participation in healthy lifestyle pursuits, and**
- **that raise awareness of the Shire's unique natural environment.**

Principles

The following table provides the Principles that will guide Council's decision making in relation to the planning and management of recreation and open space services and assets for the next 10 years. The table also provides a summary of the Policy Statements that underpin these objectives and an explanation of these.

| CATEGORY | PRINCIPLE |
|--|--|
| 1. The Scope of Recreation | A diverse range of recreation and open space opportunities that respond to changing community needs and aspirations. |
| STATEMENTS THAT EXPLAIN THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLE: | |
| Recreation can be 'structured' as in sporting competition and 'unstructured' or 'informal' as in walking or picnicking. | |
| Recreation can be 'active' as in horse riding or gardening, or quiet and reflective as in meditation and reading. | |
| Recreation can involve indoor facilities such as recreation centres, and community halls, and outdoor spaces such as trails and playgrounds. | |
| Provision of quality recreation and open space infrastructure has significant economic and social benefits for the community. | |
| Recreation provides important opportunities for people to connect with, and support, each other and their communities. | |
| Community needs and priorities will change over time. | |

| CATEGORY | PRINCIPLE |
|--|--|
| 2. Planning and Provision | Effective planning, management and review of services that engages key stakeholders. |
| STATEMENTS THAT EXPLAIN THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLE: | |
| A formal (quantifiable) evaluation of community need will underpin the development or expansion of services and facilities. | |
| Service and facility planning will include well defined and formalised consultation and feedback processes. | |
| Service and facility provision will be equitable based on a defined 'hierarchy' of provision. | |
| Recreation and open space planning will be integrated with other service planning processes to maximise broader community health and wellbeing benefits. | |
| Priorities will be determined in accordance with social, economic, built and natural sustainability criteria. | |
| Council will treat all clubs and organisations operating on all types of public lands equitably. | |

| CATEGORY | PRINCIPLE |
|---|--|
| 3. Service and Asset Management | Recreation facilities and open space areas that are safe, sustainable and managed in accordance with Best Practice Principles. |
| STATEMENTS THAT EXPLAIN THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLE: | |
| Council will aim for industry best practice in the planning and provision of services and facilities. | |
| Recreation and open space environments will be managed in accordance with relevant legislation, standards and guidelines (e.g. Discrimination and Disability Act, Food Handling Act, RLSS Guidelines) | |
| Co-location (siting) and integration (not detached) of facilities and buildings is a priority. | |
| Multi-use (shared) facilities will be a priority over single purpose (single group) facilities. | |
| The way in which Council will support community recreation and healthy lifestyle initiatives will be clearly defined through relevant policy and management frameworks. | |
| Full life cycle costing (including development and maintenance) will be required for new and upgraded facilities. | |

| CATEGORY | PRINCIPLE |
|--|--|
| 4. Partnerships | Strong and innovative partnerships between community, government, and private sectors in the provision of recreation opportunities. |
| STATEMENTS THAT EXPLAIN THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLE: | |
| Council is only one of a range of players in the provision and management of recreation and open space opportunities, and cannot achieve desired outcomes alone. | |
| Partnerships will be a priority if they address substantiated community need and aim to increase the level of participation in healthy lifestyle activities. | |
| The role of the community in providing for the recreation and open space needs of the community is recognised and valued. | |
| Partnerships with a variety of providers including state and federal government, private industry, adjoining LGAs and community groups will be considered. | |
| Active, effective and representative partnerships are required on all projects. | |

| CATEGORY | PRINCIPLE |
|---|---|
| 5. Access | A diverse range of services and facilities that consider the access needs of the community recreation. |
| STATEMENTS THAT EXPLAIN THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLE: | |
| The distribution of recreation and open space infrastructure across the Shire will be determined by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - population trends, - the range of local and district opportunities, - needs specific to local areas, - industry Best Practice models, and - service sustainability. | |
| Special population groups e.g. young people, children, older adults, and special needs groups e.g. people with different abilities, people on low incomes, the socially and physically isolated have specific access needs. | |
| Facility and service operating times that respond to community needs. | |
| Information that is responsive, relevant and available through a range of community outlets and networks is necessary to maximise opportunities for community networking and engagement. | |
| Pricing structures (fees and charges) for recreation services that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - is responsive to the needs of special needs groups, - supports Council's health and wellbeing objectives and initiatives, - that ensures sustainability of the service into the future, and - encourages participation by priority groups as identified through Council's social planning. | |

| CATEGORY | PRINCIPLE |
|--|---|
| 6. Active Participation | A community that has a high level of participation in active and healthy lifestyle pursuits. |
| STATEMENTS THAT EXPLAIN THE BASIS OF THE PRINCIPLE: | |
| Participation in active lifestyle activities has a range of identified physical, mental, emotional and social health and wellbeing benefits. | |
| The level of participation will be a key driver for determining recreation and open space priorities. | |
| Participation will increase if there is a diverse range of accessible and quality recreation and open space amenities and opportunities. | |
| Health and wellbeing benefits can be achieved through active participation in structured or unstructured recreation activities. | |

10. COUNCIL ROLE IN IMPLEMENTING THE RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE STRATEGY

Council is one of a diverse number of government, community and business partners responsible for the planning and delivery of effective sport and recreation services, programs and facilities.

Council recognises that it has a key role to play in ensuring that sport, recreation and associated health and wellbeing needs of the community are addressed. Council however recognises that it does not have the resources to do this alone or to address the full range of issues directly.

This Recreation and Open Space Strategy therefore identifies the key role that Council will play in relation to the recommendations in the Action Plan.

The successful implementation of this Plan will not be possible without the ongoing commitment of other levels of government, community and volunteer organisations and private providers. Council values the role that these organisations and individuals have played in developing and maintaining sport and recreation opportunities both for those who live and visit the Shire.

Council recognises that it performs 6 key roles as a local government authority. These key roles are:

- Service Planning and Policy.
- Service and Asset Management.
- Facilitation.
- Advocacy.
- Leadership
- Communication and Information.

Council's role will vary considerably in relation to each of the priorities identified in the Recreation and Open Space Strategy to ensure that its role is sustainable over the life of the strategy, and in consideration of the most effective role it can play as a local government authority.

Within the strategic planning framework there must be a process that requires and allows for effective input, referral and review to each of Council's service planning projects, as opposed to their being developed in isolation from each other. This will result in a fully integrated strategic planning process where valuable community research is made available to all service planning projects and processes.

Monitoring and Review Process

The Community Assets Discussion Forum will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy. This group will report to the Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) on a regular basis regarding the progress of the strategy and make recommendations re changing priorities, opportunities and issues etc.

In addition, relevant projects will be reviewed and monitored by separate project management teams that will report findings to the Community Assets Discussion Forum. These project teams will involve community, business and Council representation as relevant to the project.

A review process is important to ensure that the Action Plan continues to respond to current issues and opportunities. The Recreation and Open Space Strategy has been prepared as a working document and provides a basis for Departmental 'workplans', and community and Council partnerships.

It is therefore essential that the principles on which the Recreation and Open Space Strategy is based, continue to reflect the changing needs and priorities of Council, the community and other stakeholders. It is unlikely that there will be significant change to the vision and principles of the plan over its 10 year life, however Actions may be reviewed and varied in response to changing needs and opportunities.

As additional research is completed and plans and strategies prepared, the Recreation and Open Space Strategy should be reviewed within the context of Council's strategic planning framework.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Annual monitoring | Actions identified as HIGH PRIORITY will be reviewed annually. This will provide the opportunity to reassign priorities, if necessary, based on resourcing availability, changing priorities and as a result of additional research and emerging needs. |
| 5 years (2010/11) | An internal review of the strategy should be completed in year 4 to identify HIGH PRIORITY actions that have not been addressed and to reschedule these in view of actions identified as MEDIUM PRIORITY. |
| After 10 years (2016/17) | Full review of the strategy including full community consultation process. |

11. ACTION PLAN

The following Action Plan has been developed to address the issues and opportunities identified throughout the study. For each recommendation a range of information has been provided, including a reference back to Volume 1, details about each recommendation, its priority, resourcing implications, how it relates to other Council strategies and plans, proposed outcomes and the partnerships that will be required to achieve these.

A variety of considerations have been used to prioritise recommendations including:

- The need to address potential risk management issues,
- The level of demand identified through the project research and consultation,
- The community's and Council resourcing capacity.
- The level and type of change that can be achieved by the action in the short term.

A prioritised implementation plan has been included in Volume 1 and it should be noted that costs contained throughout the report are estimates only and will be subject to detailed costing.

The priorities relate to timelines in the following way:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| HIGH PRIORITY: | Years 1-5 (2006-2010) |
| MEDIUM PRIORITY: | Years 6-10 (2011-2015) |
| LOW PRIORITY: | Years 11+ (2016 ->) |

Throughout the Strategy, year numbers (ie: 1,2,3) are interchangeable with actual financial years (ie: 06/07). The following provides the definition of year numbers to actual years for easy reference:

| | | | |
|---------|---------|----------|---------|
| Year 1: | 2006/07 | Year 6: | 2011/12 |
| Year 2: | 2007/08 | Year 7: | 2012/13 |
| Year 3: | 2008/09 | Year 8: | 2013/14 |
| Year 4: | 2009/10 | Year 9: | 2014/15 |
| Year 5: | 2010/11 | Year 10: | 2015/16 |

11.1: Strategic Actions

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|---|-------------------|
| 1.1 | The Scope of Recreation | Review Council's Communication and Information Strategy ensuring that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information is provided about recreation and sport opportunities and clubs, and • Health and well being benefits for a more active lifestyle are promoted throughout the Shire. | PAGE 7 |
| DETAIL: | Council releases a range of publications to the community throughout the year. It is important that this information contains details about community clubs and initiatives that exist within Moorabool to encourage a healthier and more engaged community. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | \$5,000 per year (recurrent) | None | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up-to-date and regular information to residents and visitors about recreation and open space opportunities in the Shire. • Promotion of sports, recreation activities and events to encourage participation. | | Council: Public Communications Other: Recreation Advisory Committee | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|---|-------------------|
| 1.2 | The Scope of Recreation | Work with the Bacchus Marsh Leisure Centre Management and other recreation providers to develop opportunities to increase participation in both structured and unstructured sport and recreation. | PAGE 7 |
| DETAIL: | There are many activities and opportunities available to the community that often require some promotion and encouragement for residents to develop more healthy lifestyle habits. The YMCA, currently holding the contract for the management of the Leisure Centre is well placed in the community with a focus on health and well being through leisure to be an advocate on behalf of Council. Opportunities for a diverse range of activities can be provided both at the Leisure Centre and at other locations within the community. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational and contract budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased participation in a range of leisure activities Increased number of activities being promoted within the community through the Bacchus Marsh Leisure Centre | | Council: Community Development, Children and Family, Aged and Disability. Other: YMCA, Bacchus Marsh Secondary College, DE&T, Tenant Sporting Associations, Other recreation providers | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|---|-------------------|
| 1.3 | The Scope of Recreation | In partnership, review the type and extent of community access to the Ballan Recreation Centre and opportunities to expand the level and type of access and services. | PAGE 7 |
| DETAIL: | Insufficient community access to a school facility currently – there may need to be some consideration of facility improvements and negotiation with the school to create opportunities for the broader community to achieve increased access to the facility. This action should be undertaken in conjunction with an overall review of community access to public facilities in Ballan. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | \$15,000 | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased participation in a range of leisure activities by residents in and around Ballan Increased number of activities being promoted within the community through the Ballan Recreation Centre | | Council: Community Development, Children and Family, Aged and Disability. Other: Ballan Primary School, DE&T, YMCA | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|---|----------------------|
| 2.1 | ACTIVE PARTICIPATION | Work with the Regional Sports Assembly to identify opportunities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a centralised database of information relating to training programs that are available to clubs and organisations in Moorabool. - Strengthen the role played by local clubs in junior sport development. - Establish and promote 'unstructured' recreation participation initiatives, - Facilitate greater awareness of club development programs available, - Increase the profile of the Sporting Assembly, - Establish closer relationships with peak sporting associations. | PAGE 7 |
| DETAIL: | The regional sports assembly plays a major role in supporting sporting clubs and organisations. Council has an opportunity to strengthen the partnership with the sports assembly to ensure that support and resources are offered to assist the community to deliver a range of sporting opportunities for residents and the broader community. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budget | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater awareness by the local community of the Regional Sports Assembly, Sporting Associations and clubs in the provision of sport in the Shire of Moorabool. • Accurate database of training information that is promoted among local clubs and committees. • Increased level of junior sport participation with effective volunteer support. | | Council: Community Development Other: Regional Sports Assembly, Sporting Associations, Sporting Clubs and Organisations. | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|--|-------------------|
| 2.2 | ACTIVE PARTICIPATION | Establish a database (and process for collecting and collating data) of all sporting and recreation clubs and community groups to determine membership numbers and establish trends over time. | PAGE 7 |
| DETAIL: | It is important that up-to-date data regarding participation is gathered by Council to enable effective planning of infrastructure and provision. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | \$5,000 (07/08), for external assistance to establish database, then within operational budgets. | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seasonal/annual collection of information from all sports and recreation clubs Up-to-date data being collected and collated by Council to record and analyse participation trends. | | Council: Community Development, Customer Service Other: Clubs and Associations, Regional Sports Assembly | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|--|-------------------|
| 2.3 | ACTIVE PARTICIPATION | Work with the local Netball Associations to identify opportunities, including infrastructure, for developing the sport in the Shire. | PAGE 7 |
| DETAIL: | Currently, many netball participants travel outside the Shire to play netball. A more active promotion of both indoor netball and football-netball, played outdoors, and particular consideration of junior development may lead to increased participation in a very popular sport. An important consideration in the development of the sport is the relationship between junior and senior sport. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budget | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased participation in netball locally in the Shire by residents of Moorabool. | | Council: Community Development Other: Netball Victoria, Bacchus Marsh Netball Association, Ballan Netball Association, Netball clubs, Central Highlands Football Netball Association, Ballarat Football League YMCA. | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|---|-------------------|
| 2.4 | ACTIVE PARTICIPATION | Assist clubs and community groups to identify joint initiatives that increase participation in structured and unstructured recreation. | PAGE 7 |
| DETAIL: | Clubs are well placed to work collaboratively with other clubs to promote their activities and to broaden opportunities for organised and unstructured participation. Programs that are initiated to promote participation in recreation activities are best delivered by clubs and organisations with the support of Council. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | \$5,000 establishment fund over 3 years. | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased cooperation and collaboration between clubs Increased promotion of activities Increased participation in a range of activities | | Council: Community Development, Customer Communications Other: Clubs and Associations, Community Groups, Regional Sports Assembly, YMCA | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|---|-------------------|
| 2.5 | ACTIVE PARTICIPATION | Promote the establishment and promotion of local Walk and Talk groups for specific target groups e.g. older people, working people, young people. | PAGE 7 |
| DETAIL: | The Neighbourhood Walk & Talk program, organised through VicFit is a low cost, self help program that encourages participation in regular activity. There are around 80 Walk & Talk Coordinators encouraging and motivating thousands of people to walk and be active every day. Depending on the location of the Program, walks range from indoors at local shopping centres, bush walks, park walks and neighbourhood walks around the block! | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budget | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of neighbourhood 'Walk & Talk' Groups Increased participation in walking and healthy lifestyle activity by residents of the Shire. | | Council: Community Development, Children and Family, Aged and Disability. Other: VicFit, Local communities | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|--|-------------------|
| 2.6 4(c) | ACTIVE PARTICIPATION | Work with the Ballan Golf Club, the local Ballan community and DSE to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist them to improve their security of tenure and access for the golf club under clear partnership guidelines relating to tenancy of Council managed land, safe linear trail access (perimeter) etc. Identify joint promotional opportunities e.g. junior participation. | PAGE 7 PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | Golf is one of the highest participation activities on a state and national level, and the Ballan club has recently run an innovative program to encourage young people to be introduced to the sport of golf. There is the capacity for this sport to increase its participation, given the facilities that already exist at Ballan. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budget | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A more effective management structure for the golf course. Increased participation in golf as a result of promotion and programs. | | Council: Community Development, Environment and Business Development, Works Other: Ballan Golf Club, DSE | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|---|-------------------|
| 3.1 | ACCESS | Seek funding to assist community organisations attract, support and develop volunteers, and to promote volunteer opportunities. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Like many organisations, clubs in Moorabool Shire are challenged by decreasing volunteerism, resulting in increasing demands being placed on fewer people.</p> <p>Support with recruitment, retention and recognition of volunteers will assist clubs and organisations in their efforts to manage effectively.</p> <p>Funding has recently been sought through a regional program to support volunteerism. It will be important to work with adjoining LGAs and the Volunteer Resource Centre in Ballarat to support volunteer awareness, development, and recognition.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | External collaborative funding | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More effective management of volunteers in the communities of Moorabool. Greater support for volunteerism across the region. | | Council: Community Development Other: Ballarat Volunteer Resource Centre, Other LGA's | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|--|-------------------|
| 3.2 | ACCESS | Develop Asset Management Plans, including Master Plans, for all recreation and open space assets that includes assessment of compliance with relevant risk management, OHS, discrimination, crime prevention, accessibility requirements and industry standards. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | <p>It is important that the following regulatory and recommended guidelines are used to guide assessment of assets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discrimination and Disability Act Safe Environments for Physical Activity Principles (Refer <i>Healthy By Design: A Planners Guide to Environments for Active Living</i>, Heart Foundation) -Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principles (<i>Safer Design Guidelines For Victoria</i>, Department of Sustainability and Environment) | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | \$40,000 per year for 3 years then within operational budgets | Annual Plan 2006/07: KRA 5.3.3 | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment and directions for management of assets Identified priorities for capital and maintenance improvements to assets | | Council: Assets, Community Development | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3.3 | ACCESS | Develop a Signage Policy and Strategy for recreation and open space areas that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - determine priorities for directional signage, identification/'branding' signage and interpretive (environmental, heritage/cultural), signage. - establish policy and guidelines for design and siting of signage on Council reserves. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Signage has been identified by facility users as being inadequate and suggested improvements include directional, interpretive, identification and branding signage.</p> <p>Signage is important to clearly communicate names of facilities, relevant information and directions. It is also a good opportunity for Council to identify its interest and other groups' responsibilities for various facilities.</p> <p>The establishment of standard approaches for signage enables consistency and more easily identified facilities.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES |
| MEDIUM | | \$30,000 | |
| Outcomes | | | Partnerships |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well identified recreation and open space facilities with a standard suite of signage that has consistent branding. | | | Council: Community Development, Assets, Works Other: Recreation Advisory Committee |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|---|--|
| 4.1 | PARTNERSHIPS | Establish a Recreation Advisory Committee that is representative of the range of recreation activities and geographic areas within the shire to advise council about a number of strategic issues, priorities and initiatives that will improve recreation provision. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A Recreation Advisory Committee has been agreed to in principle by a diverse range of participants at the recently held Sports Forums conducted by Council.</p> <p>A Committee would be representative of a range recreation and sports interests and geographic locations throughout the shire and would advise Council on strategic issues related to recreation and open space.</p> <p>Advice to Council would consider both structured and unstructured opportunities and all decision making would rest with Council.</p> <p>This Advisory Committee would be a valuable source of community input and feedback as Council works through the implementation of a range of strategies, master plans and policies.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES |
| HIGH | | Within operational budgets | |
| Outcomes | | | Partnerships |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An effective consultation process with a representative group that is recognised by both Council and the community. Regular meetings of an Advisory Committee and regular feedback being sought | | | Council: Community Development, Management Other: Community Representatives |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|--|-------------------|
| 4.2 | PARTNERSHIPS | Include themes and project priorities from community reference groups to inform recreation and open space actions. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | Consultation with Community Reference Groups in the various communities of the shire will be important to inform the prioritising that Council needs to do for the implementation of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | Annual Plan 2006/07: KRA 1.1.2 | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement of local communities in the prioritising of projects that will have direct impacts on residents of all ages and interests. Successful completion of capital works projects that respond to community needs. | | Council: Community Development, Projects, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) Other: Community Reference Groups, Recreation Advisory Committee | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|---|-------------------|
| 4.3 | PARTNERSHIPS | Liaise with schools to identify opportunities for joint development and use of school grounds by sporting clubs. This includes consideration of sustainable improvements and maintenance regimes in light of the current drought conditions and water shortage. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Schools are important community assets for not just educational outcomes, but also for providing additional infrastructure for community use outside of school hours.</p> <p>Provided that there is a willingness to share facilities and that appropriate agreements can be reached for use, partnerships with schools will provide Council and the community with a valuable resource for community base sport.</p> <p>Note (November 2006): Council has recently considered a report of suitability of school facilities for the 06/07 summer season. A recommendation to allocate some of the resources for this Action to the development of a 5-year Reserves Improvement Plan is prompted by the recent concern about drought conditions and the need for long term sustainable solutions.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | \$63,000 – 06/07 \$40,000 – 07/08 \$40,000 – 08/09 \$20,000 – 09/10 \$20,000 – 10/11 | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More effective use of community facilities Partnerships between schools, council and sporting organisations | | Council: Community Development Other: Schools, Recreation Advisory Committee | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|--|-------------------|
| 4.4 | PARTNERSHIPS | Conduct training and information/awareness sessions for the community in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committees of Management roles, responsibilities and accountabilities - Policies, standards and guidelines for facilities and recreation programs. - Volunteer management and support. - Club administration, eg. risk management, financial management, fund-raising, grants and submission writing, amalgamations/consolidation. - Sport development e.g. increasing membership, participation programs. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | All voluntary clubs and organisations require assistance from time to time in how to run an organisation. Support is often best provided in a short training sessions that cover key responsibilities and techniques for achieving the best results. If clubs and organisations are to continue to play the key role that they do now in delivering a range of recreation services for the community, training sessions are a very important service that Council is easily able to provide. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | \$12,000 recurrent from Year 3 | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good attendance at training sessions • More skilled voluntary community organisations • More effective local organisations | | Council – Community Development Other: Regional Sports Assembly, Recreation Advisory Committee, Volunteer Resource Centre, Neighbourhood Houses | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|--|-------------------|
| 4.5 | PARTNERSHIPS | Liase with the Department of Sustainability and Environment regarding all crown land used by Moorabool community for sport and recreation, to discuss issues of management, roles of key parties, and development opportunities. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | Many of Moorabool's reserves are crown land for which either Council or the community is the appointed Committee of Management. This can lead to some tensions depending on the management priorities of the appointed group. As many of these reserves are valuable community sporting reserves, Council has the opportunity to have discussions with DSE to establish roles and responsibilities and try to resolve some the outstanding issues that are facing the Committee of Management and/or users of the reserves. This process will begin soon with the consultation required between Council and DSE with regard to the potential for development of the Bacchus March Racecourse Reserve. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More effective partnerships in the management of crown land reserves | | Council: Community Development, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) Other: DSE, Recreation Advisory Committee | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|---|-------------------|
| 4.6 | PARTNERSHIPS | Work with relevant waterways agencies to promote public access to rivers, creeks and reservoirs for recreational activity. | PAGE 8 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Waterways – edges of creeks and rivers, embankments and reserves adjacent to dams – are becoming more popular as recreation destinations. Moorabool has a number of opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy the environment of waterways, and as they are under the control of waterways agencies, the following steps need to be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of Council's role for management, development and maintenance • Proposals for recreation access to be discussed and negotiated • Identification of partnership opportunities • Promotion of this valuable recreation asset | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater community awareness about the value of waterways for a range of recreational activities • Improved facilities around waterways to encourage increased recreational use | | <p>Council: Projects, Works, Assets, Community Development Other: Water Agencies, Friends Groups, Tourism Groups</p> | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|---|-------------------|
| 5.1 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Establish a cross department internal working group ' <i>Community Assets Discussion Forum</i> ' for referral of all relevant recreation and open space issues. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Internal communication regarding issues that may have an impact on policy or service delivery is very important. Terms of reference for this group have been drafted for Council's consideration.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More effective and integrated response to key issues affecting Council's and the community's assets. | | <p>Council: Community Development, Sustainable and Strategic Development, Works, Assets, Projects, Planning and Building, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG)</p> | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|---|-------------------|
| 5.2 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Prepare annual capital works implementation plans for recreation reserves that are consistent with the Recreation and Open Space Strategy and Reserve Master Plans. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | It is important that capital works budget considerations are informed by the Recreation and Open Space Strategy and Master Plans. These documents have been prepared with consideration of all key issues and have been discussed and accepted by all key stakeholders. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Consistent with Council's 20 year forward plan and 5 year capital improvement plan. | Master Plans | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased provision of facilities in recreation reserves through improved infrastructure development Implementation of agreed plans | | Council: Projects, Assets, Community Development, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|--|-------------------|
| 5.3 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Council will make an annual allocation for implementation of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy in the 20 year forward plan and 5 year capital plan. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Council currently allocates funds to capital projects based on a number of factors including financial constraints, identified need and clear rationale. It is important that future budget allocations take into account the priorities identified in this strategy. This can be achieved through appropriate planning in the 20 year forward plan and 5 year capital plan.</p> <p>The Recreation and Open Space identifies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$620,000 of additional operational and planning expenditure over the next 10 years \$4,753,000 of capital expenditure over the next 10 years in actions that are identified in the Strategy Potential further capital expenditure of \$9,700,000 that is subject to the outcomes of planning that has been identified in the Strategy Council will potentially need to consider the funding of an indoor aquatic facility subject to the outcome of that feasibility study – this could be estimated at up to \$20,000,000 in Years 10-15 <p>Sources of funding to implement the actions in the Strategy may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> external funding programs from state and federal governments agency funding provided for specific programs council revenue developer contributions through open space (if cash-in-lieu is collected) in-kind contributions from community groups and associations | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | As indicated above. | 20 year forward plan and 5 year capital plan | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective financial planning to ensure successful implementation of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy Strategic picture of funding requirements to guide funding applications for external and partnership funding | | Council: Finance, Projects, Community Development, Executive Group, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| 5.4 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Develop Management Plans for Conservation Areas classified 'High', 'Medium' and 'Low'. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Responsible management of significant conservation areas requires an integrated approach. This needs to be guided by agreed objectives and action that will be established in Management Plans.</p> <p>Individual management plans will be prepared for areas of High significance, while areas of medium and low will be included in one overall management plan.</p> <p>The ongoing maintenance of these conservation areas is a particular challenge that Council needs to consider – for example: eradication of weeds requires resources to be allocated to ongoing works to ensure that areas remain clear of weeds which allows the indigenous vegetation to thrive.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES |
| HIGH | | \$2,000 per year for 3 years | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management guidelines for conservation areas that focus on preservation of significant vegetation. Improved practices in the management of conservation areas. | | Council: Environment Management, Parks and Gardens | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 5.5 1(b) 2(b) 3(d) | PLANNING & PROVISION | Prepare a Master Plan for a new Regional Sports Complex to be developed at the Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Reserve, in conjunction with the Department of Sustainability and Environment. | PAGE 9 PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | <p>The analysis of sporting provision indicates that there is a shortage of sports playing fields, particularly in the Bacchus Marsh and surrounds area. It is important that Council plans ahead for sporting provision as the projected population growth will only exacerbate this shortage of playing fields.</p> <p>A review of all available sites has identified that the Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Reserve is the most suitable site for the development of a multi-use regional sports complex – this facility when complete will be able to accommodate the additional demand for sporting infrastructure.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES |
| HIGH | | \$60,000 07/08 | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A comprehensive feasibility study that provides achievable actions that are fully costed Design elements that allow for construction to proceed subject to funding | | Council: Community Development, Projects, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) Other: Committee of Management, DSE, Users | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|---|-------------------|
| 5.6 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Undertake a feasibility study for an indoor aquatic and health and wellbeing centre for Moorabool. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | Moorabool Shire currently provides 2 outdoor pools, and significant demand has been expressed for a year round indoor facility. A detailed feasibility is required to examine such issues as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • viability or a range of options for aquatic, leisure, and health and well being facilities, • site availability and assessment • indicative costings for capital and operational aspects, including funding scenarios • management options and implications | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | \$30,000 07/08 | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear direction for future provision of aquatic facilities • Funding and operational implications of future aquatic facilities clearly defined | | Council: Community Development, Projects, Assets, Aged and Disability Other: YMCA, Recreation Advisory Committee, Aquatic facilities users | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|--|-------------------|
| 5.7 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Undertake a preliminary review of all pocket parks in line with the criteria and process contained in the <i>Draft Redistribution Of Public Open Space Policy</i> (Volume 3) and refer relevant assets to a full evaluation process in accordance with the Draft policy. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | Council owns a number of small open space areas that have little or no value as parks or recreation areas. A redistribution of such spaces could create more useable open space for a range of active and passive recreation purposes. The draft policy provides some key principles, criteria and a process for reviewing 'pocket parks' in the Shire. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationalisation of small open space areas that have little or no value to the community • Redirection of proceeds into acquisition and/or development of more appropriate open space areas | | Council: Community Development, Assets, Projects, Planning and Building, Works, Parks and Gardens, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) Other: Recreation Advisory Committee, Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 5.8 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Prepare a strategy to guide Council's decision making in relation to the provision of tennis facilities. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A framework is required for evaluating the sustainability of tennis, considering such things as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • condition of facilities • levels and types of activity • other courts available and other recreation activities available • how tennis in Moorabool relates to the broader region • management and development partnerships • local provision vs regional facility development | | |
| PRIORITY: | | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES |
| LOW | | \$20,000 Year 11 | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear forward directions for tennis as a sport within Moorabool communities • Priorities for development or upgrade of tennis facilities | | <p>Council: Community Development, Projects, Assets Other: Tennis clubs, Tennis Victoria, Regional Associations, Recreation Advisory Committee</p> | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| 5.9 | PLANNING & PROVISION | <p>Prepare an integrated Footpath and Trail Strategy that forms part of the Asset Management Plans for Pathways and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifies priority (primary, secondary) trail and footpath networks. - Identifies opportunities to link key destinations to main residential areas, - Considers the range of uses and users in urban, rural and fringe communities, - Ensure that all new subdivisions require construction of footpaths as part of the planning permit approval process. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A key outcome for this strategy will be improved infrastructure for casual walking, cycling, dog walking, etc. An effective trail network throughout Moorabool will encourage participation and meet a significant identified need. Council has already committed to preparing Asset Management Plans for pathways – this task should include the off-road network of footpaths and shared trails.</p> <p>The Bacchus Marsh Trails Advisory Group has already identified a number of priorities that are supported for immediate implementation by this strategy – a planning exercise that picks up the whole network will provide Council with the next range of priorities.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES |
| MEDIUM | | \$50,000 Year 6 | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clearly defined proposed trail network that is integrated with a footpath network and connects with broader regional linkages • A strategic list of priorities to guide Council's capital allocation to trails into the future. | | <p>Council: Assets, Projects, Community Development, Aged and Disability, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) Other: Trails Advisory Committees</p> | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|---|-------------------|
| 5.10 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Prioritise capital works using a formal criteria process that includes risk management, compliance, substantiated need, strategic planning priority, funding opportunities etc. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | Past decisions with regard to capital works funding have been based on a number of factors that have not necessarily been consistent. It is important that all projects are subject to the same rigorous process for prioritising. This is achieved by developing a set of criteria and assessment process. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A well defined framework that ensures projects funded for capital works are justified and meet identified community need | | Council: Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|---|-------------------|
| 5.11 | PLANNING & PROVISION | Liaise with other Councils and the Municipal Association of Victoria to develop strategies that achieve equitable joint-use agreements. | PAGE 9 |
| DETAIL: | This action particularly refers to education department agreements, but could be applied to any joint venture that Council might choose to enter into. Some dialogue about the pitfalls to avoid, implications for Councils on a financial as well as social benefit perspective may assist the negotiation of more effective joint-use agreements in the future. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| LOW | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines to assist with negotiations of future joint use agreements. | | Council: Community Development, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) Other: Other Councils in the region, MAV, DE&T | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|---|-------------------|
| 6.1 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Develop internal protocols for service delivery, communication and referrals. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | Every organisation needs to review its internal protocols from time to time to check that there is consistency and understanding. Issues such as service delivery roles and responsibilities, inter-departmental responses, referral processes and key decision making are all important for an integrated and effective organisation that can respond to community and council issues and demands. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved and consistent Council responses to issues relating to recreation and open space Integrated planning and delivery of recreation and open space provision | | Council: Community Development, Aged and Disability, Customer Communications, Finance, Sustainable and Strategic Development, Planning and Building, Projects, Works, Assets, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|---|-------------------|
| 6.2 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Undertake a review of internal staff training programs relating to maintenance/management regimes for sensitive vegetation areas to ensure compliance with management plans and put in place relevant training regimes. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | It is important that staff, who have responsibilities for maintaining open space with sensitive vegetation, have the necessary information and skills to responsibly care for these areas. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better conservation management and maintenance of sensitive areas Minimising costs to Council for specialist contractors, by providing day-to-day staff with skills and knowledge | | Council: Environment Management, Parks and Gardens | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| 6.3 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Undertake a series of staff workshops in relation to the Recreation and Open Space Strategy to ensure that all staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in relation to policies, management and development guidelines, and protocols. | PAGE 10 |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An integrated approach to the implementation of the Recreation and Open Space Strategy | | Council: Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG), Community Development | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|--|-------------------|
| 6.4 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Review the operation of the Customer Request Management System in relation to responses, effectiveness of referral, monitoring and staff training. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | Requests from community groups, clubs, committees and the general public are important sources of information about the effectiveness of Council's provision of community infrastructure. The responses to these requests are critical in nurturing the relationships that Council has with its range of community stakeholders. A review of operations will ensure that all requests are well documented, referred to the correct area and actioned in a timely manner. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More effective Council response to community requests. | | Council: Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG), Community Development, Customer Communications | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|--|-------------------|
| 6.5 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Using the Open Space Categorisation (Local, District, Shire and Regional) criteria classify each open space asset (Type and Hierarchy) | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | Definitions and guidelines have been provided to Council – these can now be applied to each of Council open space areas so that a categorisation process is completed and documented. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurate data collection for each open space area | | Council: Assets, Parks and Gardens, Community Development | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|--|-------------------|
| 6.6 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Develop an integrated asset data base and protocols to ensure that it is kept current. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | Council currently does not have good records regarding open space areas that are in Moorabool and available for the community to use. A data base needs to keep up-to-date records of all public open space and facilities, whether they are on Council land, crown land or school land, etc. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurate data collection for each open space area | | Council: Assets, Parks and Gardens, Community Development | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|---|-------------------|
| 6.7 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Complete an asset audit of all sporting and community infrastructure on Council owned and non-Council owned land. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | Once a data base is created, an audit needs to be undertaken of all relevant facilities – this would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> listing all asset components noting non-compliance with regulations, standards and guidelines identifying risk management issues of all components identifying asset renewal considerations developing a life cycle strategy for the facility | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurate data collection for each open space area | | Council: Assets, Parks and Gardens, Community Development | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|---|-------------------|
| 6.8 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Review the way in which the organisation addresses risk management issues with a view to managing risk issues on a corporate level. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | Feedback indicates that Council doesn't have a systematic way of dealing with risk management. A corporate approach is suggested because any protocols and processes developed for one part of the organisation will apply across all divisions. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An effective strategy for risk management | | Council: Community Development, Assets, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|---|-------------------|
| 6.9 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Retain external project management for capital works to ensure involvement of Council and management of risk. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | Council has started using external project management to assist with the effective completion of projects. This has being very effective and it is recommended that this practices continue. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective completion of projects in compliance with approved plans and permits and in line with project timelines. | | Council: Community Development, Projects | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|---|---|-------------------|
| 6.10 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Develop and implement an effective process for addressing non-compliant playground equipment identified in the regular risk audit that is undertaken for Council. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | Council has a risk audit for playgrounds undertaken regularly. A report is produced that identifies a range of non-compliant items. A process is required to ensure that the items identified in the audit are included in the maintenance and capital works programs so that they are rectified. \$40,000 per year is allocated in the capital program – part of this funding can be used for rectification works. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe playgrounds that meet standards Development of process to satisfy Council's insurance auditor | | Council: Works, Projects | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|--|--|-------------------|
| 6.11 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Prepare/review and adopt policies relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Reserves and Public Halls Funding Policy (review) • Capital Works Funding for Recreation Facilities • Building Maintenance (Recreation Facilities) • Council Contribution to Development On Non-Council Owned Land • Special Events Use Of Open Space • Art in Public Places Policy • Management and Development Guidelines' for each open space type and category • Standards for park and open space infrastructure and settings • Playground Strategy | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | These policies can be developed over a long term. There are a number of policies that require community consultation and a length approval process. It is suggested that policies that are easily prepared and approved be commenced over the next 5 years, and the remainder be developed from 2011 through to 2016 with funding assistance to being in external support. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | \$20,000 over 5 years from 2011 | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear policies to guide Council decision making and priorities for implementation. | | Council: Community Development, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|---|-------------------|
| 6.12 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Establish a Sporting Reserves Upgrade Fund and a works program to bring all sporting reserves to the level specified for the grade (grounds and buildings). | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | This fund would be available to sporting reserves Committees of Management and Associations to improve facilities in addition to the other initiatives in this Strategy. This is recommended for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there will be projects arise following the adoption of this plan that won't be included in the action plan – this fund allows for some additional projects to be completed • committees and clubs are very active in Moorabool – a fund that they can make application to provides them with some incentives to continue to play a significant role in the development of their facilities. A set of guidelines and application process will need to be prepared to implement this fund. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | \$50,000 per year recurrent from 2011 | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement of clubs and committees in small projects to improve reserves • Ongoing improvements to maintain and improve assets | | Council: Community Development, Projects, Community Development, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) Other: Regional Sports Assembly, Associations and Clubs, Recreation Advisory Committee | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|---|--|---|-------------------|
| 6.13 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Review the capacity of the organisation to deliver recreation services and programs in view of the recommendations in this strategy. | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | After 5 years, it is advisable to review where implementation is at and make any adjustments. All actions rated High priority should either be completed or underway, so a check on progress and capacity is recommended before moving into the medium priority actions. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjustment of budget plans if required to ensure maximum implementation of strategy | | Council: Community Development, Community Development, Integrated Development Assessment Group (IDAG) Other: Recreation Advisory Committee | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|--|---|---|-------------------|
| 6.14 | SERVICE & ASSET MANAGEMENT | Incorporate consideration of an Open Space Contributions Policy as part of Council's overall Developer Contribution Plan (DCP). | PAGE 10 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Some public open space is acquired through developer contributions when planning permits are approved for sub-division development. In the past, land handed over as part of these contributions has often been of little value for local parks and has usually been vacant and undeveloped.</p> <p>Council is planning to prepare a Developer Contribution Plan that will cover the range of contributions made by developers to secure planning approvals. The draft policies provided as part of this strategy suggest that Council retain the 5% contribution level, but that all land that is negotiated for this contribution be suitable for park development, in good locations within neighbourhoods, and be developed as parkland prior to handover.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | RELEVANT COUNCIL PLANS/STRATEGIES | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budgets | | |
| Outcomes | | Partnerships | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition of more valuable open space that addresses community needs for local parks within neighbourhoods | | Council: Planning and Building, Sustainable and Strategic Development, Community Development | |

11.2: Small Area Actions

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|-------------------------|--|---|-------------------|
| 1 (a) 2 (b) 3 (b) | SMALL AREA 1 | Implement the Bacchus Marsh & District Trails Master Plan (2004-05) with input from the Bacchus Marsh & District Trails Advisory Committee. | PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | A number of priorities have been identified by the Trails Advisory Committee from the Master Plan completed in 2005. These priorities involve signage, safe crossings, circuits and significant connections and linkages in the trails network for Moorabool and are supported by this Strategy. Further planning work to be undertaken through the development of Asset management Plans will ensure that priorities for other aspects of the trail network in Moorabool are also identified and listed for capital funding. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$100,000 per year from 07/08 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Assets Other: Trails Advisory Committee | |

1 (b) – See 5.5

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 1 (c) | SMALL AREA 1 | Retain Mason's Lane as a category 1 sporting facility, primarily for hard or synthetic surface sports. | PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | There are identified site constraints that prevent Masons Lane from being further developed for Grassed surface playing fields. This is particularly problematic where the current oval is located. Given the degree of infrastructure investment in the existing baseball, athletics and dog obedience facilities, it is recognised that with regular maintenance and watering, these users should remain. However, the remainder of the reserve is well suited to synthetic surface sports such as netball, soccer or tennis and could be considered for these uses. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | To be confirmed. \$200,000 per year for 3 years, from 08/09 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Assets Other: Committee of Management, Users | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|---|-------------------|
| 1 (d) | SMALL AREA 1 | Commence lobbying of the State Government for provision of pedestrian access across the Western Highway at Bacchus Marsh. | PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | A significant pedestrian crossing such as this one is generally funded by the State Government. A crossing along the Southern Rural Channel is one of the high priorities for the Trails Implementation project, so this needs to be included in negotiations with State Government. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| MEDIUM | Within operational budgets & External Funding | Council: Community Development, Works, Projects Other: Community interest groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 1 (e) | SMALL AREA 1 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Connor Street Reserve - Masons Lane - Peppertree Park - Federation Park - Rotary Park | PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| MEDIUM | \$50,000 per year for 5 years from 2011 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|---|-------------------|
| 2 (a) | SMALL AREA 2 | Implement the Master Plan for the Darley Recreation Reserve | PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | <p>There are a number of recommendations in the Darley Recreation Reserve Master Plan that are supported for implementation. These include improvements to picnic and play facilities, internal roadways, buildings, sports facilities, pedestrian access through the reserve, etc.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | 06/07 - \$10,000 07/08 - \$40,000 Further allocation of \$1.3 million to be determined. | Council: Community Development, Projects | |

2(b) – See 1(a)

2(c) – See 1(b)

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 2 (d) | SMALL AREA 2 | Conduct further site investigations to determine the suitability of Telford Park as a Category 2 sports field for multi-use junior sport and training. | PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | <p>Telford Park, a previous landfill site, could be used as a sports reserve if site investigations prove its suitability. Consideration will need to be given to landfill, topography, ability to excavate, lay footings, build up site, etc. if the site proves to be unsuitable, other options may need to be explored for Darley including increased use of school sports facilities. The development of Maddingley reserve's "Siberia" and Racecourse Reserve will certainly be significant in providing for the longer term needs of the Darley community.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$15,000 07/08 | Council: Community Development, Projects Other: Recreation Advisory Committee | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|---|-------------------|
| 3 (a) | SMALL AREA 3 | Implement the Maddingley Recreation Reserve Master Plan | PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | There are a number of recommendations in the Maddingley Recreation Reserve Master Plan that are supported for implementation. These include improvements to entry, lighting, fencing, landscaping, etc. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | 06/07 - \$300,000 07/08 - \$120,000 Further allocation of \$500,000 to be determined. | Council; Community Development, Projects Other: Recreation Advisory Committee, Committee of Management, Clubs | |

3(b) – See 1(a)

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 3 (c) | SMALL AREA 3 | Develop the parcel of land at the Maddingley Recreation Reserve known as 'Siberia', as a multi-use sports field. | PAGE 14 |
| DETAIL: | The area known as 'Siberia' that sits to the eastern side of Maddingley Recreation Reserve, is well suited for development into a multi-use, rectangular playing field. It could be used for soccer, junior cricket, junior football and training for a variety of field sports. Should sports like touch rugby start up in Moorabool, this space would be an ideal playing field for them to use. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$200,000 - 08/09 | Council; Recreation Advisory Committee, Committee of Management, Clubs | |

3(d) – See 1(b)

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|---|-------------------|
| 4 (a) | SMALL AREA 4 | Assist the Committee of Management of Ballan Racecourse Reserve to resolve management issues and develop a concept for the forward planning of the reserve. | PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | The Ballan Racecourse Reserve is a DSE reserve with a directly appointed Committee of Management. There are some difficult management issues raising conflict between the recreation uses and commercial uses of the site. Council is able to play a facilitation role to assist with resolution of these challenging issues. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | Within operational budgets | Council: Community Development | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|---|-------------------|
| 4 (b) | SMALL AREA 4 | Review the Master Plan for the Ballan Recreation Reserve | PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | The Master Plan for the Ballan Recreation Reserve needs to be reviewed to ensure that the priorities are relevant and realistic for the future. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$20,000 - 08/09 | Council: Community Development, Projects Other: Committee of Management, Recreation Advisory Committee, Clubs | |

4(c) – See 2.6 (Strategic Actions)

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|--|-------------------|
| 4 (d) | SMALL AREA 4 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Caledonian Park - Ballan Mineral Springs | PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| MEDIUM | \$50,000 per year for 2 years from 2011 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|--|-------------------|
| 5 (a) | SMALL AREA 5 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of reserves including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Myrning Recreation Reserve - Beremboke Recreation Reserve - Greendale Recreation Reserve - Blackwood Recreation Reserve | PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$50,000 per year for 4 years from 07/08 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 5 (b) | SMALL AREA 5 | Undertake improvements to the Myrning Recreation Reserve sports ground surface. | PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | The Myrning Recreation Reserve has been used as an additional sport ground and provides a good back-up to other reserves. However the playing surface is in poor condition and needs to be upgraded. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| MEDIUM | \$100,000 - 2012/13 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Recreation Advisory Committee, Clubs | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|---|-------------------|
| 6 (a) | SMALL AREA 6 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines and community priorities at Hopetoun Park. | PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability of local parks, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$50,000 - 07/08 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 7 (a) | SMALL AREA 7 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wallace Recreation Reserve - Gordon Public Park - Gordon Recreation Reserve | PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$50,000 per year for 3 years from 2007/08 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 7 (b) | SMALL AREA 7 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bullarook Recreation Reserve - Bungaree Recreation Reserve - Korweingboora Recreation Reserve - Spargo Creek Mineral Springs Reserve | PAGE 15 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| MEDIUM | \$50,000 per year for 4 years from 2011 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|--|-------------------|
| 8 (a) | SMALL AREA 8 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lal Lal Falls Reserve - Dunnstown Recreation Reserve | PAGE 16 |
| DETAIL: | A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$50,000 per year for 2 years from 2008 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|--|-------------------|
| 8 (b) | SMALL AREA 8 | Upgrade the playing surface of the Elaine Recreation Reserve sports oval in response to identified need. | PAGE 16 |
| DETAIL: | The Elaine Recreation Reserve is well placed to meet a range of sporting needs of the south-west region of the Shire, but is currently unused because of the poor condition of the reserve. Some improvements have been made recently to lift the presentation of the reserve, and a sports field upgrade would further improve the reserve to encourage local participation and club activity. | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| MEDIUM | \$100,000 - 2013/14 | Council: Community Development, Projects Other: Recreation Advisory Committee, Clubs | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|---|---|-------------------|
| 8 (c) | SMALL AREA 8 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarendon Recreation Reserve - Elaine Sports Ground | PAGE 16 |
| DETAIL: | A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| MEDIUM | \$50,000 per year for 2 years from 2012 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|---|-------------------|
| 8 (d) | SMALL AREA 8 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Navigators Recreation Reserve - Yendon Recreation Reserve | PAGE 16 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works <p>These 2 reserves in Navigators and Yendon are prioritised as low in this strategy in recognition of the recent improvements that have been undertaken. It is anticipated that by 2016, further works will be required.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| LOW | \$50,000 per year for 2 years from 2016 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|---|-------------------|
| 9 (a) | SMALL AREA 9 | Upgrade the Mt Egerton Recreation Reserve sports oval to improve the quality of the playing surface | PAGE 16 |
| DETAIL: | <p>This Recreation Reserve has been identified as needing upgrading to the playing surface. This will help to increase the useability and meet an increasing range of demands for local sport participation.</p> | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$100,000 - 2009/10 | Council: Community Development, Projects | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 9 (b) | SMALL AREA 9 | Undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mt Egerton Recreation Reserve - Balliang Recreation Reserve and Community Centre - Morrisons Recreation Reserve | PAGE 16 |
| DETAIL: | <p>A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability for local communities, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • complete a condition audit on each of the identified parks • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • complete improvement works | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| HIGH | \$50,000 per year for 3 years from 2009 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |

| ACTION NO. | CATEGORY | STATEMENT | PAGE NO. VOLUME 1 |
|------------|--|--|-------------------|
| 9 (c) | SMALL AREA 9 | In partnership with Water Authorities, undertake minor park improvements in accordance with open space development guidelines at a number of parks including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dean Reservoir - Merrimu Reserve - Pykes Creek Reserve | PAGE 16 |
| DETAIL: | A number of minor improvements will improve the presentation and useability of waterways, including seating, tree planting, landscaping, shade and maybe play facilities and picnicing facilities. Council will undertake a process to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet with relevant waterways agencies • in partnership, complete a condition audit on each of the identified areas • develop a simple plan indicating how improvements might be made • in partnership, prioritise works in consultation with interested stakeholders • negotiate with waterways agencies how to proceed to complete improvement works • clearly identify maintenance responsibilities for ongoing care of these sites | | |
| PRIORITY: | RESOURCING: | Partnerships | |
| MEDIUM | \$50,000 per year for 3 years from 2013 | Council: Community Development, Projects, Other: Community Reference Groups | |