



City of Whitehorse

MINUTES

Delegated Committee of Council Meeting

Held virtually via Zoom
on

Tuesday 15 June 2021

at 7:00pm

Members: Cr Andrew Munroe (Mayor), Cr Blair Barker, Cr Raylene Carr (Deputy Mayor), Cr Prue Cutts, Cr Andrew Davenport, Cr Mark Lane, Cr Tina Liu, Cr Amanda McNeill, Cr Denise Massoud, Cr Trudy Skilbeck, Cr Ben Stennett
Mr Simon McMillan
Chief Executive Officer

Recording of Meeting and Disclaimer

Please note every Delegated Committee of Council Meeting (other than items deemed confidential under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2020) is being recorded and streamed live on Whitehorse City Council's website in accordance with Council's Live Streaming and Recording of Meetings Policy. A copy of the policy can also be viewed on Council's website.

The recording will be archived and made publicly available on Council's website within 48 hours after the meeting on www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au for a period of three years (or as otherwise agreed to by Council).

Live streaming allows everyone to watch and listen to the meeting in real time, giving you greater access to Council debate and decision making and encouraging openness and transparency.

All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however, as a visitor in the public gallery, your presence may be recorded. By remaining in the public gallery, it is understood your consent is given if your image is inadvertently broadcast.

Opinions expressed or statements made by individual persons during a meeting are not the opinions or statements of Whitehorse City Council. Council therefore accepts no liability for any defamatory remarks that are made during a meeting.

5 PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

In accordance with the COVID-19 Omnibus (Emergency Measures) Bill 2020 – Amendment of Local Government Act 2020 our Council meetings remain open to the public via Live stream only, please do not attend in person. Meetings can be viewed via Council's live stream platform <https://webcast.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/video.php>

Interested parties who wish to submit to the Delegated Committee of Council during under the Public Submissions section of the Delegated Committee Meeting must register online at www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/what-we-do/meetings/public-submissions-questions-petitions/public-submissions by 4pm on the day of the meeting.

Persons wishing to make a submission to the Delegated Committee on any land use planning matter must register online by 4:00pm www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/about-council/what-we-do/meetings/public-submissions-questions-petitions/public-submissions, at least five working days prior to the day of the meeting.

In completing the online public submission form a member of Council staff will inform you whether your registration was successful and the submission will then be read out at the meeting.

The submission, name and suburb will then form part of the Delegated Committee of Council minutes and become part of a permanent record of the Council

5.1 General Submissions (Other Speakers who have registered an online written submission, will have their submission read out at the meeting up to 3 minutes per submitter)

None submitted

5.2 2021/2022 Budget Consultation (Up to 5 minutes each submission number)

Budget submitters one through to six spoke via Zoom and Budget submitter seven was read out by Council's Director Infrastructure, Mr Steven White, as per the listing in the agenda.

	Name
1	R Hansen, Friends of Mont Albert Reserve Submission Number: 3
2	S Lodge Submission Number: 5
3	P Sayers Submission Number: 14
4	Name withheld Submission Number 18
5	T Tescher, President, Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents' Association Submission Number: 19
6	M Collard, Secretary, Whitehorse Colts Netball Club P Marulli, President, Kerrimuir United Cricket Club Submission Number: 21
	Name
7	D Berry, President Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society Inc. Submission Number: 25

6 REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

6.1 CORPORATE SERVICES

6.1.1 2021/2022 Budget Consultation

ATTACHMENT

SUMMARY

Council resolved on 19 April 2021 to give notice that it had prepared a Proposed Budget 2021/2022 and to call for submissions in accordance with its Community Engagement policy. A public notice was included in The Age and information was provided in the Whitehorse News and on Council's website. Copies of the Proposed Budget were available for inspection on Council's website and at Council service centres and Whitehorse library branches for four weeks. Council received 27 written submissions on the Proposed Budget 2021/2022.

DELEGATED COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Lane, Seconded by Cr Massoud

That Delegated Committee of Council, having heard those who wished to speak in support of their written submission, consider all written submissions as part of Council's deliberations in adopting the Budget 2021/2022 at the Council meeting to be held on 28 June 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BACKGROUND

A Proposed Budget has been prepared for the 2021/2022 financial year in accordance with the requirements of Section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Proposed Budget incorporates the Annual Plan, Operating Budget, and Capital Works Program, and details the resources required over the next four financial years to deliver on the new *Council Plan 2021-2025*, which is currently under development.

The Proposed Budget has been prepared with reference to Council's long term financial planning strategy, which is aimed at creating a sustainable fiscal environment to enable Council to continue to provide the community with high quality services and infrastructure into the medium and long term.

The Proposed Budget 2021/2022 is informed by community feedback which has been accumulated through various consultations held as part of the development and review of key Council strategies and plans, the annual community satisfaction survey and from past budget submissions. Council has recently undertaken a comprehensive engagement process to help inform the new *Community Vision 2040*, and further engagement is currently underway for the development of the new *Council Plan*, *Financial Plan*, *Asset Plan* and *Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan*. The themes and priorities identified from both these processes will flow through to future years' budgets.

Councillors and officers also held a number of meetings to develop this fiscally responsible four year budget in a time of significant external and internal pressures and challenges.

Council resolved to make the Proposed Budget 2021/2022 available for public inspection and comment in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Policy* pursuant to Section 96(1) (b) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. It was also determined that the Delegated Committee would consider, and if requested, hear any submissions in relation to the Proposed Budget on Tuesday 15 June 2021 at 7pm.

6.1.1 (cont)

A public notice advising that the Proposed Budget 2021/2022 was available for inspection was placed in The Age on Wednesday 21 April 2021. A copy of the Proposed Budget document was made available on Council's website and at Council's customer service centres (Box Hill, Forest Hill and Nunawading) and at the four Whitehorse library branches (Blackburn, Box Hill, Nunawading and Vermont South). In addition, there was a special feature on the Proposed Budget in the May 2021 Whitehorse News.

The closing date for submissions was Wednesday 19 May 2021.

DISCUSSION

Public submissions – Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Council has received 27 formal submissions/comments on the Proposed Budget 2021/2022. There are 7 people or groups that have requested to speak in support of their submissions at the Delegated Committee meeting.

Submissions were received from the following:

Name	Issue(s) Raised
1 M Hassett, Metro-East Bicycle User Group Inc	Increased advocacy and funding for cycling related infrastructure
2 M Hallett, CEO, Nunawading Basketball	Support for East Burwood Reserve master plan
3 R Hansen, Friends of Mont Albert Reserve	Improved access to facilities at Mont Albert Reserve
4 M Elliott	Improved access to facilities at parks including Mont Albert Reserve
5 S Lodge	Increased funding for active transport
6 A Pepper	Equity of budget allocations for sporting clubs
7 M Livy	Spark's Reserve car park sealing
8 L Thomas	Details of operational expenditure budgets
9 E Tyson	Animal registration fees
10 P Daw, Heatherdale Community Action Group	Acquisitions and display of Council art collection
11 P Daw, Heatherdale Community Action Group	Recognition of importance of and improvements at Yarran Dheran
12 D Dressing, President, Vermont South Club Inc	Timing of Vermont South Club extension
13 E Blake	Simpson Park dog park and Britannia Mall improvements
14 P Sayers	Simpson Park dog park
15 J Frank	Simpson Park dog park and Britannia Mall improvements
16 T Hogg	Simpson Park dog park
17 V Turnbull	Simpson Park dog park
18 Name Withheld	Simpson Park dog park
19 T Tescher, President, Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association	Various issues raised
20 A Hucker	Supports Heatherdale Pavilion upgrade
21 P Marulli, President, Kerrimuir United Cricket Club on behalf of Springfield Park tenants	Request for Springfield Park upgrade

6.1.1

(cont)

	Name	Issue(s) Raised
22	B Barclay	More gender equal facilities at Heatherdale Pavilion
23	G Gallagher, Yarran Dheran Advisory Committee	Review of planned Yarran Dheran refurbishment
24	G Gallagher, Yarran Dheran Advisory Committee	Recognition of Yarran Dheran environmental education programs
25	D Berry, Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society Inc	Various tree/open space items raised
26	A Schwarz	Recycling services and changes to budget graph presentation

The full text of the submissions are attached.

The following people have requested to speak to their submissions:

	Name
1	R Hansen, Friends of Mont Albert Reserve
2	S Lodge
3	P Sayers
4	Submitter Number 18
5	T Tescher, President, Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association
6	M Collard, Secretary, Whitehorse Colts Netball Club P Marulli, President, Kerrimuir United Cricket Club A Norris, Whitehorse Colts Netball Club
7	D Berry, President, Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society Inc

ATTACHMENT

- 1 2021-22 Budget Submissions 



METRO EAST BICYCLE USER GROUP INC.

PO Box 172 Blackburn Vic 3130
<https://mebug.org.au>
mebug@mebug.org.au

22 January 2021

Mayor, Councillors and CEO,
City of Whitehorse

Dear Mayor, Councillors and CEO,

Cycling planning and investment in Whitehorse

Firstly, we would like to congratulate all new and returning councillors, on your success at the 2020 local government elections. We assume the new council has now settled in and wish to draw your attention to the issue of investment in cycling infrastructure in the term of the new council.

Undoubtedly, budget matters and priorities are currently being formulated for the next budget period. There are also projects being planned or delivered by the state government, where Council is a major stakeholder. We are writing here in regard to both aspects of cycling investment.

1. State government funded projects

Mont Albert and Surrey Hills level Crossing Removals

No doubt Council is aware of and active in the developing plans by the LXRA for the grade separations at Mont Albert and Surrey Hills. MeBUG has been in communication with the City of Boroondara, which is actively advocating for much improved cycling and pedestrian facilities than are currently planned by the LXRA. We have communicated our strong support to Boroondara Council in regard to the improvements they are seeking.

It is not clear whether Whitehorse Council is similarly engaged. There is scant information on Council's public news information on its website. We urge Whitehorse council, if it is not already doing so, to strongly advocate to the state government and LXRA to grade separate the shared path crossing of Mont Albert Road.

MeBUG has made representations to Paul Hamer MP for such improvements to the LXRA plans. See <https://mebugorgau.files.wordpress.com/2021/01/surrey-hills-mont-albert-letter-to-paul-hamer.pdf>

Hawthorn to Box Hill Shared Path

As you know, the Department of Transport has been developing plans for the Hawthorn to Box Hill shared path, following the allocation of \$370,000 in the 2019-20 state budget. The Department has consulted widely with stakeholders and local government. It released the final consultant's recommendations and route options in October 2020. We assume Council has been provided with details of the project, similar and perhaps more comprehensive to those provided to bicycle user groups.

The analysis leaves open, the solution for the crossing of Elgar Road in Box Hill. We strongly believe this should be a cycle and pedestrian bridge similar to that built at Cochrane Street Mitcham on the Box Hill to Ringwood path. The Cochran's Street bridge is an example of how

timely and vigorous advocacy can achieve excellent outcomes. We urge Council to press the state government to fund an elevated crossing of Elgar Road as part of the Mont Albert level crossing removal. It is interesting to note that the eastern extent of the project is at Pippard Street Box Hill. Clearly, the crossing of Elgar Road can be considered as in the scope of the project.

It would be opportune to also seek funding of the cycle/pedestrian bridge across the rail line to connect Nelson Road and Thurston Streets, as proposed in the recently adopted Box Hill Integrated Transport Strategy.

2. Council funded projects

We are requesting Council to substantially increase its own capital related budget for cycling infrastructure in the next budget cycle. No significant shared paths have been built since 2017 - the entire period of the previous council. As a consequence, there has been no improvement in safety for current or potential new cyclists. Meanwhile many millions have been spent on sports pavilions and golf courses.

Following the COVID situation it is likely that many people's travel practices will change. There is the spectre of road congestion due to distancing requirements on public transport. This will feed into a greater demand for safe cycling options. Already, we are seeing a burgeoning demand for e-bikes (see for example The Age 23 January). It is clear that safe and preferably separated cycle paths are essential. Such investment needs to be 'mainstreamed' in Council thinking - to an equal footing with roads, footpaths, buildings and sports facilities - and no longer considered as a fringe or hobby pursuit at the bottom of the funding hierarchy.

Council has only one cycle infrastructure project, the Easy Rides network of six routes built one per year. Details we have seen for the first of these projects (EW6) reveals that they are largely just bike symbols painted on the road. These will do little to attract new riders or encourage parents to ride with their children.

Assuming the first Easy Ride project will be delivered by June 2021 as programmed, we now consider further Easy Rides projects should be put on hold pending evaluation of EW6 and future year funding diverted to constructing off-road paths such as those listed in MeBUG's project list submitted to Council as part of our 2020 Budget submission. You may access this list on our website at <https://mebug.org.au/projects/>,

We are pleased that most of the current councillors responded positively to our request for their views on the importance of cycling related investment. These responses are also on our website at <https://mebug.org.au/welcome/local-government-elections-council-candidate-statements/>. We look forward to their support as promised.

In summary

We urge council to

- advocate to the state government to grade separate the Hawthorn to Box Hill path at Mont Albert Road;
- advocate for construction of cycle and pedestrian bridges across Elgar Road and across the rail line to connect Nelson Road and Thurston Street; and
- substantially increase its own funding of cycle infrastructure to redress the neglect of recent years and respond to demands of the future.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Hassett (Secretary)

From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Proposed Budget
Date: Thursday, 29 April 2021 9:28:32 AM
Attachments:

Good Morning,

On behalf of the Nunawading Basketball Centre Management and Melbourne East Basketball Association I write to advise that we are in support of the Budget proposed at Council on Monday 19th April.

Specifically we are delighted to see the allocation of \$800,000 for the Master Plan of the East Burwood Reserve and wholeheartedly support this item remaining in the budget.

The Nunawading Basketball Centre was first built in 1969 with additions in 1983 and 1989 and appreciate that the centre was identified as a key site for redevelopment and expansion within the Council's Indoor Sports Facility Feasibility Study (2020).

The current 5-court facility is ageing and in need of redevelopment and expansion to accommodate the ever increasing participation numbers within the sport of basketball.


We look forward to working with Councillors, Officers and designers on this project.

Kind Regards,

MARK HALLETT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Disclaimer: This e-mail and any attachments to it (the 'Communication') is confidential and it is for the use only of the intended recipient. The communication may contain copyright material of (Nunawading Basketball Stadium ABN 9408 724 8155), of any of its related entities or of third parties. If you are not the intended recipient of the Communication, please notify the sender immediately by return e-mail, delete the Communication and do not read, copy, print, retransmit, store or act in reliance on the Communication. Any views expressed in the Communication are those of the individual sender only, unless expressly stated to be those of Nunawading Basketball Stadium. Nunawading Basketball Stadium does not guarantee the integrity of the Communication, or that it is free from errors, viruses or interference.

From: [OurSay Team](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: New survey response to Proposed Budget 2021/2022
Date: Thursday, 29 April 2021 1:38:12 PM

	Survey New Response	2021-04-29 13:38:18
---	---------------------	---------------------

Hi Client,

We have received a new response to your survey titled Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Checkout response below:

1. Please provide your full name:
→ Robin Hansen
2. Please provide your email address (if not provided, Council will not be able to provide a response):
3. Are you submitting feedback on behalf of a group or organisation?
→ 1 True
4. What group or organisation are you representing?
→ Friends of Mont Albert Reserve
5. Please provide your feedback on Council's Proposed Budget 2021-2022. If you have an attachment to include with your submission, please email your submission to annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
→ Budget appears good overall, but we would like to request that the public toilet facility which is attached to the pavilion at Mont Albert Reserve be opened daily so that the park users can access it. Currently it appears to be opened and cleaned on an ad-hoc basis, and used by visiting council workers, but the general public/park users can never be sure whether the toilet will be

opened. Consequently many people are restricted in their ability to enjoy Mont Albert Reserve and the associated play ground for fear that they will be "caught short". With up to 1000 people using the facility every day of the year it seems reasonable to expect that a toilet (that is already there) should be available for use in daylight hours.

6. Do you wish to speak to your submission at Delegated Committee of Council on 15 June 2021?

→ 1 True


7. Are you happy for your name to be included in a public report to Council on submissions received?

→ 1 True

8. Would you like to be notified of future Budget consultations?

→ 1 True

From: [OurSay Team](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: New survey response to Proposed Budget 2021/2022
Date: Thursday, 29 April 2021 1:47:13 PM

	Survey New Response	2021-04-29 13:47:20
---	----------------------------	---------------------

Hi Client,

We have received a new response to your survey titled Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Checkout response below:

1. Please provide your full name:
→ Mikee Elliott
2. Please provide your email address (if not provided, Council will not be able to provide a response):
3. Are you submitting feedback on behalf of a group or organisation?
4. What group or organisation are you representing?
5. Please provide your feedback on Council's Proposed Budget 2021-2022. If you have an attachment to include with your submission, please email your submission to annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
→ The utility of our parks and open spaces is of acute need at the moment. Facilities like Mont Albert Reserve that have capability for extended use of the local community should be a priority for council. Not everyone works to the same schedule as the council is fortunate enough to, and denying the use of installed facilities like toilets and on demand lighting out of hours is shortsighted. The trend towards hyperlocality is in need of recognition and response from council.
6. Do you wish to speak to your submission at Delegated Committee of Council on 15 June 2021?


7. Are you happy for your name to be included in a public report to Council on submissions received?

→ 1 True

8. Would you like to be notified of future Budget consultations?

→ 1 True

From: [OurSay Team](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: New survey response to Proposed Budget 2021/2022
Date: Wednesday, 5 May 2021 11:18:26 PM

	Survey New Response	2021-05-05 23:18:32
---	---------------------	---------------------

Hi Client,

We have received a new response to your survey titled Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Checkout response below:

1. Please provide your full name:
→ Stephen Lodge
2. Please provide your email address (if not provided, Council will not be able to provide a response):
3. Are you submitting feedback on behalf of a group or organisation?
4. What group or organisation are you representing?
5. Please provide your feedback on Council's Proposed Budget 2021-2022. If you have an attachment to include with your submission, please email your submission to annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
→ It is imperative that Council provides additional funding for active transport, particularly additional safe paths in the City of Whitehorse. This would include supporting the commencement or completion of the following trails: the Wurundjeri Trail; Syndal to Heatherdale Pipeline Trail; the Healseville Freeway Trail; Box Hill to Anniversary Trail (along the train line); and improved capacity to go to, and through, the Box Hill CBD.
6. Do you wish to speak to your submission at Delegated Committee of Council on 15 June 2021?

→ 1 True


7. Are you happy for your name to be included in a public report to Council on submissions received?

→ 1 True

8. Would you like to be notified of future Budget consultations?

→ 1 True

From: [OurSay Team](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: New survey response to Proposed Budget 2021/2022
Date: Friday, 7 May 2021 10:45:48 AM

	Survey New Response	2021-05-07 10:45:57
---	---------------------	---------------------

Hi Client,

We have received a new response to your survey titled Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Checkout response below:

1. Please provide your full name:
→ Adam Pepper
2. Please provide your email address (if not provided, Council will not be able to provide a response):
3. Are you submitting feedback on behalf of a group or organisation?
4. What group or organisation are you representing?
5. Please provide your feedback on Council's Proposed Budget 2021-2022. If you have an attachment to include with your submission, please email your submission to annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
→ My primary concern is the 6.2 million dollars being spent on Heatherdale Reserve Pavillion and on Football clubs in general in recent years. Council seems to have moved away from providing changeroom and training facilities to closed door recreational gathering places that are exclusive to members of that club. I can't see how 6.2 million can be justified on a Cricket club and Junior Football Club. Are these clubs making any contribution to the project? Once built members of the public have to pay to enter these facilities as members of the clubs. I would also question who will pay for ongoing maintenance costs of these expensive Football facilities that are being built? Do these volunteer based clubs have the people available to maintain cleaning

the facilities or will that cost come back to council and ratepayers? The amount being spent on Football clubs is out of proportion to what is being spent on other facilities in City. Nunawading Gymnastics Club is difficult to access in a wheelchair, Box Hill Athletics Club needs shade over the spectator areas, most Tennis Clubs are run down and my daughter travels to a different Council to play Soccer because there aren't any teams in Whitehorse. The perception is that the City of Whitehorse is obsessed with funding Football/Cricket Clubs and it is to the detriment of other sports within the City.


6. Do you wish to speak to your submission at Delegated Committee of Council on 15 June 2021?

7. Are you happy for your name to be included in a public report to Council on submissions received?

→ 1 True

8. Would you like to be notified of future Budget consultations?

From: [OurSay Team](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: New survey response to Proposed Budget 2021/2022
Date: Sunday, 9 May 2021 8:38:50 PM

	Survey New Response	2021-05-09 20:38:49
---	---------------------	---------------------

Hi Client,

We have received a new response to your survey titled Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Checkout response below:


1. Please provide your full name:
→ michael Livy
2. Please provide your email address (if not provided, Council will not be able to provide a response):
3. Are you submitting feedback on behalf of a group or organisation?
4. What group or organisation are you representing?
5. Please provide your feedback on Council's Proposed Budget 2021-2022. If you have an attachment to include with your submission, please email your submission to annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
→ Hard work going through the budget, but is there any timeframe or provision for sealing the unsealed car parks specifically in Spark's Reserve North and West?
6. Do you wish to speak to your submission at Delegated Committee of Council on 15 June 2021?
7. Are you happy for your name to be included in a public report to Council on submissions received?

→ 1 True

8. Would you like to be notified of future Budget consultations?

→ 1 True

From: [OurSay Team](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: New survey response to Proposed Budget 2021/2022
Date: Tuesday, 11 May 2021 1:14:45 PM

	Survey New Response	2021-05-11 13:14:47
---	----------------------------	---------------------

Hi Client,

We have received a new response to your survey titled Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Checkout response below:

1. Please provide your full name:
→ Lynette Thomas
2. Please provide your email address (if not provided, Council will not be able to provide a response):
3. Are you submitting feedback on behalf of a group or organisation?
4. What group or organisation are you representing?
5. Please provide your feedback on Council's Proposed Budget 2021-2022. If you have an attachment to include with your submission, please email your submission to annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
→ \$171 million for the continued delivery of a wide range of services. This is the biggest spend and yet there's no listing or breakdown for the community to see. It's not enough to say family services or sports grounds... There needs to be a full listing detailing how and who will receive this spend
6. Do you wish to speak to your submission at Delegated Committee of Council on 15 June 2021?
7. Are you happy for your name to be included in a public report to

Council on submissions received?

→ 1 True

8. Would you like to be notified of future Budget consultations?

Submission 9

From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Submission 2022 Budget
Date: Tuesday, 11 May 2021 3:08:46 PM

Neutered dog registrations are proposed as \$64 while pensioners are \$20. People one step up from pensioner holding a low income healthcare card are still disadvantaged. As well as being great company to a person who is elderly or disabled, a pet is also often very therapedic.

Council should consider giving people holding a Low Income Healthcare card some dispensation rather than having the jump from \$20 to \$64.

I remain yours faithfully,

Elizabeth Tyson

From:
To:
Subject: Proposed purchase of artwork for Whitehorse
Date: 8 May 2021 at 10:54:42 am AEST
Attachments: [Lidgerwoods..doc.doc](#)
[ANNEMIEKE MEIN..doc.doc](#)
[IMG_20210507_0001.pdf](#)

Submission 10

Hi Andrew and Denise,

1/

HCAG notes that The City of Whitehorse draft budget has an allocation of around \$30,000 for artwork acquisitions. We support this and assume that this amount is likely to remain in the final budget.

This email is to request that, in your capacity as councillor representatives on the Whitehorse Council Arts Committee, you put forward and support a submission calling for the acquisition of a piece of artwork from Craig Lidgerwood and Annemieke Mein respectively.

Both of these artists are significant artists and lived in Whitehorse for most of their active artistic lives. The Council arts collection has a small art work by Annemieke but it is not one of her more significant works. We believe that one of her more significant works should be acquired to supplement it.

Examples of the work of these artists can presently be obtained at a reasonable price but we believe this will not be the case in the future and therefore urge that action is taken now.

2/

On another matter, most of Council's art work is either in storage or on council office walls where they are not accessible to the general public for which they have been acquired. We cannot accept this situation and urge you to move (through a councillor resolution if needed) to have them relocated to a location where they can be properly displayed. The present location in the Box Hill town hall is far too small. If they are to be relocated somewhere else in the Box Hill Town Hall the lower town hall would provide a more appropriate and sufficient area. It may be more feasible to move the collection display to a different location in Whitehorse. (Originally, when the Whitehorse Centre concept was put forward, the proposal included an art gallery.)

HCAG looks forward to your consideration and requests that we be kept informed on progress.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Daw
President Heatherdale Community Action Group

CRAIG LIDGERWOOD: REGARDED AS ONE OF THE TOP FORTY BOTANICAL ARTISTS IN THE WORLD

Craig Lidgerwood is the great grandson of Robert and Mary Lidgerwood, and is a botanical artist of note. His art pieces are well worth preserving as part of the Lidgerwood history of Box Hill.

His art can be viewed on Craiglidgerwood.com and his phone number is

Craig's father JOHN LIDGERWOOD (son of Frank William) is well known through theatre, for his appearances in musicals throughout the Melbourne precinct, including the city theatres, and indeed the eastern suburbs - Well known to the Whitehorse and Karralyka theatres.

SOME HISTORY OF THE LIDGERWOOD FAMILY – A PIONEER BUSINESS IN BOX HILL.

Robert (born Geelong-1871) married Mary Ellen Croucher at “Grassvale” Bungeet on the 1st October, 1903. He had the General Store in Devenish (near Benalla) and also had a farm in the area.

Robert and Mary had 7 children:

Percival James 1904. (later a Councillor & Mayor of Benalla.)

Francis William 1906.

Ellen Ruth 1909 a very talented organist, pianist, and singer.

Violet Mary 1911 and twin sister Daphne.

Edith Annie 1914.

Allison 1918.

Robert passed away on the 29th March 1949, and Mary on the 1st April, 1944.

Both are buried in the Box Hill Cemetery.

Both Ellen, and Edith were married in the Oxford Street, Methodist Church, Box Hill, and both receptions were held at the Box Hill Town Hall.

Edith's wedding frock, and handmade lace veil have been donated, and are displayed from time to time in exhibitions.

Robert's father (Robert Snr.) was well known all over the colony (it is stated) in connection with horse racing, and he owned some good race horses at the time – notably “The Clown” which won the Geelong Cup in 1894 (according to an article from the Geelong newspaper.) He also owned “Shoddy” which won the “Grand National Hurdle” in 1901 in Melbourne. This was just before Robert Snr. died.

A horse shoe from “Shoddy” is still in the Lidgerwood family.

“Barnie” Lidgerwood, a close relative of the family won “Tatts” in the Melbourne Cup sweep in 1958. His 2 sons commenced the brand name for jeans and eventually owned 32 stores throughout Australia - IN-JEAN-IOUS.

Robert and Mary Lidgerwood came to Box Hill in 1931. Violet and Daphne- their twin daughters first commenced a business diagonally across from the Town Hall as a baby wear & children's wear shop. They later moved this shop to Station Street- 2-3 shops from the original railway crossing. It became affectionately known as Lidgerwood's Wool Shop. Actually, it was a shop which did smocking, and spoke stitching on machine, and they continued with baby wear, cottons, and knitting wool. The Bakery was next door. The shop was there for many years. But moved again to next door to Lear's garage, and this is where Violet and Daphne decided to sell their business later on.

Daphne Lidgerwood married Ralph Allingham of the Allingham family who were in Box Hill in the early 1930's (or late 1920's) Ralph was Secretary of the Banker's Association at one time, and also Secretary of the Box Hill Cemetery Trust for many years.

Ralph's brother Alf was also well known in Box Hill – this time for his Aston Martin sports car. His wife Iris was a Life Governor of the Box Hill Hospital for many years, and they were the sole beneficiary of her will.

All Lidgerwoods and Allinghams were regular attenders at the Oxford Street, Methodist Church, in Box Hill.

THE ART OF ANNEMIEKE MEIN.

Annemieke's love of art, craft, sewing, and the texture of silk was inspired by her Grandparents. She was raised by her Grandmother during the 2nd World War. In 1951, at aged 7, Annemieke moved to Australia from the Netherlands. and discovered the world of Australian bush critters.

She says that there was a huge gum tree which she could sit under and see all these insects. AT 24 HEATHERDALE ROAD, MITCHAM.

She attended school locally after which she became a nurse at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, and still has friends in Mitcham.

Annemieke's art specialises in depicting wildlife. She was the first textile artist to be a member of the Wildlife Art Society of Australasia, and the Artists Guild of Realistic Art of Australia.

The subjects of some of her sculptured textiles are of birds, frogs, gums and wattle blossoms. Other invertebrates such as moths, dragon flies, wasps, and grasshoppers signify her fondness for insects - her images are often enlarged.

One of her books - THE ART OF ANNEMIEKE MEIN - wildlife artist in textiles, illustrates a collection of skilled textile artworks containing fabric, stitching, and paints with hand and machine embroidery.

Annemieke uses an amazing variety of materials – silk, wool, fur, cotton and synthetics - all carefully chosen for their colour, texture, credibility and aesthetic appeal.

Recently Annemieke was diagnosed with a very rare auto immune disease as a result of which she has lost feeling in her hands and feet. This has not stopped Annemieke working in her art studio, though, as she has said, her love of her art dulls the feeling of the pain.

Her art work is prominently displayed at the Gippsland Information Centre, Sale, Victoria where there are many of her pieces.

EACH ARTWORK INVOLVES A SCIENTIFIC JOURNEY.

CRAIG LIDGERWOOD

(Botanic artist.)

As a child , Craig lived at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Mitcham from 1968-1982.

He went to Dr. Stanley Cochrane Kindergarten, Mitcham Road, Mitcham in 1970.
Mitcham Primary from 1971-1977 , with a break in London in 1975 , where he attended Moss Hall, Finchley, London.

He returned to Mitcham to attend Mitcham High School from 1978-1981 .
Craig went to boarding school in Albury in 1982-1983.

Craig participated in tennis as a member of the Mitcham Tennis Club throughout most of his childhood and studied piano with [REDACTED] in Mitcham . Craig stated that he is fortunate indeed to be included presently in an international exhibition of Botanic Illustration.

This is an international exhibition which selects about 40 botanic artists from around the world and is held every 3 to 5 years.

Craig's art can be viewed on his website. , and is displayed at Macedon .

HCAg Position Statement Yarran Dheran Location Walker Ward, City of Whitehorse

Background:

1/

Yarran Dheran is a **very significant passive recreation area** with:

- Considerably greater biodiversity than Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. (Much of that sanctuary's vegetation are planted 'indigenous to Australia' species that are NOT indigenous to the area.)
- Within Whitehorse it has links to Schwerkolt cottage open space area and Antonio Park via the new 21 Wattle Valley Road linear park.
- Beyond Whitehorse it has walking links to Manningham passive recreation areas via the Mullum-Mullum creek valley walkway, including Mullum-Mullum Park, Mullum-Mullum Linear Park and Currawong Park. (Blackburn Lake Sanctuary has no such similar connections.)
- It has native species unique to the Mullum- Mullum valley.
- The links also provide corridors for native habitat (including kangaroos).

2/

At an on-sight meeting in 2015-2016 then Crs Stennett and Daw together with Gay Gallagher of the Yarran Dheran Advisory Committee advocated to Mr Bill Morrison that a Master Plan should be developed for the reserve and that the visitor centre should be substantially upgraded.

Mr Morrison at that meeting indicated that it was not a priority and would be undertaken in about two years.

Now six years on, and after several deferrals, a minimalist update of the visitor centre, that is no-where near deserving of what is warranted given the importance of the reserve, may start this year.

3/

At this point in time the Yarran Dheran visitor center upgrade proposed by Council officers is what would be best described as a "more of the same but better" solution. What HCAg believes is needed is a substantial upgrade to increase its size and scope to an equivalent capability and capacity as that at the Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. To make matters worse. HCAg has also become aware that the money allocated in the council budget to update the

visitor center at Yarran Dheran is being eroded by diversion into Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliance issues at the center and that that will consume a large if not majority of funding allocated.

HCAG Position:

HCAG advocates that Council should:

- Reopen its assessment of Yarran Dheran's project scope to ensure that and commit to a process of (as a minimum) deliberative engagement with the community) embracing ALL of the considerations below. Nevertheless the timing commitment for this project should not, once again, be deferred.
- Recognise the importance and significance of Yarran Dheran in the wider scheme of things including its biodiversity and linkages to the wider area, including beyond Whitehorse.
- Recognise the importance and significance of the reserve – it is not a local park. It has Whitehorse wide importance and is regionally.
- important. Council should base its scope of work on these wider needs and importance.
- Revisit its budget commitment regarding Yarran Dheran, with a view to increasing its budget commitment.
- Funding of DDA compliance issues should be treated separately to the redevelopment of the visitor center – They should have been fixed years ago.
- Encourage and accept any and all funding from other sources including other levels of Government.
- Ensure that all characteristics and features of the area are conveyed with recommendations so that Elected Councillors can make informed decisions.

From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Budget Submission Vermont South Club;
Date: Friday, 14 May 2021 7:33:37 AM
Attachments: [Vermont South Club.pdf](#)

BUDGET SUBMISSION – VERMONT SOUTH CLUB inc

Good Morning

We make this submission to you with good faith and acknowledge the tireless work the council does in supporting all sporting organizations in the municipality.

Following our review of the draft budget document and a follow up telephone conversation with council officer, Nigel Brown (who advised we are in next year's budget) we, the members of the Vermont South Club are extremely disappointed that our request for an extension to our clubrooms has once again been denied in this year's City Of Whitehorse Budget. Particularly when council agreed to and spent approximately \$50,000.00 in scope and architectural works which has subsequently been completed, with the implied intention that the project would be in this years budget. A lot of time was spent meeting with council officers, architects and others, talking to them in regard to what we wanted to achieve.

We have encountered numerous delays with this over the past 4 years. We understood from some councilors that they mistakenly thought that the building was owned by the Vermont South Club, which is not correct. This may have been because the Vermont South Cricket Club did own theirs and at the time it was built by them on what was then education land. This has been rectified and those who had those ideas. now understand we are a council owned building on council land.

In past years we have held many discussions with council in relation to our growth and the fact that we need a larger area, not to just cover for new members, but additional space for those people who are too old or cannot take part in the game because of physical limitations. We are a multi-faceted community club and part of the extension is going to include a lounge room where elderly members can meet and continue to enjoy each others company, watching bowls, playing cards, using the library etc. It is a known fact that the elderly need to be kept socially active and our current premises is just not equipped to assist in that way.

The Hon Michael Sukkar MP secured a grant for us of \$300,000.00 which may be in jeopardy if there were to be a change in Government. (letter attached). Therefore the council cannot guarantee that the pending election doesn't have the potential to be problematic.

The Vermont South Club has promised to invest \$150,000.00. There are a number of big ticket items being built in the City of Whitehorse and our understanding is none of the sporting clubs have contributed. So our contribution goes against the thread so to speak.

Notwithstanding the contribution by the Federal Government to those welcome projects. The obvious should be noted here, this is a relatively small project and by delaying until next year means costs increase and subsequently the \$450,000.00 joint contribution dilutes in value.

Unfortunately we cannot complete the necessary documentation for the Dept of Infrastructure unless we have finalized plans. This action is delayed once again as we can't give them proper costings.

Our planned growth will be delayed. Currently we can only seat 90 odd people comfortably (Covid restrictions not included). We have produced photo's of how cramped our place is when we have 100 bowlers on any given day. It is just far too small for us to actively pursue growth.

Over the Covid period we worked extremely hard to produce one of the largest Lawn Bowls events in the C.O.W. The three day event attracted full players lists over the 3 days and was streamed live throughout the country. This event attracted 97,000 viewers on our live stream and even as late as today people have enquired as to the dates for this years tournament. The mayor attended and presented trophies to the lucky winners.

Basically, we have geared up for a growth spurt after Covid. With 40 new members who play varied facets of the game during the week and on Wednesday Nights, signing up over the last few months. We are a club that wants to provide the older members as well as our new arrivals the best possible facilities. They cannot be comfortable in the cramped clubroom as it is at the moment.

The decision to " push " this back till next year because of an apparent lack of resources to perform a traffic Survey is a fairly limp reason, as this exercise can be completed before this gets to the Capital Works Program. The community can be consulted and traffic survey completed in the first 6 months of the new budget year and the work completed in the second half.

In summary, for our club to be a leader in the community and continue to provide good fellowship to new members and provide inclusive activities for the elderly and have an influx of new members, we respectfully request that our extension be included and approved in this year's budget. Costs will be saved as a result and the benefit to ratepayers will be evident for many years to come.

Our values and mission statement says it all :

Our Vision

The Vermont South Club seeks to occupy a position as the most recognisable and respected sporting club in the district.

Mission

The Vermont South Club serves the community through the provision of healthy and competitive sporting activities and provides, for its members, excellent sporting facilities within a warm and friendly atmosphere. We adhere to a fundamental belief that a healthy

lifestyle and positive community spirit is enhanced by the provision of social and competitive sport for people of all ages and abilities at an affordable price.

Values

We will turn our vision into reality by:

Focusing on participation rather than “winning at all costs”

Fostering a sense of fair play and sportsmanship

Acknowledging people who succeed and those who contribute to the Club

Being financially prudent and delivering value for money for members

Planning for the future and being open to the challenge of new ideas

Working constructively with our sporting partners.

Embracing equality of opportunity

Conducting our activities with integrity

Seeking continuous improvement

Building links to our community

We sincerely hope that you can agree with us, that for the club to improve our standing in the community and for us to have the club we want it to be in the municipality, we can have our project included in this years budget and then move into the associated Capital Works Program.

We eagerly await your decision.

Yours Faithfully,

David Dressing

President - Vermont South Club inc



MICHAEL SUKKAR MP

Federal Member for Deakin

May 2021

Cr Andrew Munroe
Mayor
Whitehorse City Council
79-397 Whitehorse Road
NUNAWADING VIC 3131

Dear Cr Munroe 

I write to you with respect to the Morrison Government's commitment of \$300,000 to upgrade facilities at the Vermont South Club.

This commitment was secured at the federal election in May 2019, with the club also committed to providing \$150,000 in funds towards the project.

The Vermont South Club serves the community through the provision of healthy and competitive sporting activities and provides elderly members, that can no longer participate in athletic events, a warm and friendly social atmosphere.

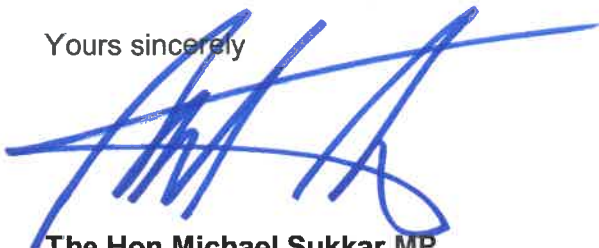
With an ever-growing membership base, the expansion of this facility is essential to support, not only the membership growth, but to also promote wider community participation in local sport and community organisations.

The decision by Whitehorse City Council to exclude funding for this project in the 2021/2022 budget means that the upgrade to this facility will not progress and the funds committed by the Federal Government cannot be utilised by the club.

As the Department of Infrastructure requires completed documentation and planning details to release funds for this project, it is vital that Whitehorse City Council includes funding for this project in the 2021/22 budget to facilitate commencement of the project.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss.

Yours sincerely



The Hon Michael Sukkar MP
Federal Member for Deakin
Assistant Treasurer
Minister for Housing
Minister for Homelessness, Social and Community Housing

From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Feedback for budget
Date: Thursday, 13 May 2021 7:55:56 PM

Hello,

I would like to formally submit my feedback on the proposed budget. I live in Mitcham and have done so for over 15 years.

1. Simpson Park.

I firmly object to the installation of a fence for a “new off leash park”. Firstly, the wording by council is highly misleading. This is already an off leash park. Given the oval and surrounding area will remain off-leash, it serves no purpose whatsoever - those who congregate on the oval with their dogs off leash, will continue to do so. What incentive is there for them to go to the new fenced area? None. All a fence will do is create an eye sore and be visually unappealing. It will impact the ambience and visually divide up this green space unnecessarily. This significant amount of money surely would be better spent elsewhere in the city of whitehorse by creating an actual “new” off leash park. Spending this amount of money on a fence, which has no additional benefits, is a travesty.

2. Britannia Mall

I frequent Britannia Mall daily for coffee, and have done so for the last 2 years. On numerous occasions I have witnessed “near misses” when pedestrians have crossed over Enterprise Way. Pedestrians don’t realise it is a road. The current pedestrian crossing is located in a place where very few people actually use it. Most people cross Enterprise Way near Aroma Cafe. Cars travelling along Enterprise Way can travel at quite a speed and I’ve observed a few times cars travelling the wrong way. Something needs to be done to slow the traffic down and installation of a pedestrian crossing in the appropriate way and improved signage.

Warm regards
Elizabeth Blake

From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Feedback to Budget 2021-2022 Project Number 2020 – 557
Date: Saturday, 15 May 2021 6:20:27 PM
Attachments: [006.JPG](#)

Project Number 2020 – 557 New Initiative Off Lead Dog Park Implementation – Simpson Park

Whitehorse Council is celebrating the purchase of 14 and 16 Scott Grove, Burwood for the creation of more OPEN SPACE in Whitehorse. We are informed that this new OPEN SPACE will contribute towards improving the mental, physical and wellbeing health of our community.

Yet in the Proposed Budget 2021-2022

Project Number 2020 – 557 New Initiative Off Lead Dog Park Implementation – Simpson Park seeks to achieve the exact opposite. This project is taking the one significant non structured OPEN SPACE (see image) in Simpson Park, and using Victorian Government grant money to change this wonderful OPEN SPACE into “**a fully fenced and structured environment**”. [Kendall Sinclair, Manager Leisure and Recreation Services]

Simpson Park is an already designated off-leash dog Park. This proposed Project takes an existing off-leash OPEN SPACE dog Park, where dogs and their owners exercise with freedom, and creates a man made fully fenced structured environment “in which dog owners have the opportunity to exercise their pets”. [Kendall Sinclair]

It is the green OPEN SPACE, current facilities and off-leash status which attracts the **diversity of users** to Simpson Park.

This Proposed Project would:

- * Result in The **loss of OPEN SPACE** which currently exists for **ALL** Park users.
- * **Discriminate against** the **diversity** of Park users, favouring **one use** only within the fenced region = **diversity diminished**.
- * Change the **amenity** of this natural piece of parkland forever, imposing man- made structures (particularly the fence) into a natural open environment which attracts Park users who live in an urban built up area.
- * Diminish **freedom** of movement.

Just because the City of Whitehorse has received State funding for this proposal, funding in itself is no justification for this proposed project to proceed in Simpson Park.

The **Strategic Direction of the City of Whitehorse** is:

“To protect and enhance our OPEN SPACES and natural environments”.

The OPEN SPACE of the off-leash Simpson Park should be **protected and preserved** for the mental, physical and wellbeing health of our community.

To this end, Project Number 2020 – 557 should be **reviewed and rejected** in line with the City of Whitehorse Strategic Direction.

I wish to have the opportunity to speak to my submission.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Sayers



From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Feedback Regarding the 2021/22 Budget
Date: Sunday, 16 May 2021 1:13:11 PM

Good morning.

Below is my feedback regarding the 2021/22 Budget.

I am and have been a resident in Mitcham for over 15 years and I wish to make comment on two points, the first being Simpson Park, Mitcham and the second being Enterprise Way, Mitcham.

1. Simpson Park.

After recently speaking to a councillor I was properly informed of the actual proposal and planning regarding the erection of a fence to the value of \$280,000 for an enclosed off-leash area adjacent to the Simpson Park oval. This entire area is already an off-leash area, so why is the council wasting such an absurd amount of money on trying to fix something that is not broken. Surely this money can be utilised for more valuable and meaningful purposes.

This proposed fence will only ruin the ambiance and aesthetics of an already beautiful parkland.

To fence off an area also has the potential for persons, not only from Mitcham, but also from neighbouring Maroondah Council residence to allow aggressive / dangerous and non-dog friendly dogs to use this space. I personally have had a number of incidence over the years, two of which I have reported to the council regarding non-compliance of persons not being able to control their dogs. This proposal is only fraught with danger and it will only be a matter of time before something occurs.

As a result I am 100% opposed to this project.

2. Enterprise Way.

Approximately 6 months ago I lodged a complaint with council regarding dangerous driving behaviour on Enterprise Way. This consisted of speeding motorists, motorists travelling the wrong way on a one-way street, failing to give way to pedestrians at a small pedestrian crossing, motor cyclists riding through the mall, sometimes at a speed dangerous to the public.

I understand there is an upgrade occurring (at some time) in Britania Mall and I strongly recommend Enterprise Way be a shared zone and at the western end a set of one-way road spikes be installed to prevent vehicles travelling the wrong way (east-bound).

As there are number of cafés in the mall, it is a family friendly environment whereby children play and it's only a matter of time before a pedestrian is seriously injured.

Regards,

Jonathan FRANK.

16 May 2021

Whitehorse City Council

Lodged via email: annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au

Copied to all WCC Councillors and Mitcham Residents Association Inc.

Submission: Whitehorse City Council 2021/2022 Budget

WCC Values

Consultation and communication

Ensuring that members of the community are both sufficiently informed and able to contribute to Council's decision-making process.

Integrity

Making decisions and acting in ways that reflect our values.

Openness and accountability

Being transparent in its decision-making, Council welcomes public scrutiny and community feedback.

As per page 76 of the Proposed Whitehorse City 2021/2022 Budget

• \$0.28 million for the implementation of a new off-leash dog park at Simpson Park

I am concerned how the expenditure of \$280,000 can be included in the WCC 2021/22 Budget and approved by the eleven Whitehorse councillors when the process of evaluating the capital works has not been completed and has clearly not followed the Whitehorse Council values.

In August 2020, the Simpson Park oval was fenced-off and closed to the public to install new irrigation. The public were made aware of this as WCC placed signs at every entrance to the park and placed signs on wooden stakes around the oval, a fence was constructed around the oval also with similar signs attached.

The closure of the park meant the only off lead areas were the open park area north of the oval or the Somers Trail walk east of the oval, alternatively, other off lead parks several kilometres away. This resulted in park user abandoning the park for approx. two months whilst the work was undertaken.

During the period the park was closed, the Whitehorse Council chose to 'advertise' the proposed fenced off lead park proposal by placing a single A4 sheet on the community notice board at the southern end of the oval and at the western end of Somers Trail, and by delivering 280 notice within only 400m of the park. My family are daily users of the park and live well beyond 400m of the park, therefore were only luck enough to be informed of the proposal via the Mitcham Residents Association Facebook.

After lodging a submission, I had no acknowledgement or receipt of my submission being received, which prompted me to follow this up, resulting in the below email dated 20/08/2021 from Leigh Morris (Recreation and Open Space Lead – Leisure and Recreation Services Department).

I have met with other users of Simpson Park; many were completely unaware of the proposal. One phoned Leigh Morris on 20/09/2020 and was advised that no further submissions were being accepted, but if government funding was obtained, then there would be an opportunity to provide a submission.

In January 2021, again via the Mitcham Residents Association Facebook, I was informed that the WCC had received government funding for the proposed park, **even though a final design had not been completed and even though the community consultation had not been completed.** This prompted another email from Leigh Morris (see below) advising that: *“A second round of community consultation on an updated concept plan for this project will be hosted in the near future. A report on the outcome of the second round of community consultation will be prepared for Council to consider, which will inform whether the project proceeds.”*

I now read on page 76 of the Whitehorse City Council Proposed 2021/22 budget that \$0.28 million for the implementation of a new off-leash dog park at Simpson Park has been allocated.

It should be noted at this point that residents have been using the area known now as Simpson Park as an off-lead dog park for over 60 years - why the need to fence in passive open space, thus limiting shared use?

I fail to see how the values of the Whitehorse City Council (listed above) have been adhered to. As councillors you are expected to clearly understand and be well informed about what you are deciding on when approving the budget. Due to the vast information you are provided with and the limited time that you have to consume the information, there is no doubt that at times you take the assumption that due diligence has taken place prior to being provided the information.

If the proposed Whitehorse City Council budget is approved with the Simpson Park off-leash dog park then WCC officers can deflect responsibility for lack of process and merely say that ***“it was approved by Councillors Andrew Munroe; Raylene Carr; Trudy Silbeck; Blair Barker; Amanda McNeill; Denise Massoud; Mark Lane; Prue Cutts; Tina Liu; Ben Stennett; Andrew Davenport as they endorsed and accepted the budget”.***

I therefore request that the Simpson Park off-leash dog park be removed from the 2021/22 WCC Budget and that the WCC ensure that all officers follow due process by conducting the appropriate community consultation as advised in the email from Leigh Morris 26/01/2021.

Regards

Tony Hogg

DIRECT COPY OF THE EMAIL FROM LEIGH MORRIS 20/08/2020

Dear Tony,

Thank you for your response regarding the proposed dog park at Simpson Park, Mitcham. And yes your submission was received and has been recorded. I did try to respond to all submissions but I must of missed yours, apologies.

By way of background, the DEWLP funding guidelines outline a number of specific guidelines that a site needs to meet.

Some of the key guidelines include that the site be:

- designated as dog off-leash
- at least 5000 square metres in size (nb. smaller sites would be considered if designed appropriately however they do not meet best practice guidelines)
- and supported by or in proximity to services/amenities

There are 22 parks and reserves in the City of Whitehorse where you can exercise your dog off-lead. Officers spent considerable time reviewing which of these 22 sites best met the criteria of the program guidelines. Officers also discussed the sites with Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan committee. Terrara Park was considered as part of this process. As Halliday Park is not designated as dog off-leash this site was not considered.

Simpson Park was identified by officers as the most ideal site.

Simpson Park is designated off-lead, has an accessible lineal pathway network, features a public toilet and is serviced by a sealed car park and a nearby gravel car park.

The Whitehorse Open Space Strategy classifies Simpson Park as a Municipal park with the primary character classification as sporting. Municipal sized parks cater primarily to residents of Whitehorse but are also destination parks that people may drive to.

A concept plan was developed to capture feedback on establishing a fenced dog agility park in Simpson Park and what this fenced dog agility park might look like.

A resident notification letter and project flyer outlining the proposed dog park project was distributed to properties located within 400m of Simpson Park. This captured approximately 280 properties.

The project flyer was also displayed in the Simpson Park and Somers Trail community information notice boards.

Over 150 responses were received on the proposal and the responses were a balance of support/concern. One early theme that has been expressed is that the footprint of proposed enclosed dog park may be too large and limit informal nature and passive play opportunities in this area.

There are still many steps to be undertaken. Please find below an update.

Should the Victorian Government fund the project an updated concept plan that considers the communities feedback will need to be prepared.

The local community will again have the opportunity to provide feedback on the updated concept plan. Following this step a report will be prepared for Council to consider whether Council should accept the funding and the project proceed.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the number provided below.

With thanks, Leigh



Leigh Morris

Recreation and Open Space Lead

Leisure and Recreation Services Department

Email:

DIRECT COPY OF THE EMAIL FROM LEIGH MORRIS 26/01/2020

Dear Tony

Council's funding application to the Victorian Government to establish a new enclosed dog park in Simpson Park, Mitcham has been successful, receiving funding of \$275,000 towards the project. This was formally announced by the Victorian Government on Sunday 24 January 2021.

A second round of community consultation on an updated concept plan for this project will be hosted in the near future. A report on the outcome of the second round of community consultation will be prepared for Council to consider, which will inform whether the project proceeds.

In the interim if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on the number provided below.

Kind regards

Leigh



Leigh Morris

Acting Manager Leisure and Recreation Services
Leisure and Recreation Services Department
Email:

From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Proposed Budget and my objection
Date: Monday, 17 May 2021 3:24:21 PM

I understand that the Grant of \$275,00 offered by DELWP for the construction of a dedicated fenced-off dog park has been accepted by Council and is now in the Budget. As a local resident who walks in the proposed area at Simpson Park every day I object very strongly and do not want this project to proceed.

Reasons for my objection are as follows:

- loss of valuable open grassland frequently used for different activities, particularly during summer months
- will discriminate against some dog walkers
- quite unnecessary as there is ample space for people and dogs both on or off lead
- likely to attract owners with unsocialised dogs and I do know of two cases where dogs were attacked by such animals and had no escape in another fenced dog park.
- the area is very boggy in winter months and could be messy
- who will maintain it in good order, making sure owners pick up after their dogs and any litter is removed? Currently Council does not pick up rubbish around the parklands, this is often done by local people using the area daily. Why would the dog park be treated differently?
- car parking in Garden Ave, adjacent to the proposed dog park, will be an issue with residents. Also parking in the limited area around the Simpson Park Facility which is used by the Dog Obedience Club on Sundays and the Cricket Club on Saturdays during the summer and Football Clubs for training as was the case this past summer.
- Dog Club and Cricket Club are concerned about losing limited parking space at the Facility and dog walkers walking across the oval, while classes are running, to the proposed Dog Park at the opposite end of the oval.
- the proposed area is used extensively with off leash dog walkers when the oval is in use for sport or other organised activities..

There is a public toilet attached to the Facility which is the only one in the area.

These are my main objections to this Proposal but I also note that Whitehorse City Council are proposing to purchase land in the Burwood area to provide valuable open space for local residents. Why on earth would they take away the treasured open space at Simpson Park which local residents and users value dearly?

Please take my objections into consideration before making a final decision.

Thank you..

Valerie Turnbull

From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Submission Proposed Budget Whitehorse City Council: Proposed off-leash dog park Simpson Park
Date: Monday, 17 May 2021 10:45:03 PM
Attachments: [Heatherdale Creek Master Plan 2001 \(1\).pdf](#)

To Whitehorse City Councillors/officers,

RE: Inclusion of • \$0.28 million for the implementation of a new off-leash dog park at Simpson Park (p. 76; p. 83 - Proposed WCC Budget 2021-2022)

I object to the inclusion of this proposed dog park in the budget and I would like to see the funding for the proposal in the current budget deferred/withdrawn/reassigned elsewhere as The Simpson Park off-leash (ENCLOSED) dog park proposal has not yet been endorsed by the community. Community consultation has apparently stalled? Apparently, after the first round of consultation, where the proposal was not endorsed by a majority of submissions, the community was divided and a second round of community consultation was/is to occur?

As a local resident who will be adversely affected by the inappropriate development of Simpson Park for an off-leash ENCLOSED dog park - a labelling omission in the budget (?), I submitted to the consultation in early August 2020. I have been waiting for the second round of consultation. Thus, to see the proposed project in the budget as a "done deal," is highly disappointing and premature. Why has there been a delay in the second round of consultation? Council professes to value community consultation, yet, you have clearly not moved from "good to great" in this area. Additionally, the preservation of natural open spaces will not be achieved if this proposal is to go ahead.

In addition, it would be great to be able to scrutinise consultation submissions. In a council area where approximately only 1 in 6 people in Whitehorse own a dog, surely the submissions of local residents should count more than the drive-in-from-other-areas-and-leave consumer users of Simpson Park? But how would we know, if the results aren't published?

Councillors from other wards, may not realise the unique appeal of Simpson Park. It is a small, valuable community open space which according to the current Heatherdale Creek Masterplan 2001 (attached) is designated as passive open space use. The enclosed dog park which has been proposed would change that. Why was such a proposal even entertained as appropriate given that the community's wishes are already directly represented in the Masterplan?

Heatherdale Creek Masterplan (attached):

"Retain Informal open grass area north of the oval which provides an important passive recreation area especially when there is formal sporting activity or dog obedience class on the oval."

It smacks of ignoring the Council's own consultation and use of space processes; processes in place to protect and honour the community's wishes for the open space.

Currently, Simpson Park is an off-leash dog park. It seems ludicrous to compromise the amenity of the park for a minority of users; \$275, 000 is profligate for a dog park that is superfluous at Simpson Park. If WCC residents require a fenced Dog Park it can be situated elsewhere, even on a main road where a fenced area for corralled dogs would be an asset, rather than a blight on a precious community informal open space.

Currently, the balance of shared use for ALL users is an asset of Simpson Park which has been acknowledged and upheld in the park's Masterplan. The oval's elevated position, containing views to the Dandenongs, and the grassy open space - the area adjacent to Garden Avenue (the area ear-marked for development) - attracts users who seek to escape from busyness/life stressors and refresh in an uncomplicated, unfenced, natural environment. The importance of the park and the open space it offers, has never been more obvious, as represented by the sheer increase in numbers of passive recreationalists using the park during and since the pandemic lockdowns. Isolated locals, the infirm, the elderly, off-leash dog-walkers, families are able to find community in this quiet open space. The loudest voice should not push out those without collective representation.

Open space, reserved for passive users, is rare. Once the space is built on it will be gone. The current Masterplan came into existence as a result of a sporting club's desire to "colonise" and to develop Simpson Park as an active use precinct containing club buildings, reduced green space for more parking and a floodlit oval. Locals outright rejected the plans and their opinions were enshrined in the current Masterplan which saw the oval and open space areas preserved for informal, passive use. Please honour their wishes and the plan.

What may appear like an insignificant two line item in the budget, holds ramifications for others. Positive spin is just that. The proposed dog park at Simpson Park, is not an "Upgrade." Please don't just pass over it as you read, and please uphold the processes Council endorses for community consultation.

At the very least, the consultation process should continue, without compromise or favour, or even "fever" at the provision of State funding for an unnecessary and unwanted enclosed leash-free dog park at Simpson Park.

Thank you for reading my submission.

I would like to speak to this submission at Council.

Name withheld

(I would not like to be identified in the public record.)

WHITEHORSE RATEPAYERS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

SUBMISSION ON DRAFT BUDGET 2021/2022

CITY OF WHITEHORSE

Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association has examined the Whitehorse Council 2021/2022 Budget and submit the following observations.

We as a community have just emerged from a once in a century pandemic which has affected many people's lives and yet the council still considers that it has the right to spend \$78 million on one project, namely the Whitehorse Centre. In this year's budget nearly \$20 million has been earmarked for this project on the basis that a large part is coming from the Development Reserve. Surely the pandemic should have made the council re-evaluate projects in light of what has happened and realise that such a large amount of council funds should not be earmarked for one project. Given also that under the Local Government Act there should be community consultation on all projects, we are not aware of any further consultation except maybe with amateur theatre groups etc on the layout of the building etc We believe that this project should be re-examined and a more modest concept involving much less community funds be used and remaining monies be used for other projects which can benefit the community including the establishment of community facilities in areas which are bereft of them.

There has been much publicity in the press and by ratepayers' groups on the small percentage of council funds which are being utilised for road and footpath maintenance which for many residents is the bread and butter of council activities and we note that in this council's budget, the same can be said of Whitehorse Council. In contrast to this a large percentage of council funds is spent on salaries especially executive salaries and on the finance department. We note that salaries are budgeted to increase year on year, even though in the general population this is not happening. We understand that there has been a large amount spent on consultants who came up with a plan to streamline council activities. Council has called this going to Greatness. Surely if the consultants' plan to streamline the working of council and make it more efficient this should mean a leaner structure , therefore implying reduced salaries not increases in salaries for the foreseeable future. It would appear that given this, the council may have wasted its money on consultants' recommendations if this is not improving the situation. We note also that most activities of council are outsourced, so again we cannot reconcile this with the increases in salaries if most council work is being done by contractors.

Next we note the issue of the proposed Waste Management Charge on which hundreds of thousands of dollars have been budgeted for in past budgets and many more dollars budgeted in this year's. This Waste Management charge is also touted in this year's Ratings Plan and though we understand that the government has increased levies for land fill, we believe that council should work together with other councils in the area to find a solution for waste management which is less costly and which will help the environment eg. a biogas plant. We note the start of the FOGO system which should reduce waste greatly as much of the waste relates to food scraps which can be recycled into fertiliser etc. We believe that schemes like this will vastly reduce the amount of waste to go into landfill and this should be factored into any consideration of a Waste Management charge which is a rates increase by stealth.

The Council has produced an Urban Forest Strategy which touts the planting of more trees in the municipality yet we understand that street trees are being continuously removed due to an edict in relation to power lines. We believe that given the Council Urban Forest Strategy Plan, there should be more monies allocated in this budget to street tree planting of appropriate trees and that the Victorian Government should be called upon to help fund these given the number of trees that are being removed from the municipality via the North East Link, Mont Albert Surrey Hills Railway Crossing etc. We call upon Council to also pressure the Victorian State Government to utilise State Government monies, rather than ratepayer monies to replace any open space taken away from the municipality as is contemplated by some of its major projects.

In relation to monies utilised from the Open Space Reserve, we understand that some monies can be utilised for improvements to open space and we call upon council to look at this in relation to improvements to parks and off leash dog reserves. We have been asked by residents to ensure the safety of children in parks which are close to main roads by fencing off areas to prevent children running onto the road. One reserve which residents are concerned about is Boisdale Reserve in Surrey Hills but there may be many others. We are concerned also that parks which have toilets in them are being locked during the day and feel that budget funds would be well utilised keeping toilet facilities open and having them appropriately cleaned, otherwise what is the point of having toilets in a park. Residents have also complained that there are not enough bins in parks leading to a proliferation of rubbish left on the ground, which is a health hazard. Surely council monies should be more wisely allocated. In this regard we are concerned that council is allocating well over a hundred thousand dollars to placemaking activities which we have noted in the past have not had any evaluation and by our own observation have not been well utilised and may have resulted in a waste of council funds. We also believe that it is important to look at the siting of children's playgrounds in relation to shade cover and that the council should implement strategies to protect children from the harsh rays of the sun especially in summer. These strategies should have been incorporated in this budget as child safety is paramount.

In relation to off leash dog reserves we strongly support the establishment of more off leash dog reserves and improvements to existing off leash dog reserves but we feel that the spend of nearly \$300,000 on one off leash dog reserve as detailed in the budget is ridiculous and discriminatory to all other off leash dog reserves. We believe that this spend should be re-examined and funds reallocated more appropriately. Why should one off leash dog reserve be prioritised with such a large amount of funds?


Another point which is not well addressed in this budget is the issue of the handling of rates for people in financial distress. This has been mentioned in a recent report by the Ombudsman who has criticised councils for only offering ratepayers in financial distress payment plans or deferrals but not waivers of part or all of the rates. Given that we have been through a pandemic which has affected many businesses and people's lives we feel that the budget should take account of this situation by allowing leeway for a decrease in monies collected from rates by way of waiver of all or part of the rates.

We hope that the council will consider our observations and make appropriate adjustments to the Council Budget for 2021/2022.

Tanya Tescher

President-Whitehorse Ratepayers and Residents Association

From: [OurSay Team](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: New survey response to Proposed Budget 2021/2022
Date: Wednesday, 19 May 2021 12:31:39 PM

	Survey New Response	2021-05-19 12:31:44
---	---------------------	---------------------

Hi Client,

We have received a new response to your survey titled Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Checkout response below:

1. Please provide your full name:
→ Angela Hucker
2. Please provide your email address (if not provided, Council will not be able to provide a response):
3. Are you submitting feedback on behalf of a group or organisation?
4. What group or organisation are you representing?
5. Please provide your feedback on Council's Proposed Budget 2021-2022. If you have an attachment to include with your submission, please email your submission to annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
→ It is fantastic to see the capital works program and the inclusion of the Heatherdale Pavilion upgrade. As a mother with two sporty daughters this facility is desperately in need of upgrade. Female participation is ever increasing and Heatherdale are leaders in providing opportunities for girls in sport. The current facility has 1 female toilet which is just unacceptable.
6. Do you wish to speak to your submission at Delegated Committee of Council on 15 June 2021?

7. Are you happy for your name to be included in a public report to Council on submissions received?

→ 1 True

8. Would you like to be notified of future Budget consultations?

18th May 2021

Attention: Simon McMillan
Chief Executive Officer
City of Whitehorse

Dear Simon,

**City of Whitehorse 2021/22 Budget (“the Budget”) Submission
SPRINGFIELD PARK**

I am writing this submission on behalf of:

- Kerrimuir United Cricket Club.
- Whitehorse Colts Football Netball Club; and
- Whitehorse Pioneers Football Club

Further to our previous correspondence regarding the proposed upgrades to facilities at Springfield Park we now attach again our Facility Development Plan for consideration in the Budget. Since our last meeting we have taken the next step of approaching Mick Hassett at 2MH Consulting (a firm known for its work with many Victorian Councils) to assist with refining the plans that we submitted. We have attached a copy of the 2MH Fee Proposal for your review as well as our Facility Development Plan, Facility Master Plan and the Clubs’ Strategic Plans.

As you would appreciate, the 2MH Fee Proposal is venturing into territory that is both financially out of our reach and more the responsibility of council. However, it seems that without this next step, it is difficult to have an informed discussion with council officers with any real prospect of moving forward. The 2MH Fee Proposal takes into account all elements of Concept and Detail Design (“the 2MH Scope”); and will cost \$29,161 (Incl. GST). We are able and prepared to contribute \$4,400 to the 2MH Scope and we are requesting that council funds the balance (\$24,761).

Our early estimates are that the proposed facility upgrades would cost in the order of \$800,000 to \$1m. However, this would be fleshed out more completely within the 2MH Scope.

Accordingly, we are asking council to add to the Budget:

1. \$24,761 in 2021/22 to cover the 2MH Scope (or other council approved provider); and
2. Foreshadowing future expenditure of up to \$1m pending the completion of the work subject to the 2MH Scope (or similar) and subject to further council approval.

As previously discussed, the Facility Development Plan provides ongoing infrastructure to support the community. With the continued growth of participation levels for both the cricket and netball clubs, especially female engagement, this proposed multi-purpose development would enhance the hub and give many more locals the opportunity to utilise this space in a safe manner.

It will also allow the netball club to have a stable home with the addition of a netball court to the Springfield Road community hub. At present, the netball club has no dedicated training facilities, and this is limiting both participation and growth. As a predominately female sport, we believe the plan to include a netball court as part of the development will enable both growth and participation in the sport, but also have a positive impact on continued participation of girls in sport by providing them a “home” and a sense of belonging within our community.

We note that there is an opportunity to speak in support of our submission at the Delegated Committee meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 15th June. We would like to take the opportunity to speak in support and the group’s nominated speakers will be Melissa Collard, Pat Marulli and Andrew Norris.

Thank you for your consideration of this submission.

Pat Marulli – President Kerrimuir United Cricket Club
Melissa Collard – Secretary Whitehorse Colts Netball Club



Whitehorse Colts FNC Strategic Plan

November 2020

Submission 21



Vision

Fun | Friendship | Fitness

Mission

"To engage the local community in fun, friendship and fitness creating a lifelong love of sport"

Overarching Objectives



Grow local participation



Deliver Quality Programs



Develop a local sporting hub

Core Purpose



Strategic Imperatives



Our Vision

Fun | Friendship | Fitness

From the workshop discussion, it is clear that the strength of the club is in providing an opportunity for the local community to have fun, make friends, socialise and play sport in a friendly and inclusive environment.

Our Mission

**To engage the local community in fun,
friendship and fitness creating a lifelong
love of sport**

Overarching Objectives



Grow Local Participation

Grow local community participation



Deliver Quality Programs

Deliver participation and development programs that engage the changing demographics



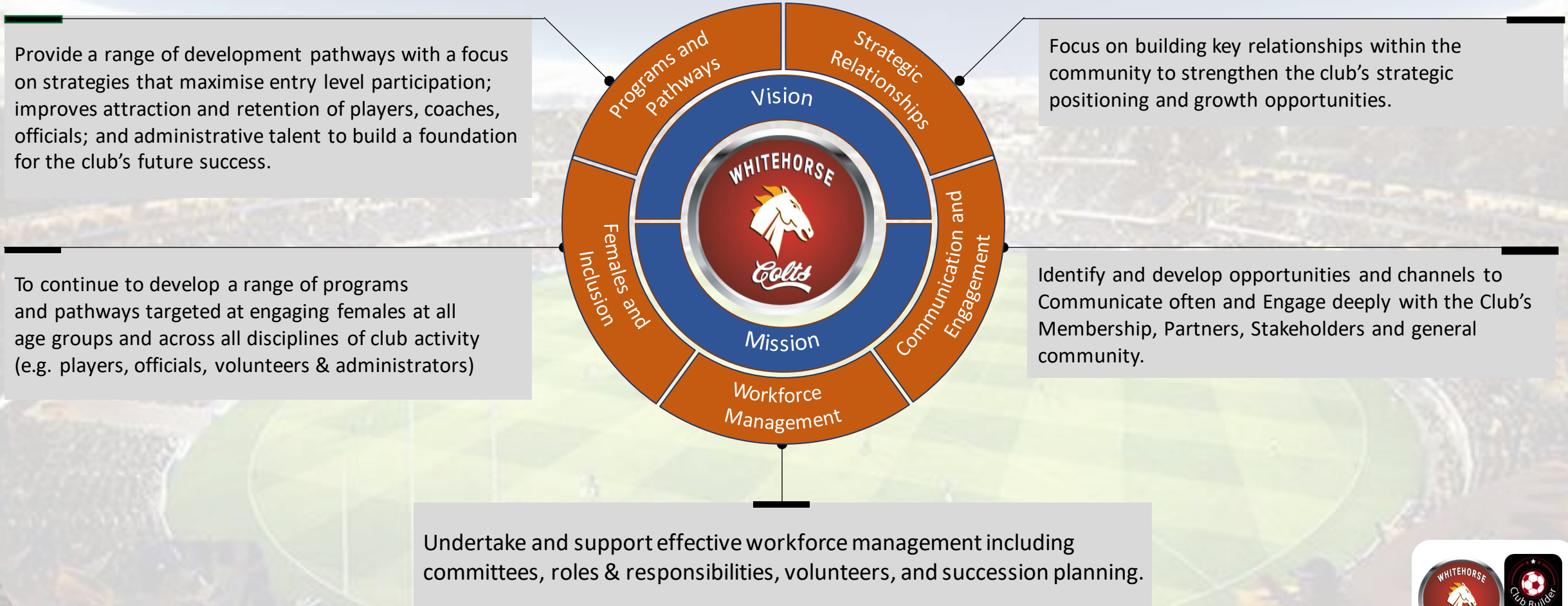
Develop a Local Sporting Hub

Partner with other clubs to develop a local community sporting Hub

Strategic Imperatives

Submission 21

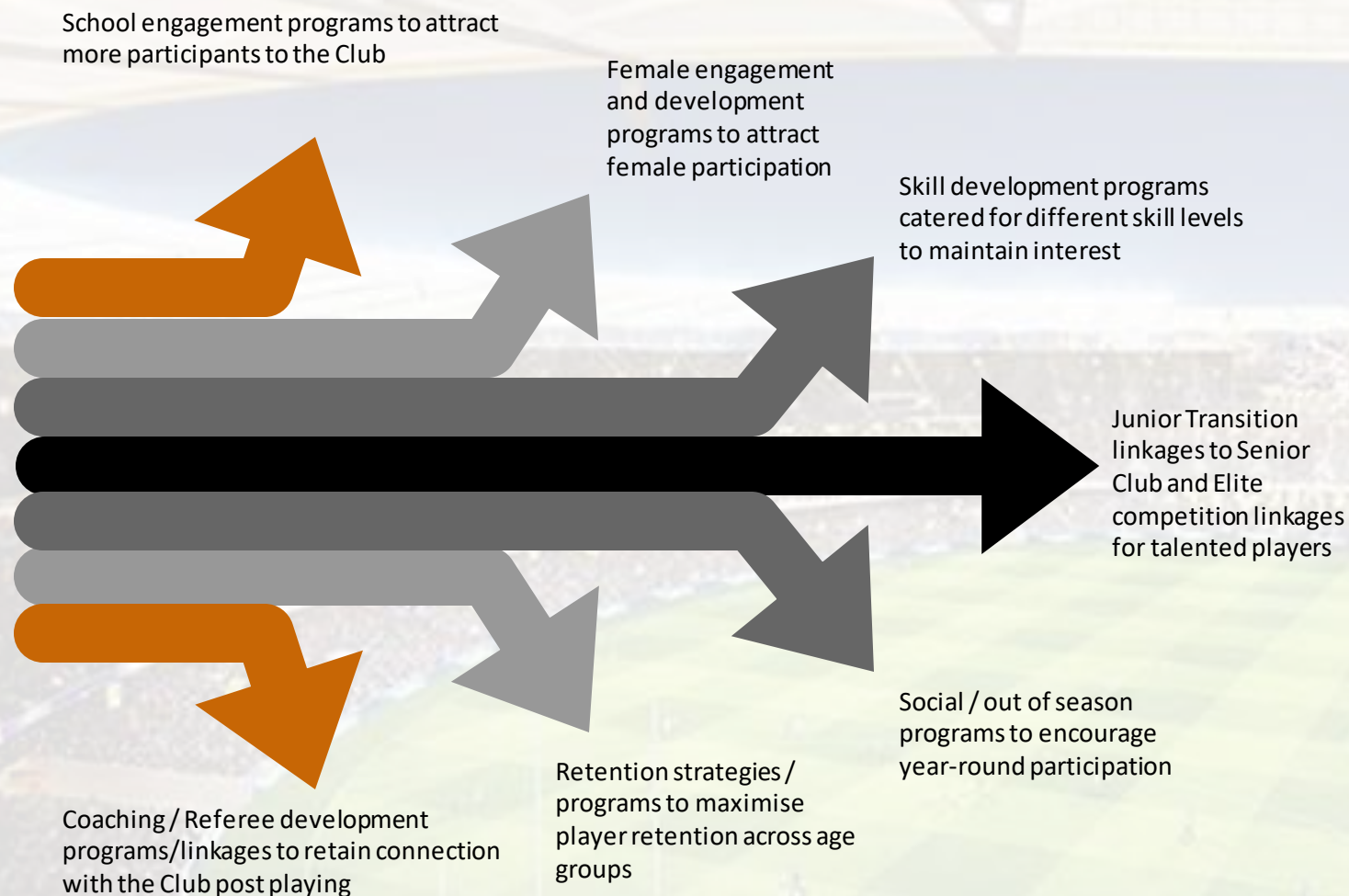
In order to achieve the objectives, we have identified five key areas of opportunity, captured below as strategic imperatives, which align with the Club's Vision and Mission.



Programs and Pathways

Submission 21

“Good coaches and quality programs are critical to player retention”



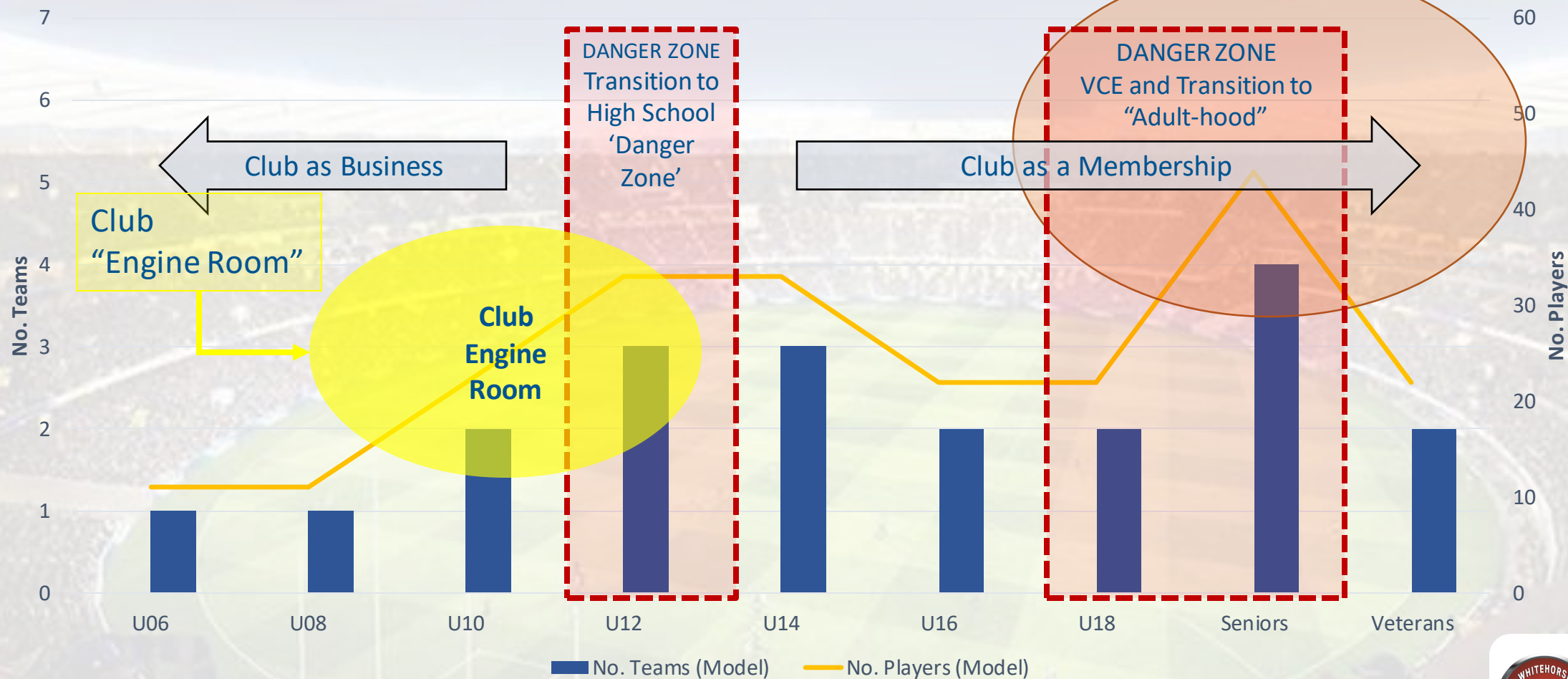
There is an opportunity to enhance the Club's ability to attract and retain talent through the development of pathways within the Club

Programs and Pathways

Submission 21

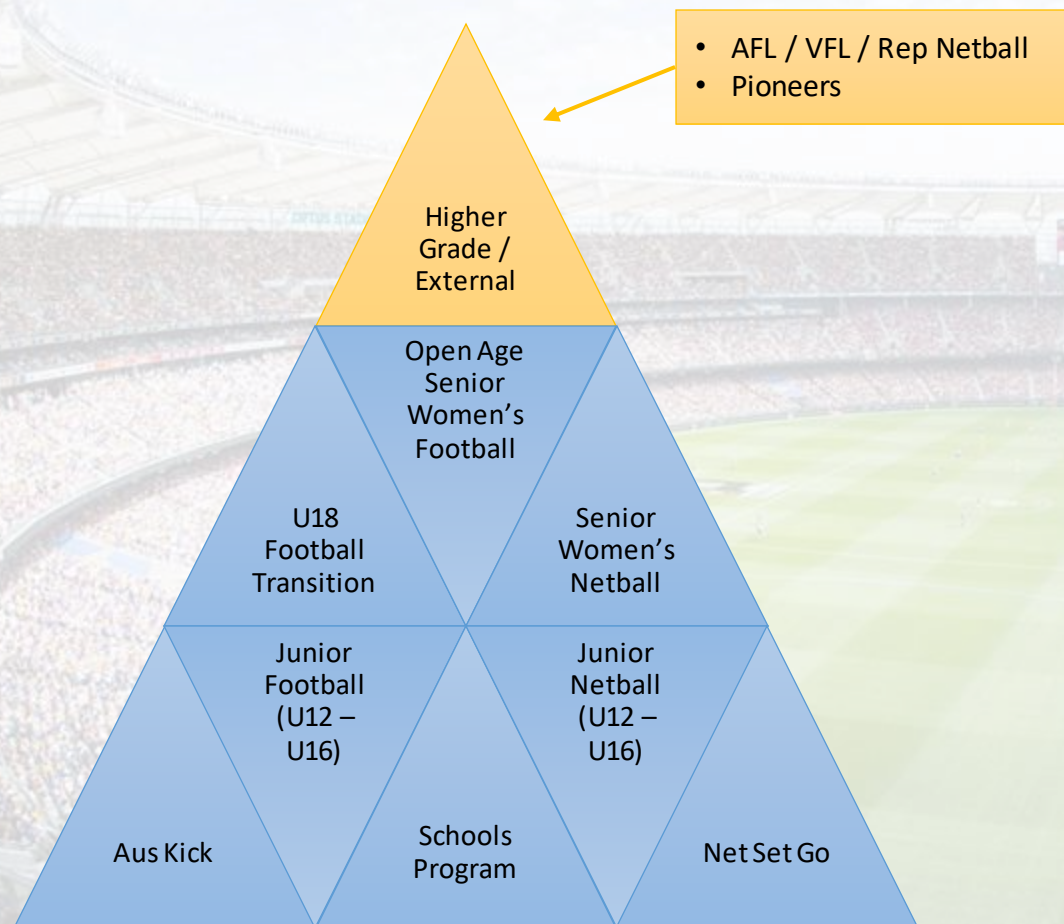
"Model for Netball will be similar but with its own specific "Drop-off Points"

Football Club Target Participation Quality and Volume



Program Structure

Submission 21



- Secure the future pipeline through schools engagement and discovery programs
- Retain and attract players through superior quality coaching and programs
- Homegrown “talent” graduating to senior teams (internal and external)
- Talented Players provided advancement through affiliates
- Generational renewal



Tactical Action Plan – Programs & Pathways

Submission 21

- Establish the team (Task Force)
- Develop Programs & Pathways Plan (“PPP”)
 - Review status quo of programs including drop off points
 - Agree model/target team structure
 - Document gap analysis between status quo and target structure
- Identify and agree mechanisms to measure and track progress

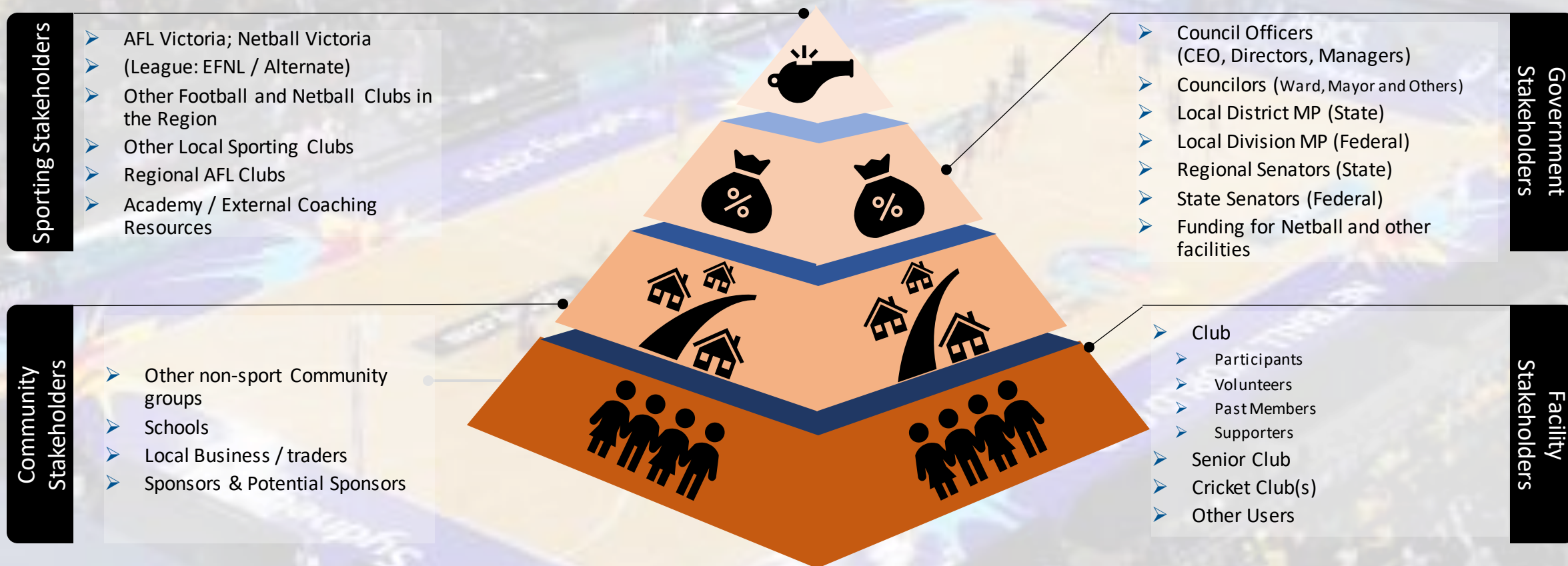
- Review personnel/role requirements as programs develop
- Review and refine programs to further increase participation and skill development
- Align activities with Engagement initiatives to ensure key stakeholders are engaged
- Develop non-playing pathways (i.e. umpiring, coaching, administration) within the Club
- Ensure activities align with other imperatives: Communication and engagement; Strategic relationships; Workforce Management; Female and inclusion

- ✓ Clear internal and external pathways established to support player, coach, umpire and administrator development
- ✓ Target programs established with increased participation from junior ranks and above
- ✓ Progress made towards achieving model team structures and participation levels



Strategic Relationships

Submission 21



Focus on building key relationships within the community to strengthen the club's strategic positioning and growth opportunities.

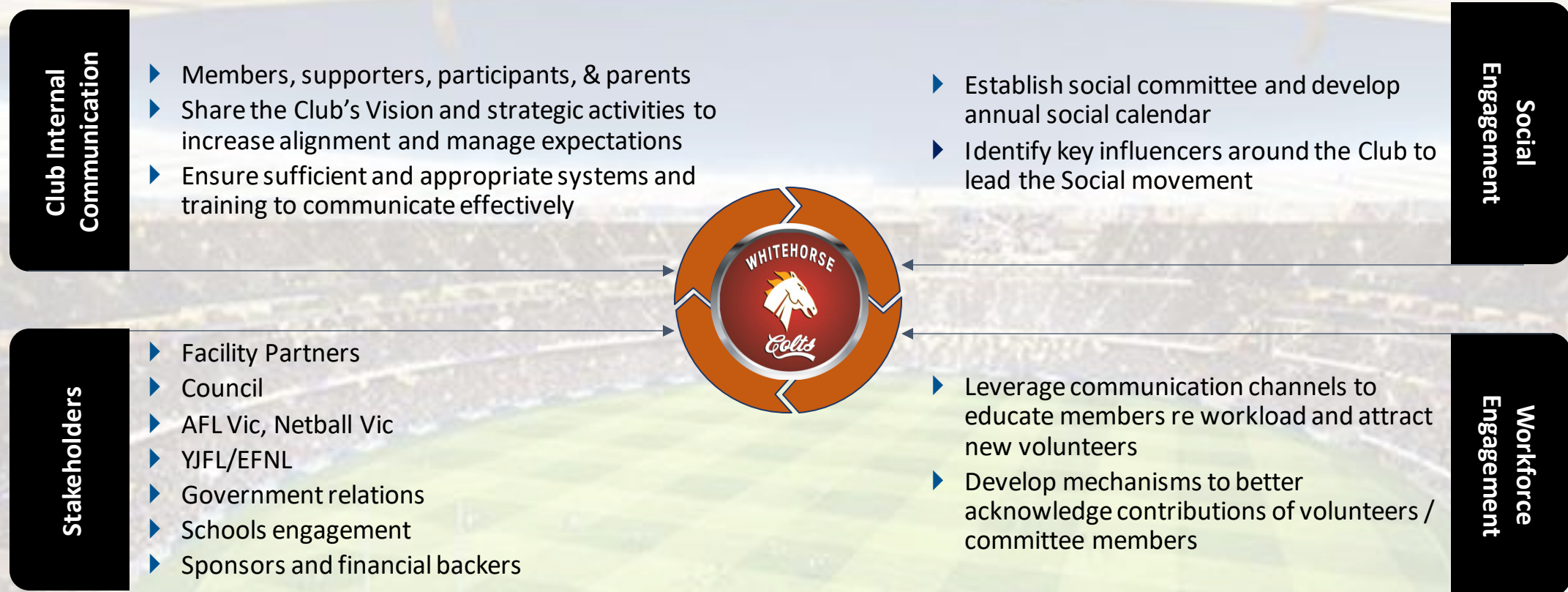


Tactical Action Plan – Strategic Relationships



Communication & Engagement

Submission 21



Identify and develop opportunities and channels to Communicate often and Engage deeply with the Club's Membership, Stakeholders and general community.

Tactical Action Plan – Communication & Engagement

- Establish the team (Task Force)
- Develop Club Engagement and Communications Plans (incl. Document gap analysis between status quo and target)
- Identify and agree mechanisms to measure and track progress
- Identify key stakeholders (including schools, businesses, Council)
- Identify key roles & responsibilities (e.g. school champions) and workforce needs

- Use events, programs and communications to develop inter-segment engagement (juniors, seniors, parents)
- Establish operating rhythm around communication activities and allocation of responsibilities
- Align Communication Channels
- Ensure activities align with other imperatives: (Programs & Pathways; Strategic relationships ; Female and inclusion; Workforce Management)

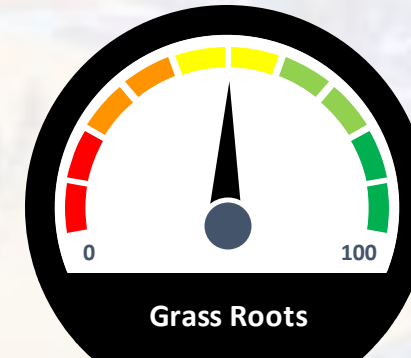
- ✓ Co-ordinated approach to operational communications and member engagement
- ✓ Increased community engagement across key stakeholder groups
- ✓ Greater engagement of members through events
- ✓ Greater volunteer engagement



"Netball accounts for 18% of Participants and 0% of Facilities"

Female And Inclusion

"Total Female Participation is 43%"



There is an opportunity to build on recent success and broaden the depth, breadth and quality of the Club's inclusive program in line with the recognized building blocks of successful frameworks in order to engage the diverse demographics of the community



Tactical Action Plan – Females and Inclusion

Submission 21

- Establish working group for Female Participation & Inclusion
- Identify key roles & responsibilities (e.g. school ambassadors, female role models) and their nature (e.g. paid/voluntary)
- Map out current female/inclusion participation levels
- Map out target program and structure for female / inclusion participation and set out gap analysis
- Develop Club communication plans to support strategy

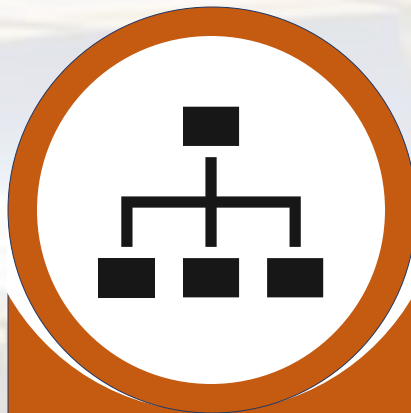
- Align activities with Engagement initiatives to ensure key stakeholders are engaged
- Implement initial programs to target increased participation at grass-roots level
- Start to develop non-playing female pathways within the Club (coaching, referees, admin)

- ✓ Well developed programs and pathways for female participants
- ✓ Equitable representation of females at across all layers of Club activity
- ✓ Female role models across the Club nurturing future generations of girls



Workforce Management

Submission 21



Workforce Structure

- ▶ Organisation Chart
- ▶ Identify and share lessons from leading clubs
- ▶ Identify areas of responsibility and required underlying workforce structure



Roles & Responsibilities

- ▶ Review and clarification of committee roles to streamline workflows
- ▶ Document responsibilities of various sub-committees and key positions



Volunteers

- ▶ Greater acknowledgement and promotion of contribution of volunteers
- ▶ Develop plans to encourage & attract new volunteers and train them



Succession Plans “The heir and the spare”

- ▶ Identify critical roles and develop back up plans
- ▶ Identify and develop potential successors
- ▶ Document key processes and activities to minimise key person risk

Undertake and support effective workforce management including committees, roles & responsibilities, volunteers, and succession planning.



Tactical Action Plan – Workforce

Submission 21

- Establish the team
- Identify key roles & responsibilities to support Workforce development
- Review current program
- Define the target program
- Document gap analysis between status quo and target Workforce
- Identify and agree mechanisms to measure and track progress

- Review personnel/role requirements as programs develop
- Review and refine programs to further enhance Workforce Management
- Ensure activities align with other imperatives: Programs & Pathways; Communication and engagement; Females and inclusion; Strategic Relationships

- ✓ Clear workforce management structures established to support player, coach, referee and administrator development
- ✓ Progress made towards achieving model workforce management structures and participation levels

3 months
(first 100 days)

Check-in

6 months

Check-in

1 year

Check-in

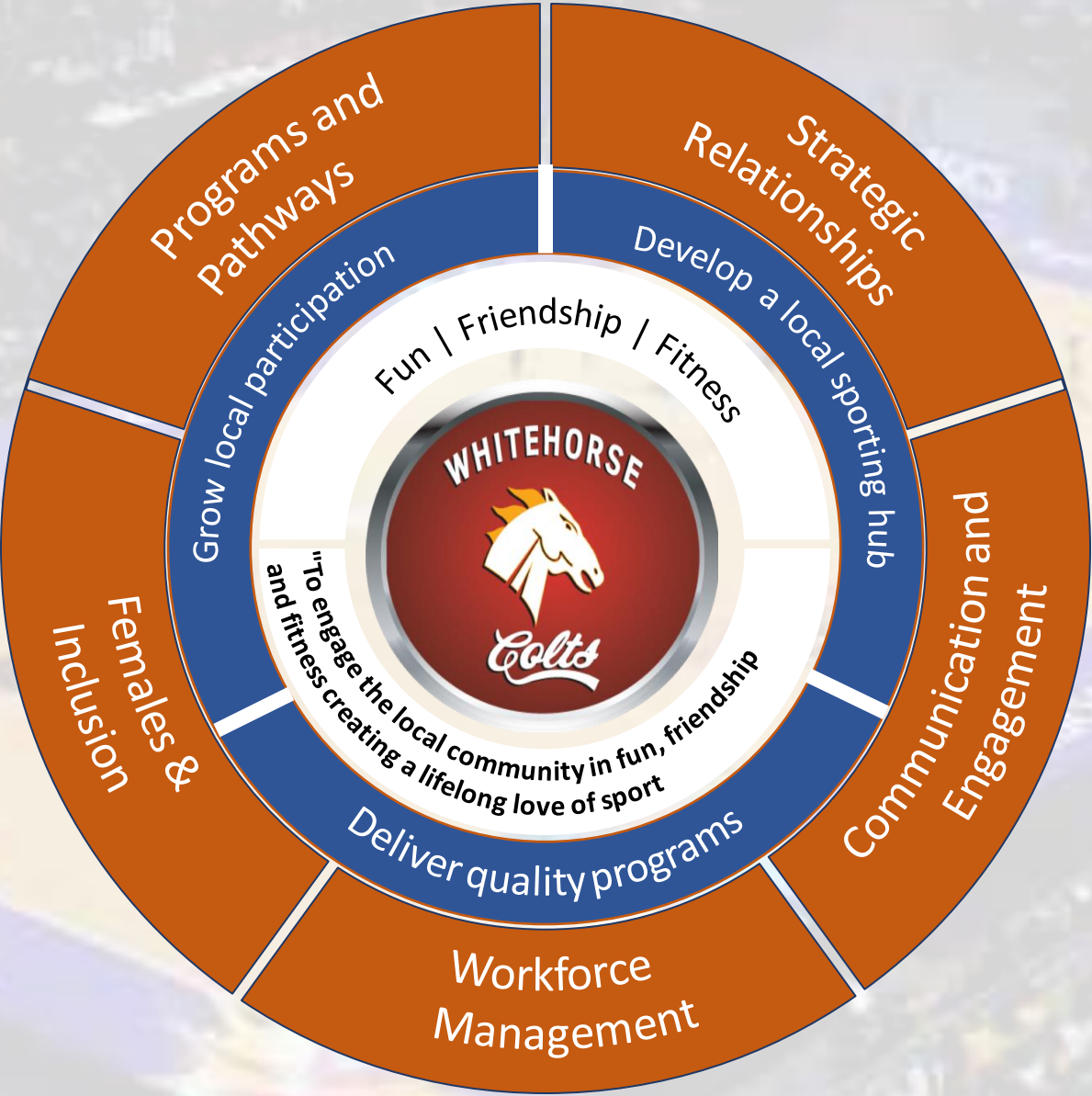
YEAR 2

YEARS 3 TO 5
OUTCOMES

- Identify programs including those targeted at areas of weakness
- Identify roles required and nature of those roles (paid/voluntary)
- Appoint necessary people to identified roles
- Tell the Organisation

- Continue to review and refine Workforce Management structures





Springfield Park Sports Ground

Facility Development Plan
September 2020



Springfield Park Sports Ground
Box Hill North, VIC 3129





Springfield Park Sports Club



Whitehorse Pioneers Football Club



Whitehorse colts Football Netball Club



Kerrimuir Cricket Club

- A friendly sports club that fosters community
- Family friendly, Welcoming & Inclusive
- A sports Club that is committed to grow



966 Participants

601 Juniors





221 Female Participants

Home to 3 sporting clubs

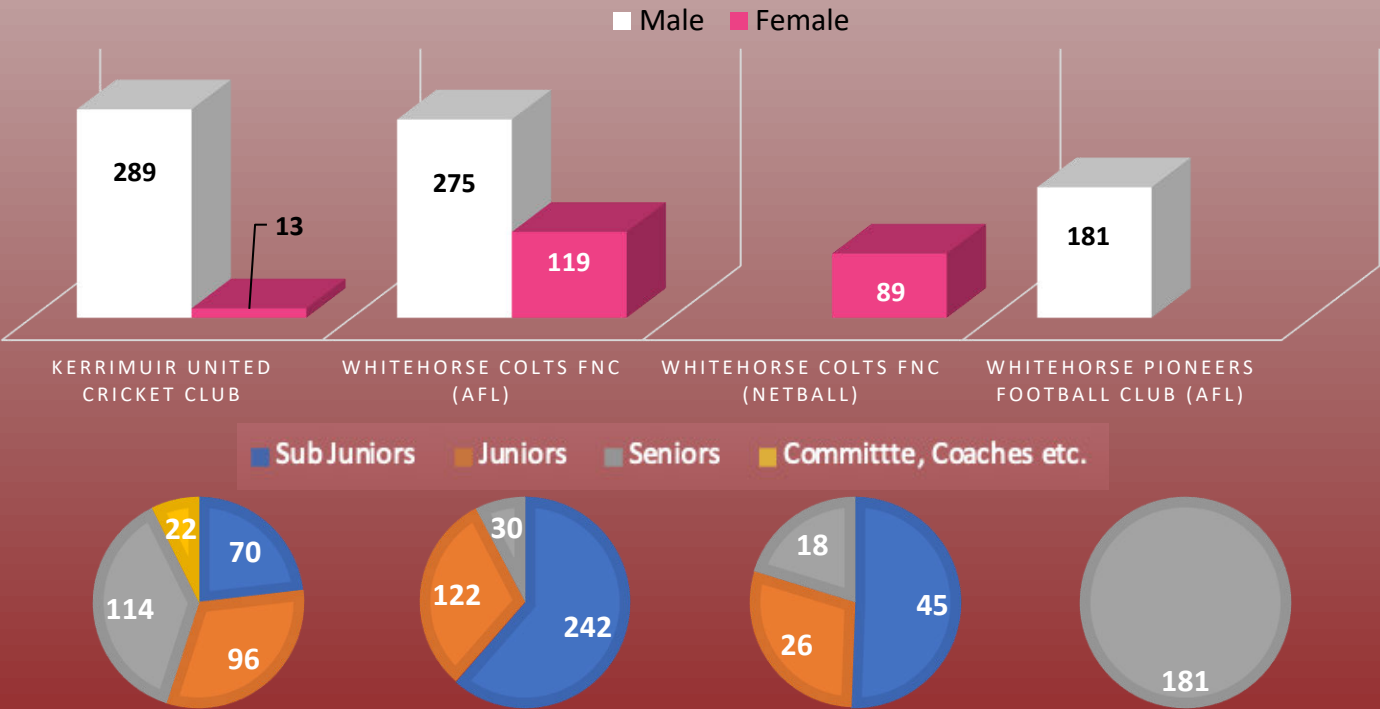




Venue for recreational activities

40% of the females at spring field park are forced to train and play off-site while all the boys play at home

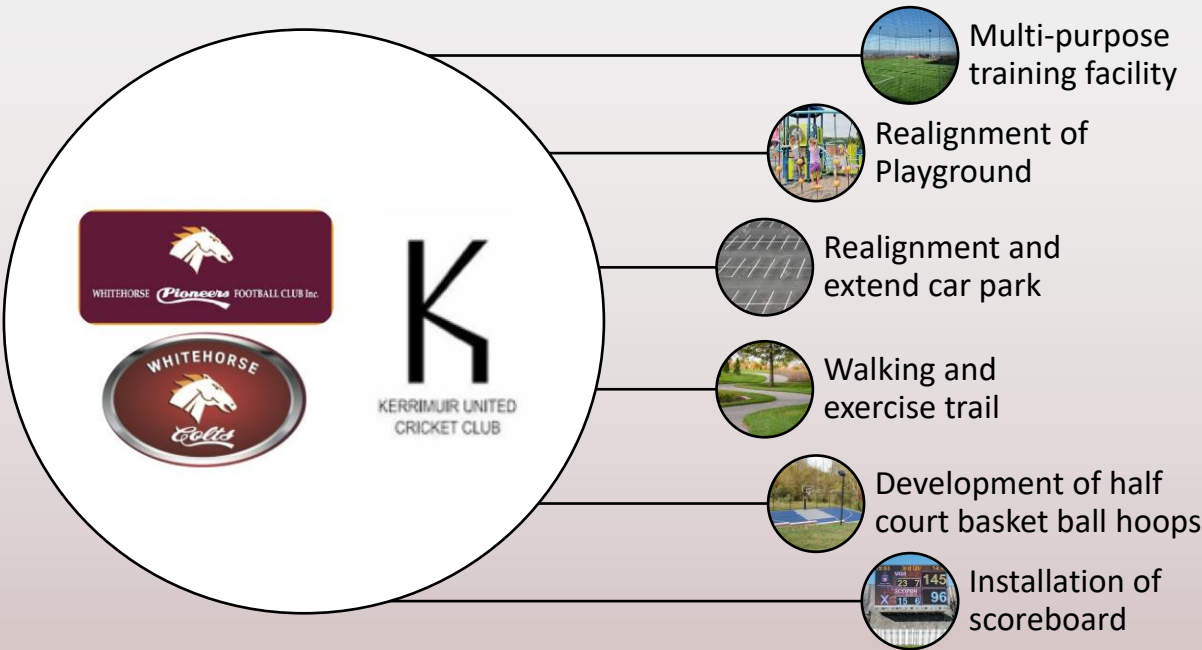
Club by numbers



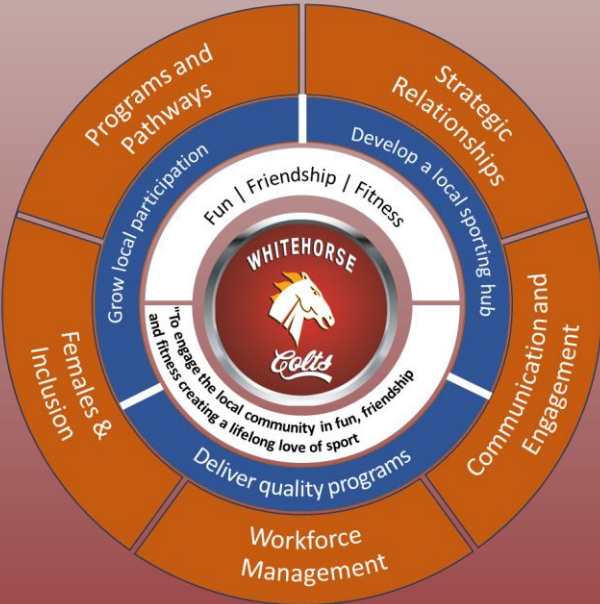
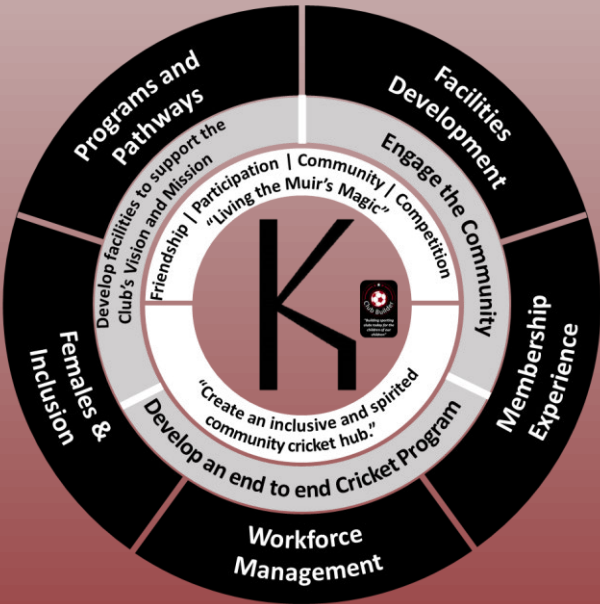
23% of participants are female. This number should be much greater with adequate infrastructure.



Facility Priorities

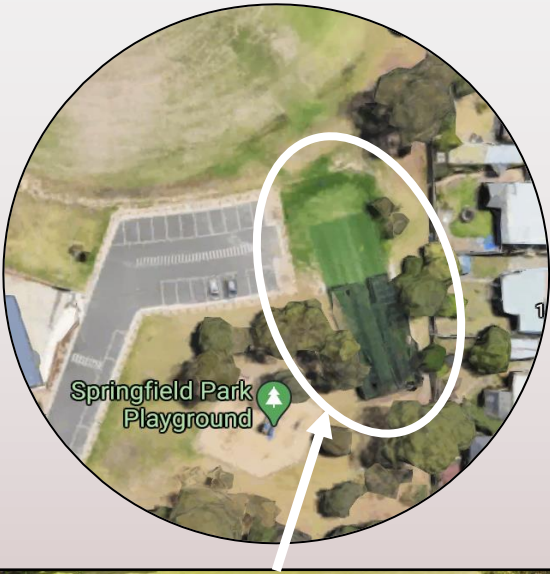


Strategic Plans



Need

- Increased use of the cricket nets has placed the facilities under stress.
- The existing Cricket Net Facilities are worn out, unsafe and do not support a broad and diverse participant base in their current format



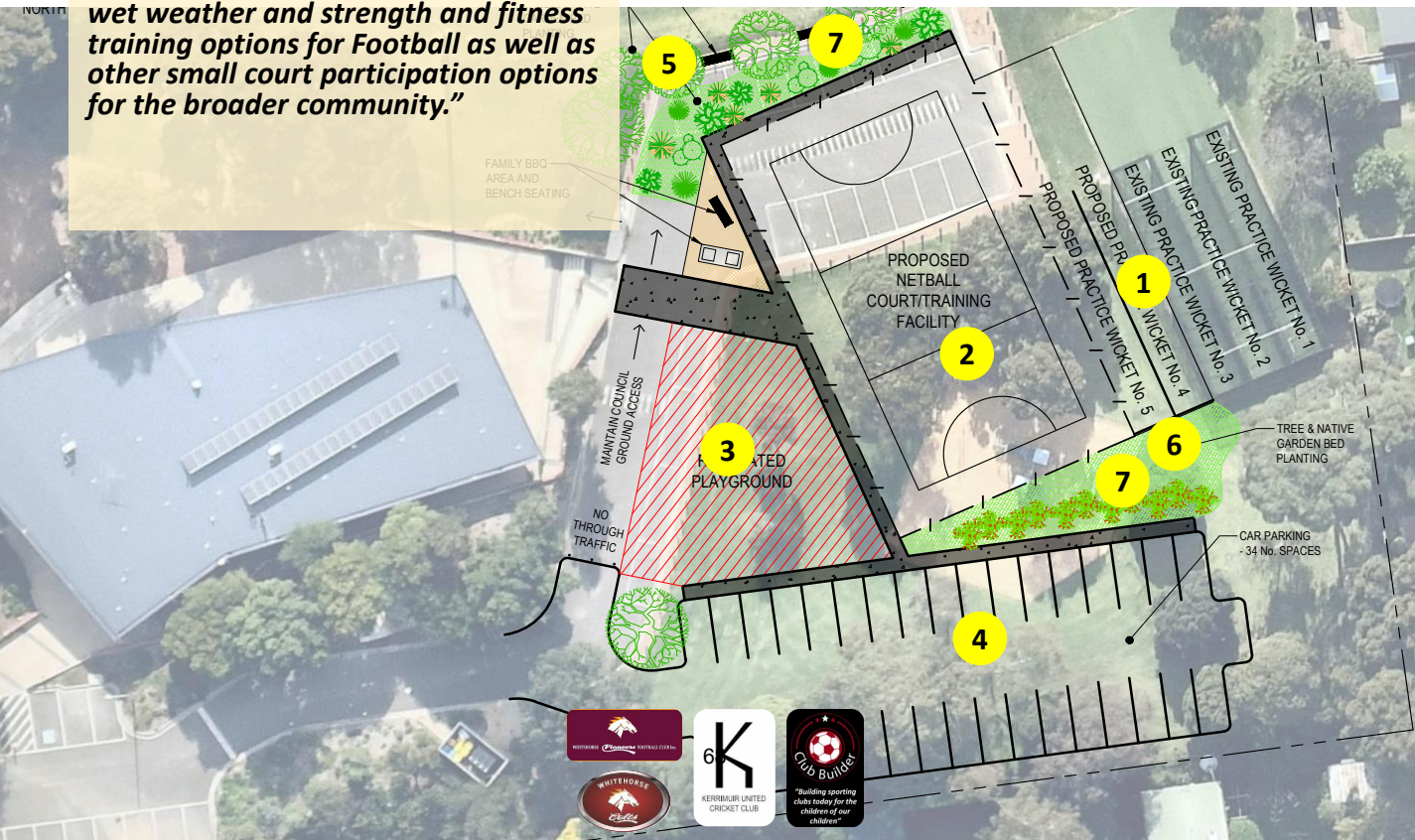
Opportunities

1. Extend Cricket Nets
2. Develop Netball Court
3. Re-site and upgrade Playground
4. Re-align and expand Carpark
5. Bench seating area
6. Equipment storage
7. Tiered landscape



“The Proposed Multi-purpose Training Facility will provide a home training capability for Netball, improved and safe training environment for Cricket, wet weather and strength and fitness training options for Football as well as other small court participation options for the broader community.”

Proposed Development Concept





A3



Need

Improvements to the existing facility to further enhance a family friendly and inclusive environment with safe training facilities for the participants

Opportunities

- 1. Veranda / Shelter on front of pavilion
- 2. Walking / exercise trail around perimeter of facility (incl. exercise equipment)
- 3. Install half-court pads with basketball hoops
- 4. Installation of Scoreboard
- 5. Move / redevelop coaching boxes to west side of West Oval
- 6. Install BBQ Facilities
- 7. Installation of synthetic wicket
- 8. External Storage



Value to Community

The proposed works will provide significant benefits to the broader community including:



All year, all weather access



Improved Community safety



Female Participation



Improved disability access



Supporting Cultural and community events



Fundraising for Charitable organisation



Multi-functional Pavilion



How to support this project

1. Write a letter of support for this project to president.kucc@outlook.com
2. Contact your local Ward Councillor, Mayor, State or Federal parliamentarian in support of this project.



SPORTS CLUB CONTACTS

Pat Marulli
Kerrimuir Cricket Club

Melissa Collard
Whitehorse Colts FNC

Anthony Nicholls
Club Builder 2035





Kerrimuir United Cricket Club Strategic Plan

September 2020



Vision

Friendship | Participation | Community | Competition
Living the Muir's Magic

Mission

*"Create an inclusive and spirited
community cricket hub"*

Overarching Objectives



ENGAGE THE
COMMUNITY



DEVELOP AN END TO
END CRICKET
PROGRAM

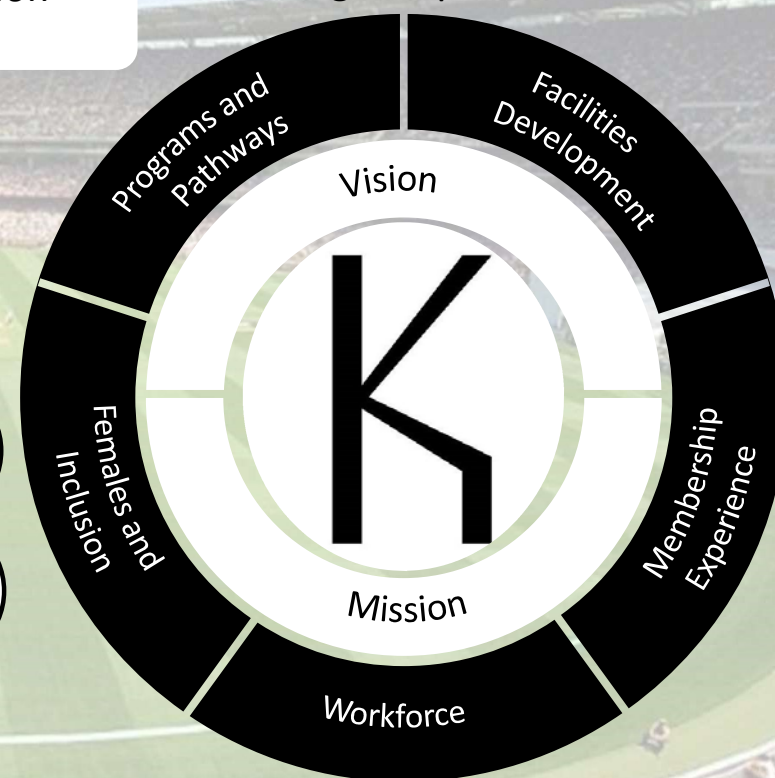


DEVELOP FACILITIES
TO SUPPORT THE
CLUB'S VISION AND
MISSION

Core Purpose



Strategic Imperatives



Our Vision

**Friendship | Participation | Community |
Competition**

Living the Muir's Magic

From the workshop discussion, it is clear that the strength of the club is in providing opportunities to play cricket, socialise and learn new skills in a friendly and inclusive environment.

Our Mission

**To create an inclusive and spirited
community cricket hub**

Overarching Objectives



Engage the
Community



Develop an End to
End Cricket Program

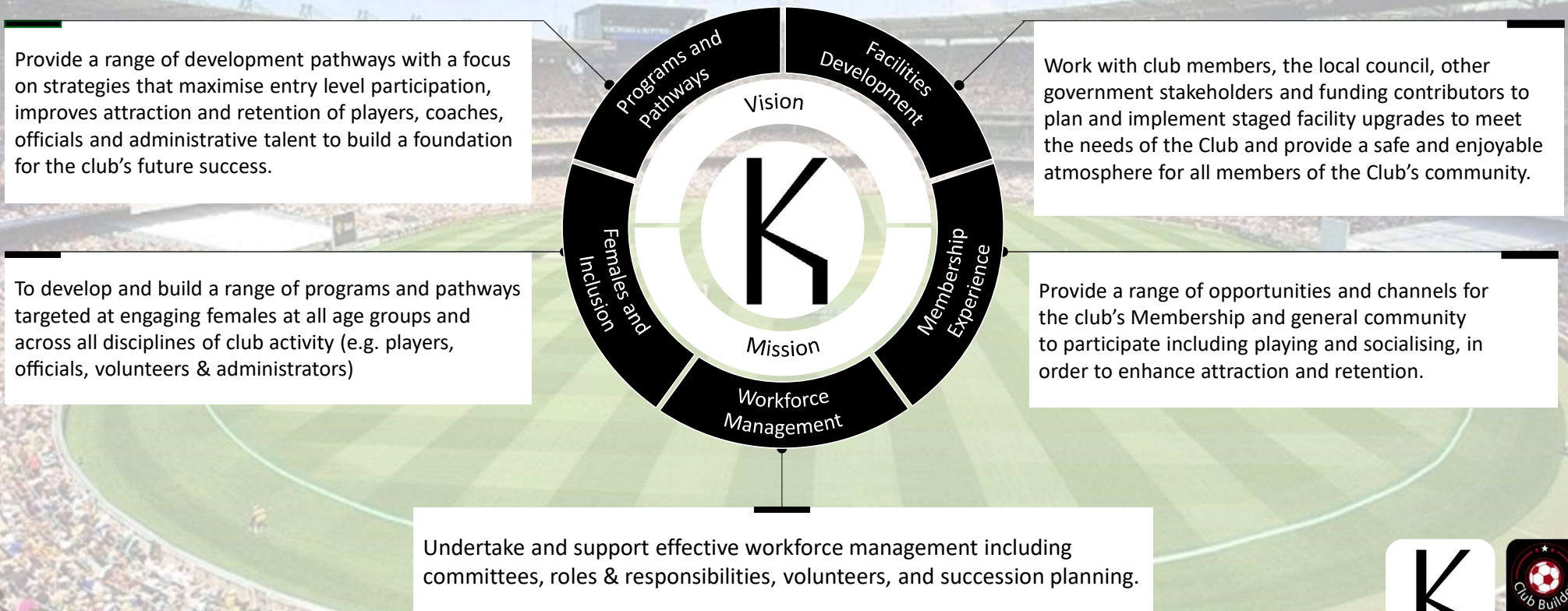


Develop facilities to
support the club's
Vision and Mission

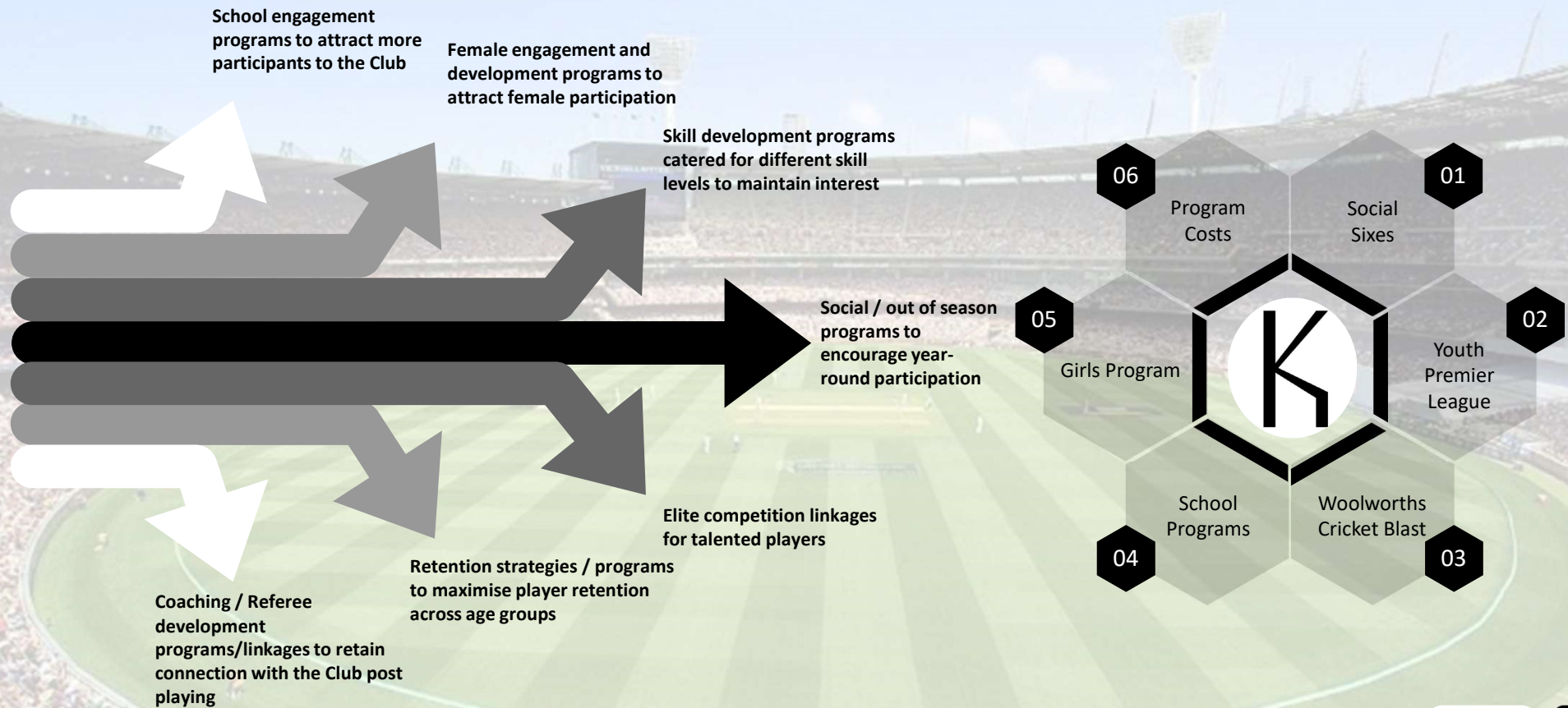


Strategic Imperatives

In order to achieve the objectives, we have identified five key areas of opportunity, captured below as strategic imperatives, which align with the Club's Vision and Mission.



Programs and Pathways



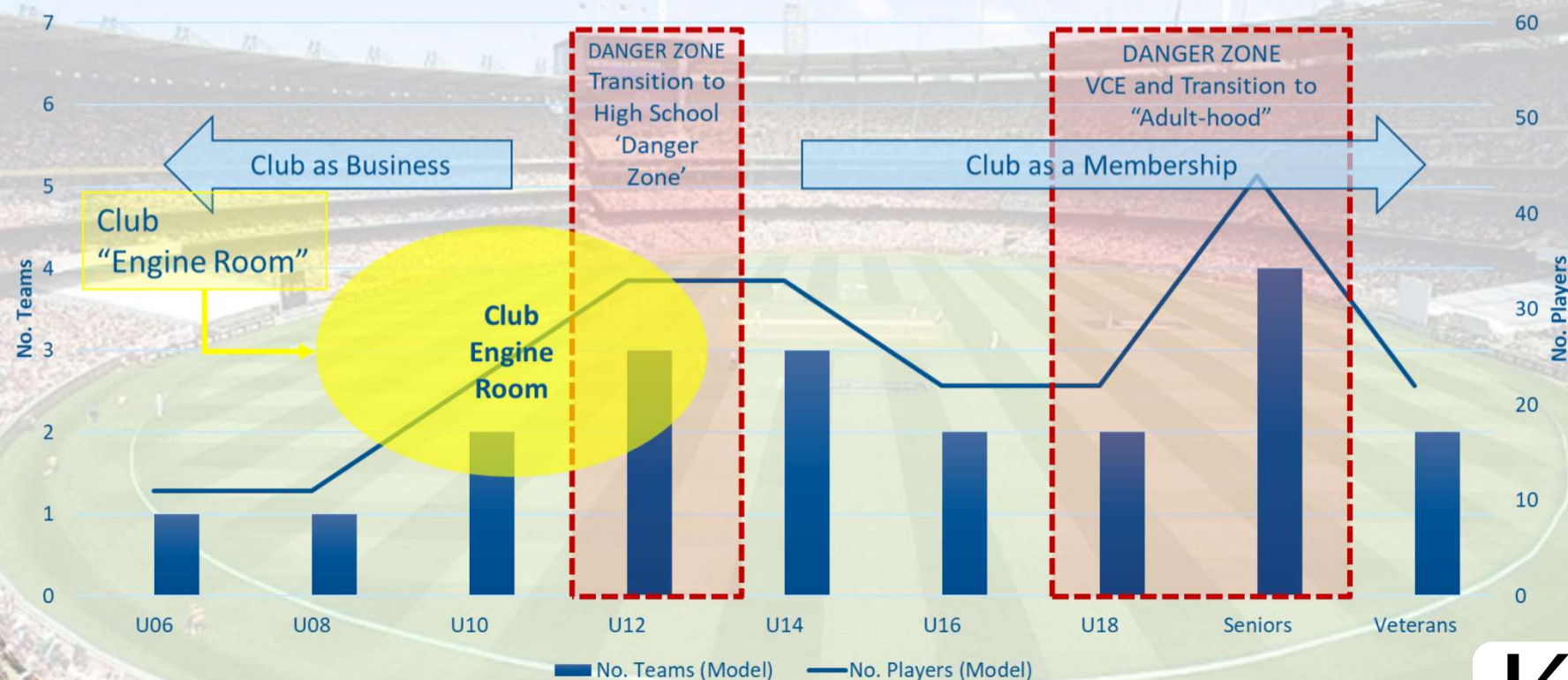
There is an opportunity to enhance the Club's ability to attract and retain talent through the development of pathways across the cricket life-cycle within the Club

Kerrimuir United Cricket Club | September 2020 | © 2020 ARWK Management Pty Ltd



Programs and Pathways

Cricket Club Target Participation Quality and Volume



Kerrimuir United Cricket Club | September 2020 | © 2020 ARWK Management Pty Ltd

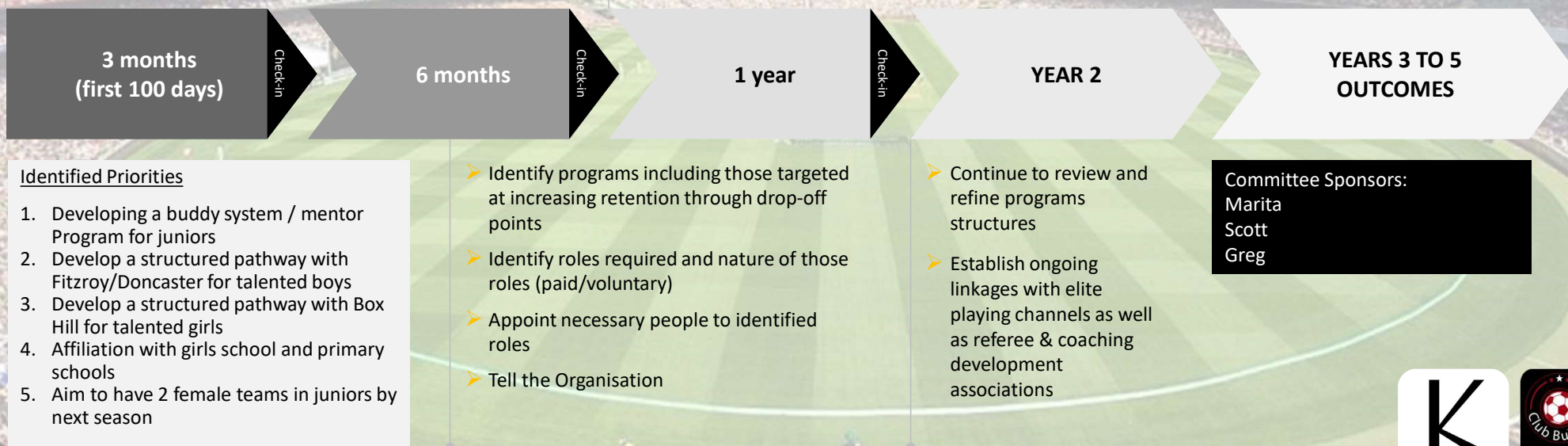


Tactical Action Plan – Programs & Pathways

- Establish the team (Task Force)
- Develop Programs & Pathways Plan (“PPP”)
 - Review status quo of programs including drop off points
 - Agree model/target team structure
 - Document gap analysis between status quo and target structure
- Identify and agree mechanisms to measure and track progress

- Review personnel/role requirements as programs develop
- Review and refine programs to further increase participation and skill development
- Align activities with Engagement initiatives to ensure key stakeholders are engaged
- Develop non-playing pathways (i.e. umpiring, coaching, administration) within the Club
- Ensure activities align with other imperatives: Facilities Development; Membership experience; Workforce Management; Female and inclusion

- ✓ Clear internal and external pathways established to support player, coach, umpire and administrator development
- ✓ Target programs established with increased participation from junior ranks and above
- ✓ Progress made towards achieving model team structures and participation levels



Facilities



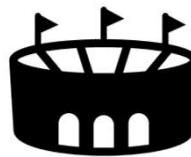
Training and Changing Facilities

- ▶ Multi-sport training facility to cater for increased training requirements
- ▶ Female Friendly Change rooms
- ▶ Gym, Recreational amenities such as ice bath, steam room etc



Playing Facilities

- ▶ Field Surface upgrade with proper drainage and water reticulation system
- ▶ Lighting upgrade to competition standards



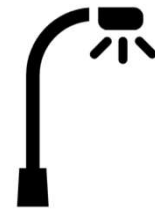
Access to Sufficient Facilities

- ▶ Sufficient sporting and non sporting facilities to accommodate the growing participation numbers
- ▶ Specifically requiring access to another oval for growth



Social Areas

- ▶ Clubrooms, lounge & bar
- ▶ Administration areas
- ▶ Fully equipped kitchen
- ▶ Facilities for community and social events



Bathrooms, Amenities and Accessibility

- ▶ Lighting
- ▶ Modern Female friendly and inclusive toilets
- ▶ Parents changeroom

To work with club members, the local council, other government stakeholders, and funding contributors to plan and implement staged facility upgrades to meet future needs.

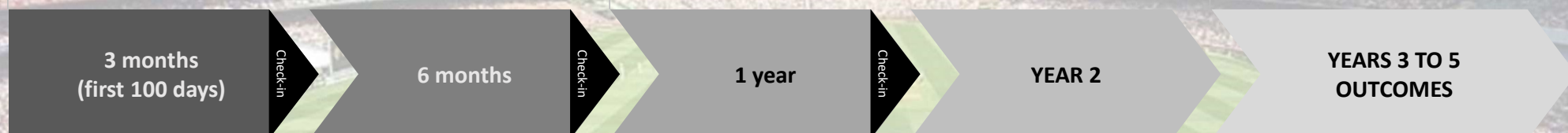


Tactical Action Plan – Facilities Development

- Establish the team
- Develop a Facility Development Plan / Master Plan
- Engage other clubs / community stakeholders
- Engage key council and political stakeholders
- Identify potential grant funding sources to investigate grant feasibility
- Identify and agree mechanisms to measure and track progress

- Finalise facility master plan with inputs from key stakeholders including council, contractors, advisors and funding participants
- Submit applications for any grant/funding mechanisms to support master plan
- Appoint contractors as required to commence activity on lower complexity/cost projects
- Ensure activities align with other imperatives: Programs and pathway; Membership experience; Workforce Management; Female and inclusion

- ✓ Development of a clear Facilities Master Plan
- ✓ Engaged and supportive council and MPs
- ✓ Detailed funding plans to enable facilities upgrades
- ✓ Completed work on highest priority facility upgrades



Identified Priorities

1. Identify and build relationship with political stakeholders and partner clubs
2. Facility Development Plan
3. Develop a Multi-purpose training facility to expand net capacity and facilitate netball and other training activities
4. Access to second ground
5. Veranda / Deck for seating
6. Ground enhancements

- Continued engagement with state and federal MPs as well as local council, nurturing relationships through Club events
- Determine council priorities & review against club's priorities
- Co-ordinate & advocate draft facility master plan with Council, including funding sources
- Consider appointment of external parties to support with council advocacy
- Tell the Organisation

- Appoint external parties and contractors as required to commence activity on more complex projects
- Commence work on major projects

Committee Sponsors:
Dean
Scott
Pat
Dave



Membership Experience

Skill development programs catered for different skill levels to maintain interest

Establish a regular program for surveying and understanding how members perceive the club

Social programs to encourage year-round participation and intergenerational engagement

Strategies & programs to maximise player retention across age groups

Support members to volunteer, give back, or influence decision-making for the Club

Provide a range of ways to participate in the club, including playing and socialising, in order to enhance attraction and retention.

Kerrimuir United Cricket Club | September 2020 | © 2020 ARWK Management Pty Ltd



Tactical Action Plan – Membership Experience

- Establish the team (Task Force)
- Develop Member Experience Plans (incl. Document gap analysis between status quo and target)
 - Identify and agree mechanisms to measure and track progress
 - Identify key stakeholders
 - Identify key roles & responsibilities and workforce needs

- Use events, programs and communications to develop inter-segment engagement
- Review and refine programs to further enhance Membership Experience
- Ensure activities align with other imperatives: Programs & Pathways; Facilities development; Workforce Management; Female and inclusion
- Review personnel / role requirements as programs develop

- ✓ Co-ordinated approach to enhanced Membership Experience
- ✓ Increased community engagement across key areas of operations
- ✓ Greater engagement of members and volunteers
- ✓ Performance against targets is measured and improving in line with (or better than) projections



Identified Priorities

1. Implementing a year long social calendar
2. Providing a female / family friendly experience
3. Engagement activities with past players and junior parents
4. Promoting the vision and building the brand
5. Develop Social Membership

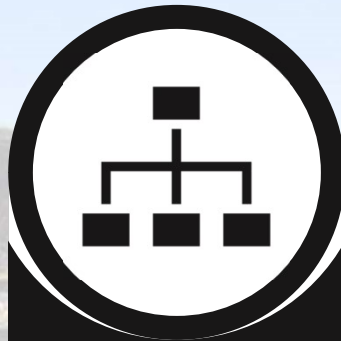
- Check-in with other Imperatives and coordinate
- Engage with key stakeholders as identified in Membership Experience Plan
- Identify programs including those targeted at increasing retention through Drop-off points
- Appoint necessary people to identified roles
- Tell the Organisation about our Vision & Strategy – “Live it”

- Establish annual review process including progress on strategy

Committee Sponsors:
Pat Marulli
Dave Phillips
Aemon Murphy



Workforce



Workforce Structure

- ▶ Identify and share lessons from leading clubs
- ▶ Identify areas of responsibility and required underlying workforce structure



Roles & Responsibilities

- ▶ Review and clarification of committee roles to streamline workflows
- ▶ Document responsibilities of various sub-committees and key positions



Volunteers

- ▶ Greater acknowledgement and promotion of contribution of volunteers
- ▶ Develop plans to encourage & attract new volunteers and train them



Succession Plans “The heir and the spare”

- ▶ Identify critical roles and develop back up plans
- ▶ Identify and develop potential successors
- ▶ Document key processes and activities to minimise key person risk

Undertake and support effective workforce management including committees, roles & responsibilities, volunteers, and succession planning.

Tactical Action Plan – Workforce

- Establish the team
- Identify key roles & responsibilities to support Workforce development
- Review current program
- Define the target program
- Document gap analysis between status quo and target Workforce
- Identify and agree mechanisms to measure and track progress

- Review personnel/role requirements as programs develop
- Review and refine programs to further enhance Workforce Management
- Ensure activities align with other imperatives: Programs & Pathways; Facilities Development; Membership experience; Females and inclusion

- ✓ Clear workforce management structures established to support player, coach, referee and administrator development
- ✓ Progress made towards achieving model workforce management structures and participation levels

3 months
(first 100 days)

Check-in

6 months

Check-in

1 year

Check-in

YEAR 2

YEARS 3 TO 5
OUTCOMES

Identified Priorities

1. Identify and document the roles and responsibilities at the club
2. Attract new members into volunteering roles
3. Communicate the roles that are available with a brief description
4. Identify potential heirs and implement succession planning process

- Identify programs including those targeted at areas of weakness
- Identify roles required and nature of those roles (paid/voluntary)
- Appoint necessary people to identified roles
- Tell the Organisation

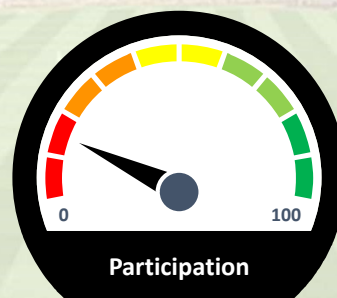
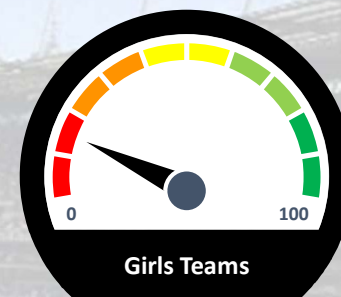
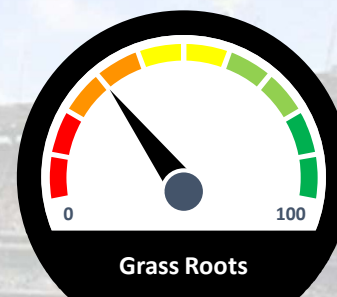
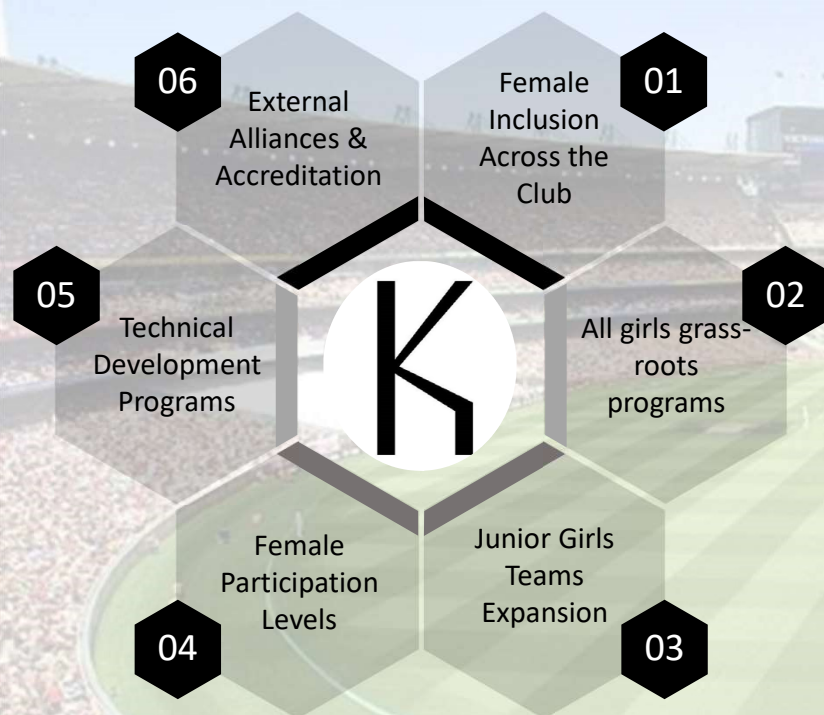
- Continue to review and refine Workforce Management structures

Committee Sponsors:
Greg Savy
Aemon Murphy
David Ryan (Giggles)



Female And Inclusion

Need to draw out Inclusion more including cultural, all abilities, veterans



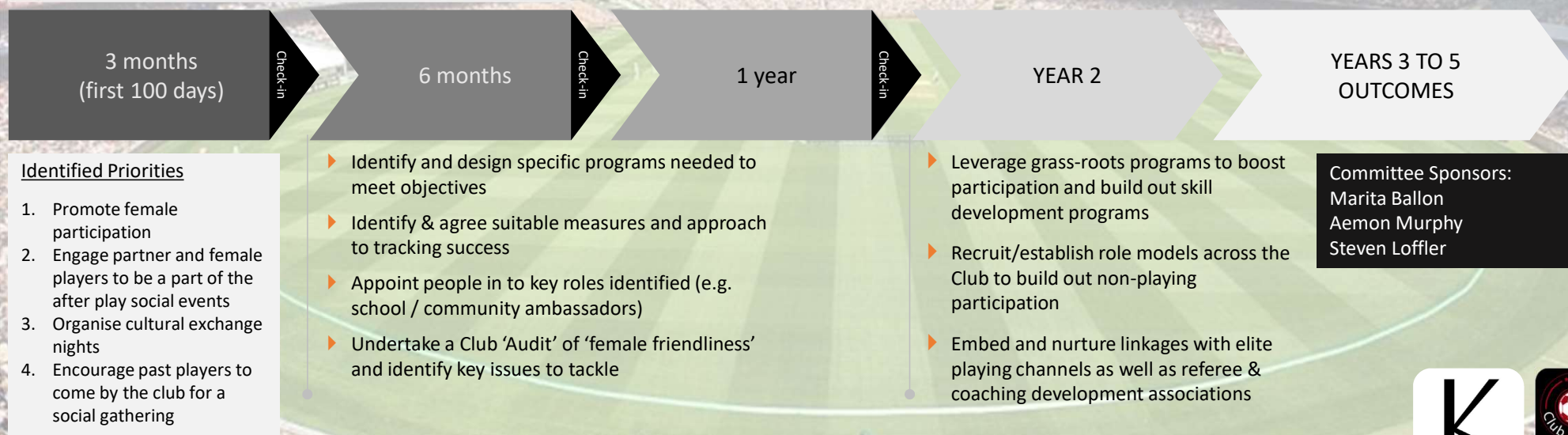
There is an opportunity to build on recent success and broaden the depth, breadth and quality of the Club's female cricket program in line with the recognized building blocks of successful female cricket frameworks.

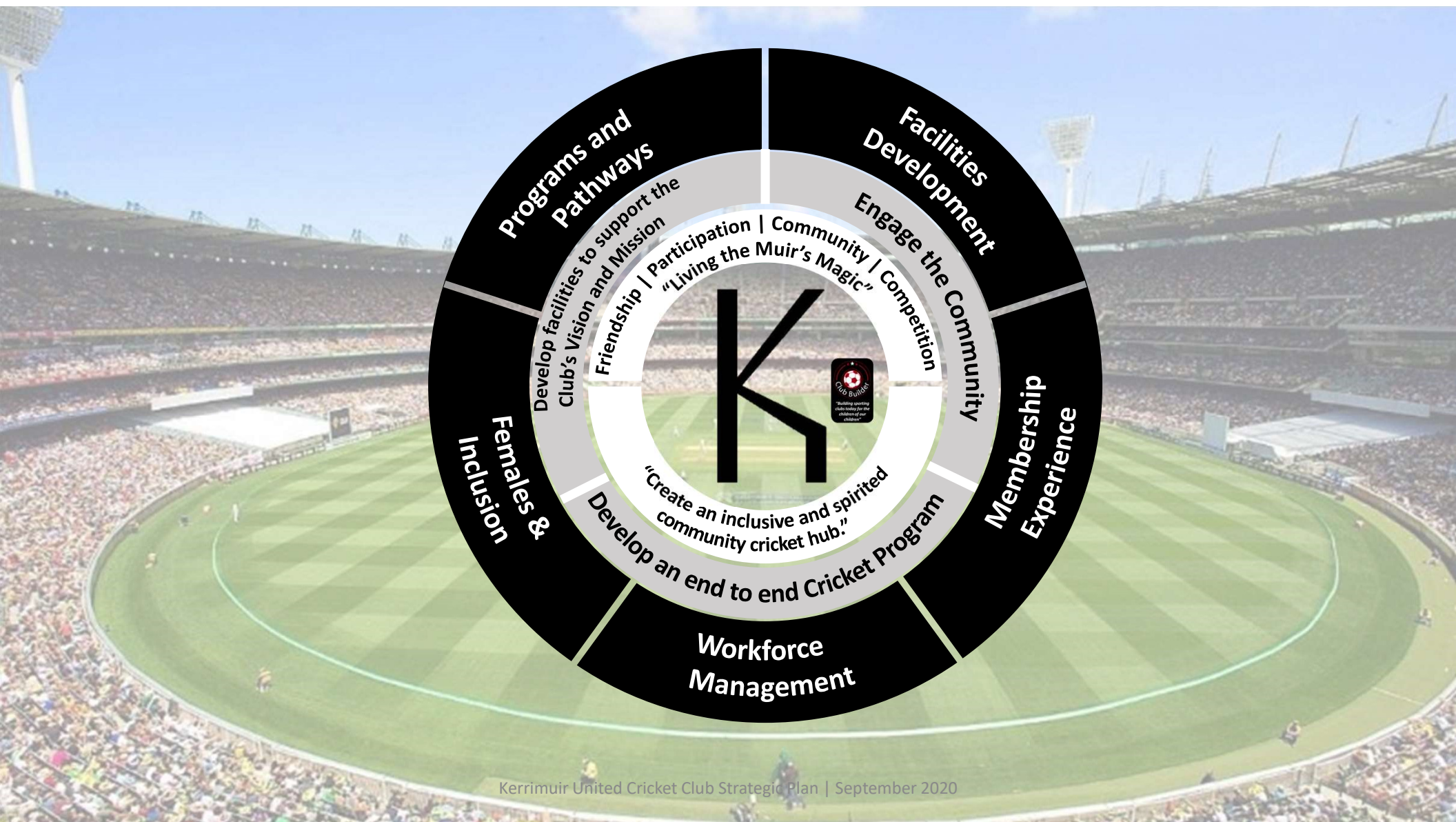
Tactical Action Plan – Females and Inclusion

- ▶ Establish working group for Female Participation & Inclusion
- ▶ Identify key roles & responsibilities (e.g. school ambassadors, female role models) and their nature (e.g. paid/voluntary)
- ▶ Map out current female/inclusion participation levels
- ▶ Map out target program and structure for female / inclusion participation and set out gap analysis
- ▶ Develop Club communication plans to support strategy

- ▶ Align activities with Engagement initiatives to ensure key stakeholders are engaged
- ▶ Implement initial programs to target increased participation at grass-roots level
- ▶ Start to develop non-playing female pathways within the Club (coaching, referees, admin)

- ✓ Well developed cricket programs and pathways for female participants
- ✓ Equitable representation of females at across all layers of Club activity
- ✓ Female role models across the Club nurturing future generations of girls



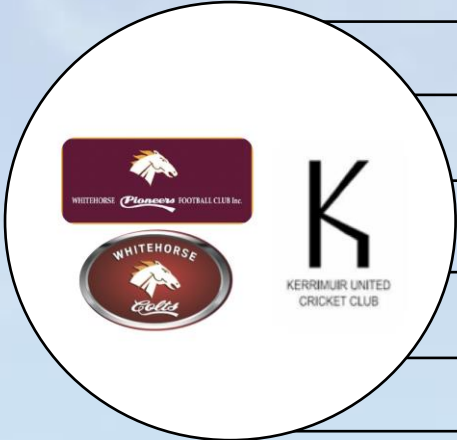


Kerrimuir United Cricket Club Strategic Plan | September 2020

Key Issues

- The existing playground and carpark configuration is unsafe
- Increased use of the cricket nets has placed the facilities under stress.
- Development of Netball facilities is a strategic priority with no current solution
- The existing Cricket Net Facilities are worn out, unsafe and do not support a broad and diverse participant base in their current format
- Lack of undercover seating
- A walking trail around the perimeter to encourage active lifestyle
- Lack of multi sporting facilities in the reserve
- Lack of scoreboard
- Western Oval is underutilized during Summer
- Club’s focus split between grounds due to shared facilities
- Facilities for our sons but not for our daughters
- Limited car parking options

Submission 21



- Multi-purpose training facility
- Realignment of Playground
- Realignment and extend car park
- Walking and exercise trail
- Development of half court basketball hoops
- Installation of scoreboard

“We have a facility for our sons but not for our daughters”

Key directions

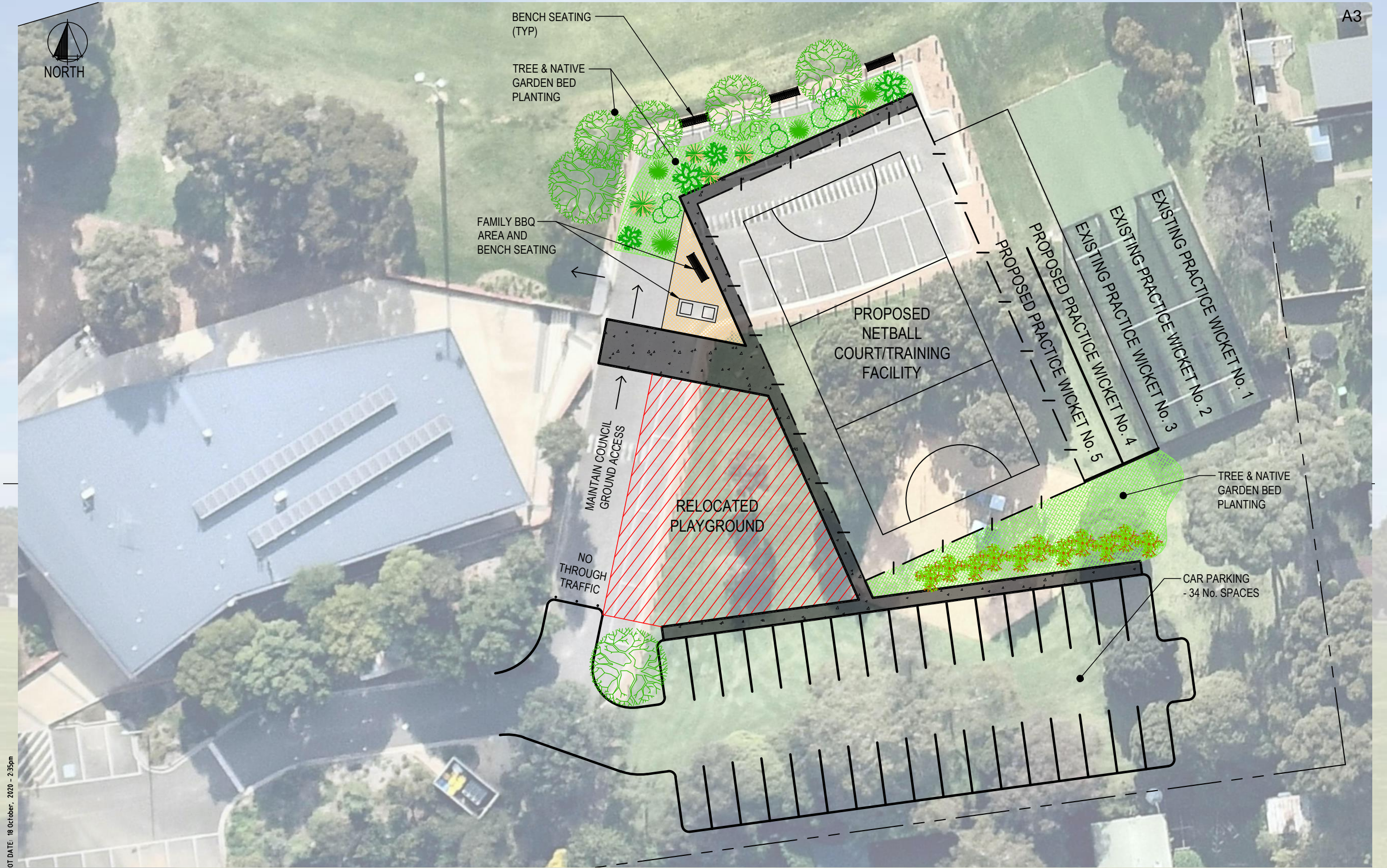
1. Extend Cricket Nets
2. Develop Netball Court
3. Re-site and upgrade Playground
4. Re-align and expand Carpark
5. Bench seating area
6. Equipment storage
7. Veranda / Shelter on front of pavilion
8. Walking / exercise trail around perimeter of facility (incl. exercise equipment)
9. Install half-court pads with basketball hoops
10. Scoreboard
11. Move / redevelop coaching boxes to west side of West Oval
12. Install BBQ Facilities
13. New Parking on Springfield Rd
14. Tiered landscape
15. External Storage
16. Install Synthetic Wicket

“An Inclusive Community Sporting Hub”



Proposed development plan

Submission 21



OT DATE: 18 October, 2020 - 2:35pm

From:
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: proposed budget
Date: Wednesday, 19 May 2021 4:17:16 PM

Dear Whitehorse Council,

I sent a submission in last budget. I am re-submitting my submission for the 2021/22 proposed budget. Nothing has changed since i sent my original submission other an increased urgency to offer better more gender equal facilities. Offering a safe and welcoming space for all to enjoy now and for many years to come. Below is the letter that I sent, still relevant and as important as ever.

Dear Whitehorse city Councillors,

My name is Beth Barclay, I am a resident of Springfield Ward in Mitcham. I am writing on behalf of the Heatherdale Cricket clubs pavilion upgrade to be considered in this coming financial budget year.

I was made aware last week at our Annual AGM that our desperately needed upgraded would now potentially not be making the cut. But I implore you to reconsider for a number of reasons.

Firstly, our needs as a club have not changed in relation to the necessity of the pavilion upgrade. In fact, I would argue that they have grown. Our club is well known to be a second family to many. We aren't just a place to learn to play sports and like many other sporting clubs, we rally around those in our community that are in need. We have supported our families in need, and in crisis, whether through physical illness, mental illness or even deaths. This is a safe place for many to come and be supported and we simply want to ensure that for the future, particularly during these uncertain times.

Secondly, I would contend that we have already been given the green light for this project. Our plans are ready, we still have the financial commitment from the state and all 10 Councillors voted unanimously to put this forward in the 2020/21 budget. And our needs have not changed with this covid crisis, they've actually grown. We are, as they say, "shovel ready".

Thirdly, this Pavilion upgrade could provide 50 plus local construction jobs. This is something that is extremely important for the Council to acknowledge as this upgrade would mean you would be employing and supporting multiple local businesses during a time where there is great need for employment.

These points are all important and I hope they are truly considered. However, there is still one over-riding and critical point that I don't feel that's still been made truly clear - this upgrade is required on the basic human right of equality. There is only one female toilet for players at the club and this is unacceptable in our current society. We simply do not have proper facilities to support our female sporting members (5 female teams currently and seven targeted for next season).

This has been raised multiple times and is one of the main reasons we were able to secure the funding from the state. I also believe even local government has recognised this. But I still don't believe anyone has understood WHY this matters so much and HOW IT FEELS to be a female cricketer at Hetherdale.

Let me explain by giving you a snap shot.

I have a Husband and three sons that play for Heatherdale. I also have a 14 year old daughter that now plays too. I've been at Heatherdale Cricket club for nearly 14 years and in the last few years the development of female cricket has been outstanding. Indeed, this evolution in the sport of cricket, a once male only dominated sport, has taken Australia by storm. And Heatherdale has gotten right behind it! My daughter is no longer a spectator at her Father and brothers games, but an athlete in her own right. And a bloody good cricketer at that. It's been a hugely positive experience for her, her team mates and even our whole family. But, despite all this this success, there is a glaring sexist divide for these girls. When the girls play, the one bathroom is the only private space, change room and toilet for both home and away female teams (as well as female spectators). It is demoralising to see the boys breeze past the line of girls queueing when they should be having cordial or sandwiches to fuel up, but are instead they are in line to use the one available toilet. In fact, at no sporting club in my experience have my sons ever queued for toilets before, during or after games. And we have played at many clubs including Vermont Football, Whitehorse Soccer, Heatherdale Tennis, and Vermont Vultures to name just a few.

Importantly, this is not just an awkward outcome to “manage” around. There is a large element of vulnerability that is not widely understood. These girls are vulnerable one week, every month, when they have their periods and have no appropriate facilities available. Adolescent girls are very uncomfortable when it comes to their periods. They are still learning about their cycle and how their body works. There is a lot of “trial and error” and most women will have a story from their youth that underlines this very point. We have young girls playing cricket, often wearing white pants, that are new to periods. I sure you this is absolutely a big deal. It is further complicated because we now have 5 female cricket teams and are looking at adding 2 more next season (over 50 female cricketers). Not only are we not looking after this aspect properly for our own girls, but we also let down visiting teams. Its simply not good enough and is inconsistent with the pride we should have in our Whitehorse community.

Last season when my daughter was playing, one of the girls from the visiting team came off to use the ladies toilets. For those reading this submission that don’t get periods themselves, if you are running around playing a sport you often need to change your pad or tampon more often. For this poor girl while waiting in line to use the bathroom she leaked right through her white pants. It was completely mortifying for her, she was probably only 15 years old and nothing could be done at that point. Her shirt didn’t pull down long enough to cover the blood stain, so to add insult to injury she had to wrap a Heatherdale hoodie we provided (her opposing team) around her hips and she then had no choice but to leave her teammates to go home. This could have, and should have, been avoided if we had the proper facilities for her to look after her basic needs. I hope we can all agree that girls shouldn’t miss practices or games over getting there periods, but they can and will continue to do so at Heatherdale. Every female player knows they cannot rely on the toilets being available to them when they need them. This makes them extremely vulnerable and they shouldn’t be. We can and should do better by them.

On Thursday nights, Heatherdale Mens Seniors have asked the Womens Senior team to do joint training night to create more inclusivity. This joint training night is to promote that we are all one as Heatherdale cricketers. It should be nothing but positive, however the inequality is glaringly obvious straight after training finishes. Supper is provided, yet the women are still queuing up at the toilets before they can eventually join the men. It is clear that some of the men feel bad about this, but its not their fault that the building hasn’t caught up to meeting the basic needs of women in sport.

I could have just done a submission with bullet points and kept things politically correct, but I want to be plain speaking here because I think these girls deserve that much. I am hoping that with this new insight the Council shows support to the girls at Heatherdale and won’t support a world where they live in fear of leaking through their cricket whites during a match. I wanted to speak on this potentially embarrassing issue so that we don’t continue to ask these girls, these strong female cricketers, to wrap a hoodie’s around their waist any longer on game day or at practice.

In summary, there are real immediate needs that make the Hetherdale Cricket Club pavilion upgrade important. These include the importance of the club in the community, the creation of jobs and the fact that there has already been unanimous support for the project. But, more importantly than these factors, I hope you will ensure the construction of this facility to ensure equality and decency for the growing number of female cricketers we have joining us at Heatherdale Cricket Club.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I am very happy to come and speak more about this at the meeting if that helps. I think we need to give a voice to this inequality(due to a lack of facilities) that can be addressed through approval of an improved pavilion.

Best regards,
Beth Barclay

•

From: [Cr Ben Stennett](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Budget submission from Gay Gallagher of the Yarran Dheran Advisory Committee
Date: Wednesday, 19 May 2021 4:39:29 PM

Good Afternoon

- Yarran Dheran is indeed a very significant passive recreation area. In fact, it is arguably the most valuable bushland reserve within the City of Whitehorse and should be an asset of which the Council is proud. It certainly has greater biodiversity than is found at Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. The Mullum Mullum Creek provides a significant wildlife corridor leading to the Yarra River at Templestowe. The Mullum Mullum Valley provides habitat for a range of native species, including echidnas, kangaroos and swamp wallabies. In that way, Yarran Dheran is unique within Whitehorse and its values should be recognised by Council. Yet they appear not to be recognised. Its values make it a far more valuable asset to Whitehorse than is the Blackburn Lake Sanctuary which is not part of a corridor but simply represents a piece of isolated remnant bushland surrounded by suburbia and without the connectivity Yarran Dheran presents, attractive though Blackburn Lake Sanctuary is, and much favoured by the City of Whitehorse as it is.
- Yarran Dheran is not a suburban park. It has Whitehorse wide importance and is regionally significant. Yet it has received minimal support from the City of Whitehorse, in remarkable contrast with the seemingly unlimited funds made available to Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. I say this while recognising and respecting the commitment and hard work undertaken by the local community of Blackburn Lake Sanctuary that have made that Reserve what it is. Our issue is not one of resentment. It is one of seeking recognition from Council for Yarran Dheran and for equality in terms of how you fund us. Mr Daw is correct in stating that Yarran Dheran has been given the status of 'second fiddle' to other areas in Whitehorse, including Blackburn Lake Sanctuary, and as such, has been given a much lower priority in planning and policy development for parks, open space and recreation resources.
- Yarran Dheran's status as 'second fiddle' is further demonstrated in Mr Daw's comment that in 2015-16 the proposal to develop a Master Plan for the Reserve was indicated by Council to not be a priority at that stage but that it would be initiated in about 2 years. Needless to say, this has not yet happened. It is also worth noting that it is fifty-four years since the Reserve was last used as the Municipal Tip. Is it possible that the tip face in Yarran Dheran, in the middle of a valuable Council asset, represents the last tip face in urban Melbourne that has not yet been remediated by its local Council?

These philosophies which appear to underpin Whitehorse's views about Yarran Dheran have been reflected, almost shamelessly, in the so-called Refurbishment and Upgrade project for which the detailed 'design' stage is currently under way.

- Council funded a feasibility study for the upgrade of the Yarran Dheran Information Centre in 2017. This resulted in a Draft Scope of Works which included a range of works that the committee put forward intended to improve the capacity of the building to support its functions as an Information Centre after many years of neglect. Apart from basic upgrades to the kitchen area, no significant works have been undertaken to this

building since it was built by the City of Nunawading in 1980. Forty-one years is a long time indeed and the building shows its age. Despite its limitations, the current committee has worked hard and shown great commitment to Council's Terms of Reference for parkland committees, which include the objective to foster a love of the bushland environment in the community. We have done this through the conduct of a range of environmental presentations as well as supporting the Parkswide Environmental Education program. The Rangeview Bush Kinder program is an exemplary example of its kind and we have been very happy to provide the resources to establish and maintain the program. Most of the funds required for this have come from external sources, and not from Council.

- We find however, that the works now determined to be undertaken in the upgrade have little to do with improving the capacity of the building to function as an Information Centre, as a venue for committee organised environmental events or as a venue for the Parkswide Environmental Program. Instead, virtually all of the budget is allocated to bringing the building up to DDA compliance and upgrading the toilets. Council has responsibility to maintain its buildings. This work should have been undertaken long ago. It may be seen as a somewhat cynical move by Council to fund building maintenance works through a project such as was intended in the feasibility study. Indeed, in 2017 it was also determined that the roof needed to be replaced because of water ingress at various times and there was discussion about replacing the verandah in the courtyard at the same time, given that its height does not comply with safety standards. We had asked at that time that roof replacement should include systems to trap rain water which could be diverted to flush through the ponds. The ponds have been largely stagnant since the early 1990's despite their role in providing habitat for long-necked turtles and frogs. We are now told that the roof is deemed to be not needing replacement for another 7 years.
- The revised project brief which has been developed by Council officers does not include provision of ample storage space, critical though this is to such a small building and the uses to which it is put. Council has shown reluctance (given that the budget has been allocated to building improvement works) to make provision to properly house the digital microscope in the main room rather than in the crowded storeroom. This would overcome the various disincentives for its use and allow it to be used as a critical component in the learning experience for all groups. The kitchen needs better consideration for hygiene factors than Council officers have been prepared to give it. At the last project meeting, there was still no commitment by Council officer to provide such a basic item as a broom cupboard! As a final indignity, Council officers seem to have moved costs for works that had been already underway in 2020 so as to include them in the budget for this project. This includes the external information board and the proposed external storage facility for working bee tools.

Evidence from this project would certainly seem to confirm that the status of Yarran Dheran is held to be 'second fiddle' by Council and minimal funds should be allocated to it by Council. It is time for Council to address this perception within the community. Discussions to take place over the Council Budget Weekend give Council the opportunity to do that.

We are most disappointed with how the project brief has changed. The allocated funding is completely inadequate for what Councillors, Council officers and the committee had

in mind in 2017 and it is essential that this be reviewed. The only acceptable solution would seem to be that the works that have now found themselves in the detailed 'design' stage go ahead as proposed and that a further budget be developed (and more accurately costed) for the following year to complete the works originally intended to upgrade the Centre.

Yours sincerely

Gay Gallagher
Hon Secretary
Yarran Dheran Advisory Committee

From: [Cr Ben Stennett](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: Submission to the 2021/22 : Draft Council Budget
Date: Wednesday, 19 May 2021 4:42:28 PM

From: Gay Gallagher
Sent: Tuesday, 4 May 2021 5:40 PM
To: Cr Ben Stennett
Subject: Draft Council Budget

Hello Ben, I hope you are well and are not too overwhelmed by the sudden arctic weather after the lovely weekend we just had

I wondered if you could arrange a wording change to p. 29 of the draft budget under **Services Open Space Maintenance**

Parkside is responsible for The service also provides an education program on ecological and environmental issues largely centred on Blackburn Lake Sanctuary.

It would be more accurate if 'and Yarran Dheran Nature Reserve' were added to the final sentence. Yarran Dheran has played an important role in the environmental education program for some years now together with Blackburn Lake Sanctuary. We would like Council to recognise this as such recognition plays an important role in the way Council might recognise the value of, and improve its support for Yarran Dheran which is a major asset for the Council.

I could not find any reference in the budget to allocation of funds in the 2021-22 budget to implement the improvements to the Information Centre as developed in the detailed design stage of the feasibility study for improvements to the Information Centre recently completed by Council. Could you let me know if this work is going ahead in the 2021-22 budget please?

regards

Gay Gallagher
Hon Secretary
Yarran Dheran Advisory Committee

**BLACKBURN & DISTRICT
TREE PRESERVATION SOCIETY INC.
P.O. Box 5, Nunawading, 3131**

19 May 2021

Mr. Simon McMillan
Chief Executive Officer
Whitehorse City Council
annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au



Dear Mr. McMillan

Tree Society Submission re the Whitehorse City Council Draft Budget 2021-2022

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on the draft Budget 2021-2122 on behalf of the committee and membership of the Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society Inc.

The society accepts Council's invitation that this submission (or an edited version if required and upon request) be read aloud at a Special Committee of Council when required.

Whitehorse Council has implemented a number of initiatives concerned with the city's natural environment over the past year including:

- **Developing a new Urban Forest Strategy 2021-2031 for Whitehorse**

The Strategy, released for community consultation in May 2021, is a laudable document containing five Objectives and an Action Plan to achieve 27% tree canopy cover for Whitehorse by 2031 and 30% by 2050. Currently the city's tree canopy cover is around 18% and decreasing at a rapid rate (it will be less than 10% by 2040 unless drastic action is taken).

Therefore, in the Tree Society's view, the Strategy needs to be supported as a major stand-alone initiative to help achieve Strategic Direction 3 – 'Protect and Enhance our Open Space and Natural Environment' (refer page 27 of the draft Budget paper).

However, no reference to the implementation of the Strategy is apparent in the budget document.

Whilst the major initiatives listed under Strategic Direction 3 are worthy including a review of potential waste service charge (\$2.1 million) and the play space renewal program (\$1.95 million), implementing the city's urban forest strategy easily surpasses them in importance and urgency. To achieve 27% tree canopy cover by 2031 there must be a generous ongoing budget commitment coupled with allocation of personnel to achieve this goal.

The society applauds the quality of the community consultation and engagement in the development of this Strategy, with special thanks to Council Officers Millie Wells, Belinda Moody, Steve Day, Grant McAdam, Ian Moodie and Callan Walker for organising a very successful webinar in early May. The webinar was interesting, illuminating, very professional and demonstrated the passion and expertise of our council officers in relation to preserving and enhancing the tree and vegetation canopy/cover and natural environment within Whitehorse.

This passion needs to be rewarded by funding the project such that achieves its stated objectives and targets.

- **The Whitehorse Environment and Sustainability Reference Group (ESRG)**

The Tree Society congratulates Whitehorse Council on its initiative to establish a community-based panel - the Environment and Sustainability Reference Group (ESRG).

A Motion to set up the ESRG was passed unanimously at Council on 30 November 2020 and its primary role will be to:

'... provide advice on a wide range of sustainability and environmental matters for an initial two-year period until April 2023, at which time the arrangement will be reviewed ...'

The ESRG was scheduled to be established by April 2021 and with the group be made up of two Councillors (Cr. Cutts and Cr. Liu), the General Manager City Development, four council officers (two from each Division and including one Council arborist) and eight community members. Community members are appointed for a two-year period and meetings will be held quarterly.

The Tree Society is concerned that as of mid-May 2021 the Terms of Reference have not been finalised or circulated and nominations for community positions have yet to be advertised

No budget allocation has been made for this initiative.

- **The Whitehorse Tree Assistance Fund**

The Tree Assistance Fund supports residents to manage the health of trees on their property that have been identified as exhibiting significant features and protected via a Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO) 1, 3 or 5. Owners of eligible trees which are protected by the VPO can apply for a grant of up to \$1,000 for works that support the health of the tree. A total of \$40,000 was made available in the 2020-2021 Budget. This was the first year the Tree Assistance Fund has operated, and it is hoped that it will continue into the future. **There is no mention or line item for this worthy project in the budget papers.**

- **An Ecological Connectivity Study for Whitehorse**

Urban Ecologists from Melbourne University are working with Whitehorse City Council to develop an Ecological Connectivity Map. The study will help to gain a better understanding of how different animals move around and beyond the municipality to access their needs to survive and thrive. In collaboration with community and Council, a selection of focal species that represent a range of habitat and dispersal requirements will be selected to guide the analysis of the study.

The study will help to identify and prioritise actions to improve connectivity in Whitehorse.

Is this study supported by funding in the draft 2021-22 budget papers?

- **Tree Census for Whitehorse**

Late last year Whitehorse Council sought tenders to undertake a census of the city's trees. The city has approximately 75,000 trees that council manages, and each tree will be identified, photographed, its arboricultural characteristics described and a \$ value calculated by using a recognised tree valuation tool.

Also gaps and potential sites for future tree plantings will be identified.

The project will be used to manage tree assets and deliver efficiency in undertaking street tree management programs including maintenance, electric line clearing and planting. The many benefits of trees in the urban landscape are well known - improved amenity, shading and ambient temperature mitigation, source of habitat, promotion of psychological well-being, reduction of heating and cooling costs for homeowners, carbon sequestration, oxygen production, pollution mitigation and finally trees in the urban landscape boost the value of homes.

There is no line item for the tree census in the Budget.

Comments concerning specific sections of the Budget of interest to the Tree Society

- **The Whitehorse Street Tree Program**

\$5.9 million has been allocated for parks, open spaces and streetscapes in the budget papers (refer pages 76, 82 & 83) with \$300,000 allocated for street tree renewal and \$150,000 for tree planting in the city's parks.

It remains a fact that the budget allocation for the Whitehorse street tree program has remained stagnant at ~ \$300K per year for the past nineteen years.

The society is alarmed that many of our local streets are relatively devoid of street trees, in fact some streets have barely half the desired number of at least one reasonably sized tree on each nature-strip.

This funding stagnation/reduction for the city's street tree renewal program needs to be rectified as a matter of urgency.

In addition, it is disappointing to note that the overall budget allocation for parks, open spaces and streetscapes will decrease by almost 11% in real terms over the next four years with a projection of \$5.256 million allocated in the 2024-2025 year (down from \$5.9 million in this Budget).

- **Whitehorse Council's Public Open Space Reserve Fund**

It is pleasing to note that Council has allocated \$4.48 million from the Public Open Space Reserve Fund to part fund qualifying capital works projects (refer page 78) and specifically the provision for strategic land acquisition has been increased from \$1.93 million last year to \$3 million (refer page 79).

However, it is disappointing that Council will retain this \$3 million annual allocation for the three years from 2022-23 to 2024-25. The allocation should be increased incrementally to reflect increasing land prices and demonstrate effective management of the fund to achieve positive quality of life outcomes for open space-impooverished suburbs and communities.

Currently the POSR fund is worth around \$50 million, and the society urges Council to utilise the fund more vigorously, particularly for those areas within the city with a severe shortage of open space including Box Hill. The Tree Society has lobbied long and hard for Council to:

- Convert the council-owned Box Hill Bowling Club site into a small park or large plaza to benefit Box Hill's high-rise dwellers and
- Purchase the historic Box Hill Brickworks site, clean it up and develop the land as a municipal park and recreation centre by amalgamating the park with Surrey Dive, Surrey Park and Aqualink Box Hill

- **Significant Landscape Overlay No. 9 (SLO-9)**

Council and the community need to continue to lobby the State Government to convert the SLO-9 from temporary to permanent status within the Whitehorse Planning Scheme. The society urges that this important initiative requires specific budgetary details including actions to be taken, information on the administration of the amendment and specific \$ funding in 2021-22.

SLO-9 establishes Whitehorse-wide tree controls in residential areas not yet covered by a Significant Landscape.

- **ParksWide Funding**

ParksWide, the department responsible for the maintenance of the city's parks, gardens and sports fields, has been underfunded for years and the tree society has advocated for a 'fairer crack at the budget bucket' for ParksWide since the early 2000s.

However, this year's Budget provides for cautious optimism.

In the seven years from 2014-15 to 2020-21 the ParksWide budget allocation increased 31% from \$9.18 million to \$12.03 million.

This represents an average increase 4.4% per year.

The allocation of \$13.39 million in the 2021-22 Budget represents an 11.3% increase in one year which is to be applauded.

One hopes that this increased allocation is enough to allow ParksWide staff to implement the initiatives discussed earlier in this submission.

In conclusion, it has been evident for many years that Council supports the funding of 'big ticket' items over the city's parks, open spaces, streetscapes and passive recreational pursuits.

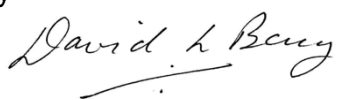
The resurgence of passive recreation embraced by the city's residents in the 'lockdown' period caused by the Covid-19 pandemic is testament to the value placed on these indispensable community assets.

Furthermore, Council resident surveys have consistently emphasised that passive recreational pursuits such as walking, cycling and enjoying the city's parks and open spaces are the most popular outdoor activities relished by the majority of Whitehorse residents when compared with active sporting activities.

Only minor adjustments are made in this Budget to address the needs of the bulk of Whitehorse residents. Overly generous funding allocations for sporting pavilions (last year \$6+ million, this year \$10 million), the Morack Golf Course (last year \$5.2 million, this year \$6.5 million) and the Whitehorse Centre (last year \$7.1 million, this year \$18 million with another \$40-50 million projected for 2022-23) are still favoured by Council over the city's natural landscape.


Thank you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David L. Berry". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

David Berry
President, Blackburn & District Tree Preservation Society Inc.

From: [OurSay Team](#)
To: [Annual Budget](#)
Subject: New survey response to Proposed Budget 2021/2022
Date: Wednesday, 19 May 2021 10:59:12 PM

	Survey New Response	2021-05-19 22:59:04
---	---------------------	---------------------

Hi Client,

We have received a new response to your survey titled Proposed Budget 2021/2022

Checkout response below:

1. Please provide your full name:
→ Andrew Schwarz
2. Please provide your email address (if not provided, Council will not be able to provide a response):
3. Are you submitting feedback on behalf of a group or organisation?
4. What group or organisation are you representing?
5. Please provide your feedback on Council's Proposed Budget 2021-2022. If you have an attachment to include with your submission, please email your submission to annual.budget@whitehorse.vic.gov.au
→ Nothing in the proposed budget to introduce glass recycling as a separate service. Waste disposal is a high expense and it would seem that separating out glass would reduce waste costs. Well done on finally implementing a green waste collection that includes food. This will significantly reduce costs to landfill. Please review the formatting of the budget document. I understand it needs to be weighty and detailed, but please try and summarise with more charts. Can you also please review your chart types. 3D graphs aren't cool, useful or helpful and distract the reader from the content. Please consider "ink space" for charts to improve readability and impact of the message.

6. Do you wish to speak to your submission at Delegated Committee of Council on 15 June 2021?

7. Are you happy for your name to be included in a public report to Council on submissions received?

→ 1 True

8. Would you like to be notified of future Budget consultations?

→ 1 True

From:
To:
Cc:
Subject: Draft Budget: a much welcome increase in funds for Easy Ride Routes
Date: Monday, 24 May 2021 12:14:34 AM

Dear Mayor and Councillors

My thanks to Councillors and City of Whitehorse officers for the development of the draft 2021 - 22 Budget

It comprises a significant and very welcome increase in funding Active Transport, principally \$460,000 for Easy Ride Routes

The draft budget has also provided \$200,000 for upgrade to the Bushy Creek Trail

It is a significant start of the journey to create the Easy Ride Network, a key feature of the Whitehorse Cycling Strategy 2016

Now the wider community and cyclists will start to appreciate that some real progress is happening to create a bicycle network.

Whitehorse Cyclists, with 320 plus members, will certainly welcome this start.

Just recently I spoke to members of Whitehorse Cyclists at one of their meetings about the proposed Easy Ride Network. They readily appreciated that the proposed Easy Ride Network would provide low traffic stress routes that would enable cyclists to safely travel throughout Whitehorse without having to use arterial roads

They recognise that the ERN will do for cyclists what the arterial roads does for motorists (that is, to easily traverse Whitehorse)

Many members of Whitehorse Cyclists are cognisant that the Easy Ride Network will benefit the 60% of the Whitehorse Community ie the 'interested but concerned' (110,000 of Whitehorse) who otherwise would be reluctant to ride. (a major focus for delivering bike outcomes in the Whitehorse Cycling Strategy)

In the second half of this year Whitehorse Cyclists are proudly celebrating their 30th Anniversary with a number of events. These will include some new local rides in late October, within Whitehorse that will feature some of the proposed Easy Ride Routes, and will include an emphasis to community facilities and local history.

I believe that there would be positive benefits to the City of Whitehorse to have some of the proposed Easy Ride Route Projects from the draft Budget, to be completed, or at least underway, in advance of the 30th Anniversary Rides day.

Thank you

Kind regards

Peter Carter