



# WAVERLEY WOMEN'S SPORT PRECINCT - BACKGROUND REPORT

ADDRESS	CLIENT	PROJECT #	DATE	REVISION
2-30 JELLS ROAD, WHEELERS	Monash Council	1378	18-11-2019	B





# CONTENTS

## 1.0 POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 OVERVIEW	2
1.2 WOMEN & GIRLS	3
1.3 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS	3

## 2.0 DEMAND ASSESSMENT

2.1 NETBALL	5
2.2 SOFTBALL	6
2.3 PARKING ANALYSIS PLAN	7

## 3.0 USER GROUPS

3.1 PRIMARY USER GROUPS	9
3.2 OTHER USES	9
3.3 WAVERLEY NETBALL CENTRE TYPICAL SCHEDULE OF USE	10
3.4 WAVERLEY NETBALL CENTRE TYPICAL SCHEDULE OF USE	11

## 4.0 INITIAL CONSULTATION SUMMARY

4.1 INITIAL CONSULTATION SUMMARY	13
----------------------------------	----

## 5.0 NEXT STEP

5.1 DECISION POINTS	16
---------------------	----



# 1.0 POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

SCALE

KEY

PROJECT  
2-30 JELLS ROAD, WHEELERS HILL

CLIENT  
Monash Council

PROJECT #  
1378

DATE  
18-11-2019

PAGE  
1



# 1.1 OVERVIEW

The City of Monash is a culturally diverse community in Melbourne's south-east suburbs. Monash is home to an estimated population of 197,313 (2019) making it one of the most populous municipalities in Victoria and is forecast to grow to 249,287 by 2041,

Monash City (81.5 square kilometres) includes the following suburbs: Ashwood, Clayton, Glen Waverley, Hughesdale, Huntingdale, Mount Waverley, Mulgrave, Notting Hill, Oakleigh, Oakleigh East, and Wheelers Hill as well as parts of Chadstone, Burwood and Oakleigh South.

The City of Monash has Melbourne's largest concentration of jobs outside the CBD and is well positioned to grow jobs close to where people live. With a population of almost 200,000 residents, local businesses provide around 130,000 jobs.

Monash is home to the main campus of Monash University, Australia's largest university in terms of student numbers, and the Australian Government's premier research organisation, CSIRO. It is also home to the only Australian Synchrotron and the Melbourne Centre for Nanofabrication.

According to 2016 Census data, the City of Monash had a lower proportion of pre-schoolers and a higher proportion of persons at post retirement age than Greater Melbourne.

Analysis of the service age groups of the City of Monash in 2016 compared to Greater Melbourne shows that there was a lower proportion of people in the younger age groups (0 to 17 years) and a higher proportion of people in the older age groups (60+ years).

Overall, 19.1% of the population was aged between 0 and 17, and 21.9% were aged 60 years and over, compared with 21.7% and 19.0% respectively for Greater Melbourne.

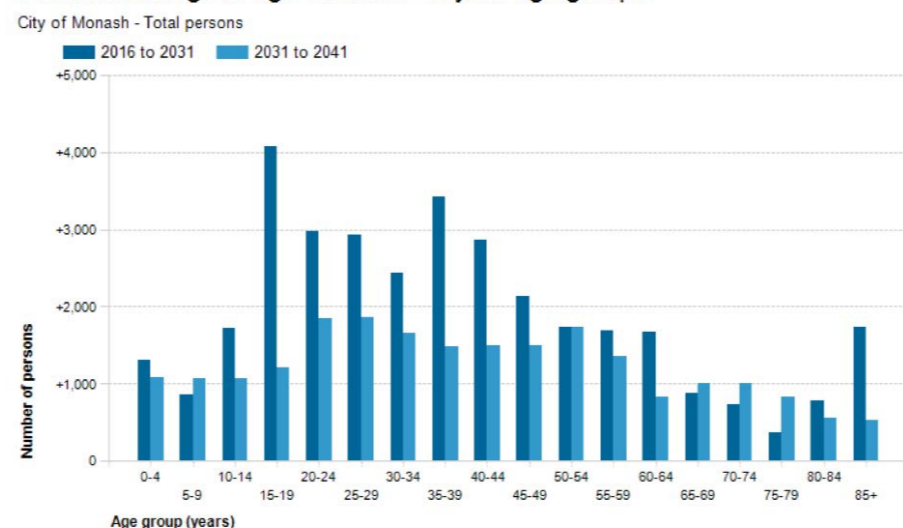
Between 2016 and 2031, the age structure forecasts for the City of Monash indicate a 12.7% increase in population under working age, a 14.0% increase in population of retirement age, and a 19.9% increase in population of working age.

In 2016, the dominant age structure for persons in the City of Monash was ages 20 to 24, which accounted for 10.0% of the total persons.

The largest increase in persons between 2016 and 2031 is forecast to be in ages 15 to 19, which is expected to increase by 4,076 and account for 7.6% of the total persons.

The largest 5 year age group in 2031 is 20 to 24 years, with a total of 22,265 persons.

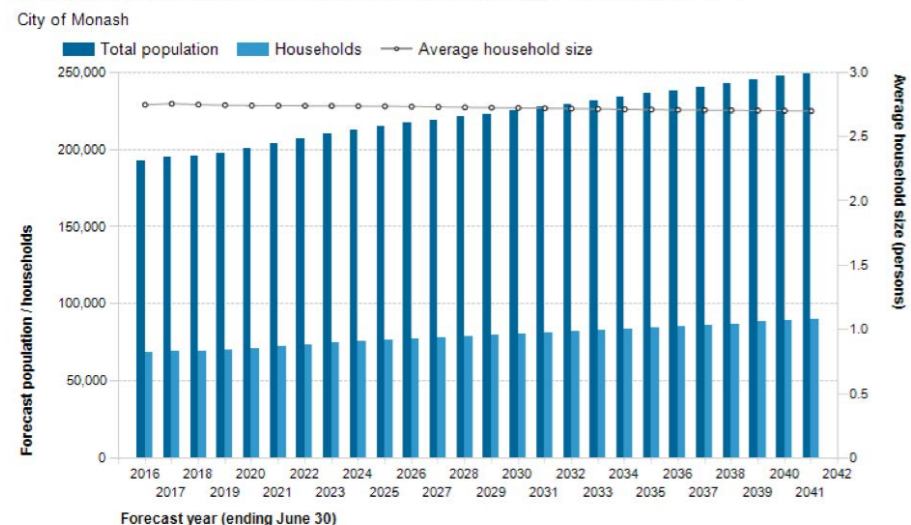
## Forecast change in age structure - 5 year age groups



Population and household forecasts, 2016 to 2041, prepared by .id the population experts, February 2019.



## Forecast population, households and average household size



Population and household forecasts, 2016 to 2041, prepared by .id the population experts, February 2019.



The following information has been sourced from:  
 Source: <https://forecast.id.com.au/monash>  
 Source: <https://profile.id.com.au/monash>



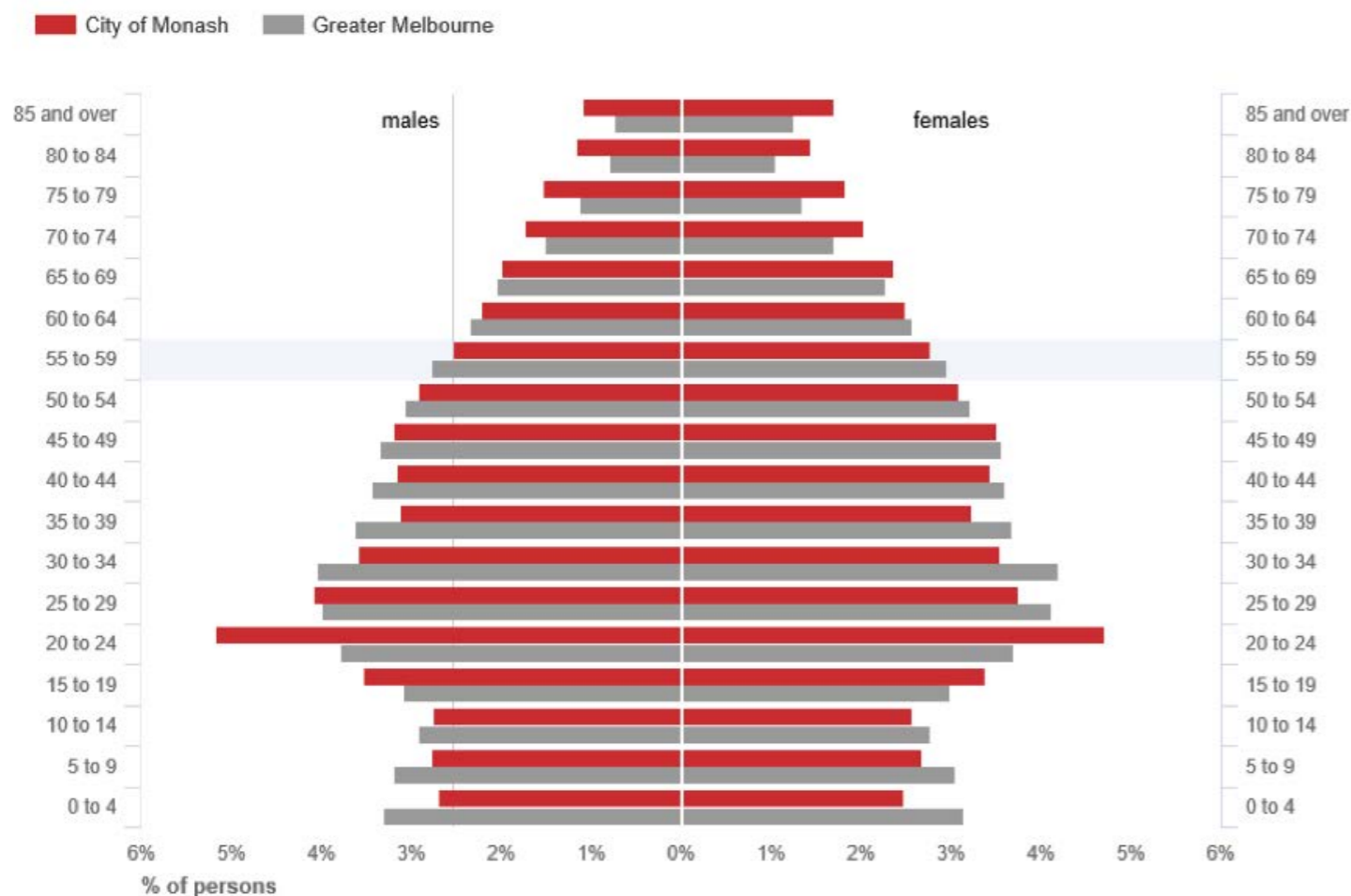
## 1.2 WOMEN & GIRLS

According to 2016 Census data, the gender profile for the City of Monash is comparable to Greater Melbourne – that is, approximately 49.1% of the population are male and 50.9% female (compared to 49% male and 51% female in Greater Melbourne).

The age-sex pyramid (below) is a demographic tool which shows patterns of change in the age structure and sex ratio of an area. The City of Monash pyramid (at 2016) highlights a ‘ballooning’ in middle ages (i.e. 20-50 years) which reflects relatively low birth rates and a lower proportion of residents aged 0-14 years compared to Greater Melbourne.

The sex ratio of males to females can also be seen. The ratio of females in the City of Monash is higher than Greater Melbourne in the following age groups – 15-19 years; 20-24 years and all age groups 65+ years.

### Age-sex pyramid, 2016



## 1.3 PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

The following planning implications can be derived from the population and demographic profile of the community:

- Sustained population growth will increase demand for access to appropriate sport and active recreation participation opportunities.
- The relatively ‘young’ age profile of the community (i.e. high proportion of 15-19 & 20-24 year age groups), including a high proportion of females, will contribute to demand for access to sport and recreation participation opportunities as these age groups traditionally have high rates of participation in formal sports – including netball and softball.
- However, whilst demand for participation in traditional formal sports can be expected to experience growth associated with population increases, demand for informal, non-club based leisure opportunities can also be expected to increase associated with the physical activity participation preferences of an ageing community (e.g. including walking and social gathering).
- In Victoria, female participation rates in sport and active recreation remain lower than males, particularly in community sport and recreation club settings. Appropriate sport facilities and supporting infrastructure are a key factor in encouraging female involvement.
- The relatively high proportion of females in younger age groups (i.e. 15-24 years) and 65+ years will drive demand for access to appropriate female friendly infrastructure and participation environments. There is no one definition for female friendly infrastructure, however making infrastructure more female friendly and more family orientated consists of a range of factors and attributes, such as (but not limited to):
  - Unisex change facilities that cater for the needs of both males and females;
  - Inviting and flexible community/ social spaces;
  - Prioritisation of safety, including providing clear view lines and lighting through pedestrian areas (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design - CPTED);
  - Clean and easily accessible facilities;
  - Adequate lighting in and around the facility; and
  - Family friendly attributes including baby change amenities.

The following information has been sourced from:  
 Source: <https://forecast.id.com.au/monash>  
 Source: <https://profile.id.com.au/monash>



# 2.0 DEMAND ASSESSMENT

SCALE

KEY

PROJECT  
2-30 JELLS ROAD, WHEELERS HILL

CLIENT  
Monash Council

PROJECT #  
1378

DATE  
18-11-2019

PAGE  
4





# 2.1 NETBALL

## Current Use and Membership/Participation

Capacity for additional use of the indoor courts is limited to Fridays (although this is booked from April-Aug, commencing in 2020) and the first hour from 4pm-5pm Monday and Wednesday which is difficult to program given the working age of the majority of participants.

There is some capacity for additional use of the outdoor courts, however this is generally limited to Mondays, Tuesdays and/or late evening after 9pm which is not a time preferred by participants.

There is considerable scope for additional use of both the indoor and outdoor courts during non-peak periods.

Netball Victoria participant registration figures for both the Waverley Night Netball Association (WNNA) and Waverley City Netball Association (WCNA) and are outlined in the tables below. These figures are based on November 2019 data, after which it is noted that WNNA will take over responsibility for the existing WCNA competition and administration. Participation numbers are expected to remain unchanged. Whilst the data captures individual members, it is worth noting that Netball Victoria members play on average 1.6 times a week

The WNNA membership data confirms that total participation has experienced a modest decline (i.e. approx. 3%) between 2017-2019 seasons. However it is acknowledged that 2019 figures are Year to Date and historically upto 5% of total membership may register in the last quarter of the year. In this case, membership will be approximately similar or possibly marginally higher than 2017.

WNNA	JUNIOR	SENIOR	NETSETGO	SGV	OFF_THE_COURT	ALL_ABILITIES	TOTAL
2019*	2309	1561	123	55	29	0	4077
2018	2374	1507	130	18	19	3	4051
2017	2339	1673	150	20	20	0	4202

### WNNA

\*2019 Figures are year to date

The data indicates that participation in the WCNA competition declined from 2017 to 2018 seasons (i.e. approximately 12-13% decrease, or 255 members), however has re-gained 101 members from 2018-2019 seasons. Overall, between 2017-2019 seasons total membership has declined by 154 members or approximately 8%. Membership reductions are mainly attributed to fewer junior age participants (i.e. 135 fewer junior age members or approximately 10% reduction).

WCNA	JUNIOR	SENIOR	NETSETGO	SGV	OFF_THE_COURT	ALL_ABILITIES	TOTAL
2019*	1212	586	42	28	1	1	1870
2018	1162	554	39	8	0	6	1769
2017	1347	596	74	0	5	2	2024

### WCNA

\*2019 Figures are year to date

## Population Impacts

Current membership trends suggest stable-to modest declines in participation over the last three years. Anecdotally, it is has been suggested that limited availability of indoor and outdoor courts at more favourable times may be a contributing factor in limiting current participation levels. Therefore aside from possible changes to the current physical capacity at the site, demand for additional participation is likely to be heavily influenced by population growth within the region as well as ongoing development initiatives by WNNA and Netball Victoria.

Netball Victoria data indicates an average membership rate of 1.3% of the total population across Greater Melbourne, however within the Greater Melbourne area the Eastern Metro Region (incorporating City of Monash) had the highest membership rate of any region at 1.8% of the total population.

The population of the City of Monash is expected to grow by almost 52,000 people by 2041, this could result in an additional 676 – 936 netball members based on current benchmarks (i.e. 1.3% - 1.8% of the total population).

Utilising Netball Victoria recommended court provision ratios (i.e. one indoor dedicated court per 7,640 people and one dedicated lit outdoor court per 7,070 people) this could result in demand for an additional 7 indoor courts and 7 outdoor lit courts in the City of Monash by 2041.

However, after taking into account existing facility provision, the Netball Victoria Statewide Facility Strategy (2019) suggested that an additional 5 outdoor dedicated lit courts and upto 18 multi-purpose indoor courts may be required within the City of Monash by 2031 (NB: an assessment of demand for dedicated indoor courts was not provided).

Despite these findings, consultation with Netball Victoria indicated that *"It is NV's opinion that twelve (12) courts at the Waverley Netball Centre is sufficient and given the site constraints unlikely to change. Greater (number of) indoor courts would be advantageous, but not at the overall expense of total court numbers."*

## Conclusion

There is evidence to indicate likely demand for additional dedicated netball courts in the City of Monash to service current and future population needs through to 2041, specifically an additional 5-7 outdoor lit courts and 7 indoor courts.

Existing spatial, vegetation and topography constraints at the Waverley Netball Centre/Sports Precinct limit opportunities for provision of additional courts.



Existing outdoor courts (i.e. Courts #1-4) could potentially be built over to construct indoor courts, however this will not increase the total overall number of courts available on the site. Furthermore, courts #8-12 would be impacted by any new building footprint and therefore also require rebuilding – potentially further east towards Jells Road.

There is capacity to increase use of existing courts (indoor and outdoor) however this may require consideration of alternative programming, particularly Friday's and Sunday's, and additional support infrastructure to support use of the outdoor courts.

In addition to updated/compliant outdoor courts, new change rooms and support infrastructure for outdoor courts, the following options have been further explored for the Waverley Netball Centre/Sports Precinct:

- Roof over 4 outdoor courts (no walls).
- New stadium housing 4 indoor courts.
- Additional outdoor courts



## 2.2 SOFTBALL

### Current Use and Membership/Participation

According to National AusPlay data (2016-17), the adult (15+ years) participation rate in softball is approximately 0.4% of the population. This is a relatively low level of participation and comparable to other sports such as squash, table tennis, rowing and gymnastics to name a few.

Softball Victoria has provided the most recent participation data for Victoria and Waverley Softball Association which has been collected as part of their *Statewide Facility Strategy (Draft Report August 2019)*. The report notes:

*Participation in softball across Victoria (more specifically Metropolitan Melbourne) has increased over the last 2 years. The majority of this growth has stemmed from school programs and modified formats of the game.*

*Overall participation in softball within Victoria has risen from approximately 2,172 participants in 2015/16 to 2,369 by 2017/18 (increase of 197 participants).*

*Introductory and modified softball programs and activities (e.g. Social 7s and the 'Batter Up' program) have seen membership numbers gradually increase with interest into the sport. The challenge for softball is now being able to retain player numbers, and where possible, transition 'one-off' or 'occasional players' into lifelong softball club members.*

*While some positive participant increases were reported over the three years, Softball Victoria also lost 820 existing participants between 2016/17 and 2017/18. This equates to a membership churn of around 35%, highlighting a future retention challenge for the sport.*

Waverley Softball Association has consistently been the largest Association in Victoria with over 400 members and growing.

The data indicates that membership of the Waverley Softball Association has experienced modest growth from 2015/16 – 2017/18 seasons; growing from 464 registered members to 510. Growth has occurred in both male and female participation.

Females increasing from 387 to 405 and males from 77 to 105 members across the period. Overall growth has largely been influenced by an increase in senior age groups and officials (i.e. an increase of 20 and 30 participants respectively).

The Waverley Softball Association has confirmed that senior/open age and mid-week participation have seen the biggest growth. The Association is actively trying to increase junior participation, including school programs and introduction of Softball Australia's modified version of Softball called Fully Loaded which involves a shorter game format (i.e. 60 minutes) and modified rules (e.g. loaded bases, three innings, shorter fences, 60-second changeover between innings).

The Waverley Softball Association operates two seasons annually, i.e. Summer (Sept-April) and Winter (May-Aug). During the Summer season the Waverley Softball Centre is used 6-7 days per week for training and competitions which often utilise all 10-12 diamonds, however during the Winter season the venue is used less, generally 3-4 days per week utilising the main 4 diamonds and practice facilities.

### Population Impacts

Despite a national participation rate of around 0.4% of the adult population, based on current Waverley Softball Association membership (i.e. 510) and City of Monash population of 197,313 people, this translates to a participation rate of approximately 0.2% of the total population.

Forecast population growth in the City of Monash is therefore likely to have only a modest impact on future softball participation demand. Specifically, anticipated population growth of around 52,000 people by 2041 could result in demand for approximately an additional 100 softball members (based on the current average participation rate of 0.2% of the Monash population).

Growth of this magnitude can readily be accommodated through careful scheduling and use of the existing softball fields, however additional support amenities (e.g. toilets and change rooms) and infrastructure (e.g. field lighting) is likely to be required to help accommodate additional use.

This is consistent with Association and Softball Victoria expectations and aspirations, which prioritise demand for improvements to existing facilities and support infrastructure rather than overt demand for additional softball fields.

### Conclusion

Softball improvement initiatives at the Waverley Women's Sports Precinct will prioritise and focus on three key themes to reinforce the venue as the 'home of softball in Victoria':

- Upgrade the standard of the existing main fields to better accommodate elite level use and higher participation (i.e. usage load) demands;
- Enhance softball support amenities and infrastructure within the precinct; and
- Improve precinct car parking and access (i.e. defined paths) to enhance user experience, functionality and personal safety.
- **Optional:** Extend/refurbish the softball pavilion to accommodate office space and administrative hub for Softball Victoria.

insideEDGE  
sport and leisure planning

### Membership Type



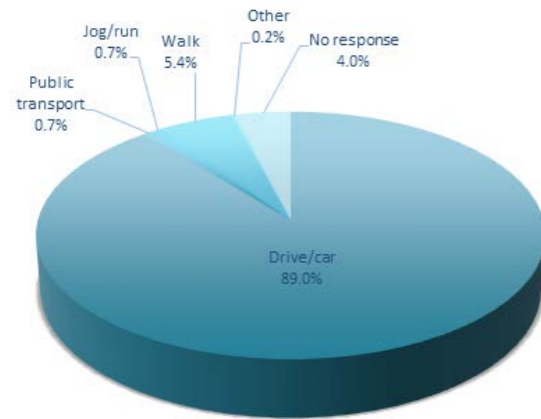
Source: Softball Victoria, Statewide Facility Strategy (working documents).



## 2.3 PARKING ANALYSIS PLAN

There are no benchmark formulas for determining car parking requirements for multi-use sports precincts such as the Waverley Women's Sports Precinct. Rather car parking capacity is largely determined by estimated peak demands, access to available space and availability (and use) of alternative transport options. We are aware from the Community Survey undertaken as part of the consultation process for this project that the vast majority (i.e. 89%) of respondents travel to the Precinct by private vehicle. Furthermore, we are aware of anecdotal evidence and feedback from current tenants / users that existing car parking capacity can be inadequate in peak periods and especially during major events or tournaments.

How do you usually travel to visit the Waverley Women's Sports Centre precinct?

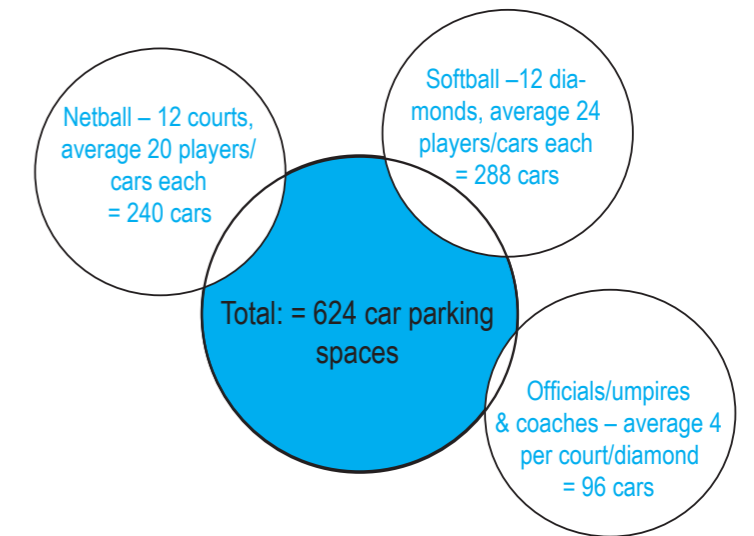


The Waverley Women's Sports Precinct currently provides approximately 210 sealed car parks, plus access to approximately 330 unsealed spaces in the adjacent Jells Park carpark. Therefore providing a total of approximately 540 car parking spaces (noting that the Jells Park car park services Parks Victoria visitors in addition to the Sports Precinct).

By comparison, the images below highlight car parking provision at three other comparable sports venues – specifically the State Basketball Centre & Knox Regional Sports Park (Wantirna South, approx. 1000 parking spaces); Knox Regional Netball Centre (Ferntree Gully, approx. 500 parking spaces); and State Netball & Hockey Centre (Parkville, approx. 500 spaces). We are aware from our previous work (and direct experience) that parking provision at the Knox Regional Netball Centre and State Netball & Hockey Centre is often inadequate to service peak demands.

The Waverley Women's Sports Precinct currently provides approximately 210 sealed car parks, plus access to approximately 330 unsealed spaces in the adjacent Jells Park carpark. Therefore providing a total of approximately 540 car parking spaces (noting that the Jells Park car park services Parks Victoria visitors in addition to the Sports Precinct).

High level analysis – as outlined below – also suggests that the existing capacity of the Waverley Women's Sports Precinct (i.e. approx. 540 spaces) is inadequate to service peak demands and events. However environmental and spatial constraints limit opportunities for additional parking provision within the Precinct and adjacent Jells Park car parking area. Therefore opportunities to improve car parking will primarily focus on maximising the capacity and functionality of existing spaces having regard to known constraints. This acknowledges that at times car parking demand may overflow into broader areas surrounding the Precinct including Waverley Road, Jells Road, Jells Park East and Glen Waverley Golf Course.



**Notes:** This does not include an allowance for additional spectators, staff or during special events. It is also acknowledged that all netball courts and softball diamonds are rarely used simultaneously. Car parking improvement options outlined in Section 9.6 indicate a potential capacity for 632 spaces with formalisation of the Jells Park car parking area, noting that this area also services Parks Victoria visitors as well as the Sports Precinct.



**State Basketball Centre & Knox Regional Sports Park (Wantirna South)**

- 6 court stadia, and regional football (soccer) centre
- Approx 800 sealed car spaces, plus overflow areas for approx 200 cars.



**Knox Regional Netball Centre (Ferntree Gully)**

- 2 court stadium & 18 outdoor netball courts
- Approx 300 sealed car spaces, plus overflow area for approx 200 cars.



**State Netball & Hockey Centre (Parkville)**

- 5 court stadium & 4 outdoor netball courts (NB: currently being converted into indoor courts), plus 2 hockey fields
- Approx. 300 sealed car spaces, plus overflow grass areas for approx. 200 cars.



# 3.0 USER GROUPS

SCALE

KEY

PROJECT  
2-30 JELLS ROAD, WHEELERS HILL

CLIENT  
Monash Council

PROJECT #  
1378

DATE  
18-11-2019

PAGE  
8





## 3.1 PRIMARY USER GROUPS

### Waverley Netball Centre

The Waverley Night Netball Association (WNNA) are the primary tenants of the Waverley Netball Centre and have been responsible for management of the facility since establishment of the indoor stadium approximately 25 years ago. Two seasons are conducted annually – generally January to June and July to December periods.

WNNA facilitate competitions, training and skill development sessions for participants aged 5-50+ years. Participation varies from initial introductory programs and skill development (e.g. Net Set Go) to open age competitions, Premier League and elite programs, including regional representative teams as well as Victorian Netball League and Australian Netball League fixtures.

Until recently (i.e. November 2019) the Waverley City Netball Association facilitated Saturday competitions, training and representative teams including Net Set Go, U11, U13, U15, U17 and Open Age Competitions utilising all indoor and outdoor courts. Specialist training for representative teams was also conducted on Sundays and Tuesdays when required utilising the outdoor courts. However, since November 2019 these competitions and programs have been included under WNNA stewardship, management and administration.

The venue is also used for major tournaments annually including the Waverley Netball Centre Club Tournament and Waverley International Schools Netball Championships in addition to Netball Victoria and Netball Australia fixtures (i.e. approx. 4-6 games per year).

The graphs that follow highlight the typical schedule of use and utilisation of the venue. 'Spare' capacity is extremely limited within peak periods (i.e. after school hours), particularly for the indoor courts.

The Waverley Netball Centre attracts approximately 8000 people per week to play, coach, umpire and spectate at the venue on a typical week.

### Waverley Softball Centre

The Waverley Softball Association (WSA) Inc. is based at the Waverley Softball Centre. The Association currently includes nine individual clubs representing approximately 510 members.

The WSA was established in 1961 and is one of the largest and most successful Associations within Softball Victoria. The WSA have previously received Awards of Excellence for 'Local Association of the Year' (2007 & 2011) from Softball Australia.

The WSA summer season commences in early October through to late December and recommences in the first week of February and concludes in late March when the WSA hosts one of Australia's largest and premier junior tournaments - the Waverley Easter Carnival.

The WSA coordinates events and competitions on behalf of resident Clubs and School Sports using the 12 purpose built diamonds. The central pavilion is used as WSA administrative and social headquarters. WSA highlights of the year include the Pink Day fundraiser in October, Season Finals in February/March, and Easter Carnival Tournament with Victorian and Inter-state Teams.

WSA also has a very active representative team program that offers opportunities to players from U12 - Open Age levels to represent Waverley. The Waverley representative teams compete at the annual Victorian State Championships and participate at the Australia Day Tournament (Canberra) in January and Waverley Easter Carnival in April.

Waverley Representative Teams (2018) included:

- Waverley U15 Girls State Championships Team;
- Waverley U17 Girls State Championships Team;
- Waverley U19 Women State Championships Team;
- Waverley Open Women State Championships Team; and
- Waverley Open Men State Championships Team.

WSA also host State team training and games in addition to local competitions. Softball Victoria have expressed aspirations to formalise the Waverley Softball Centre as the 'home of softball in Victoria' in order to improve the capacity to cater for high level elite coaching, officials and athletes including:

- Open Women, U23 Women, U18 Girls, U16 Girls, U 14 Girls;
- Open Men, U23 Men, U18 Boys, U16 Boys, U14 Boys;
- State Academies and Development Teams; and
- Peta Edebone Cup (i.e. Softball Victoria Women's Invitational annual tournament).

## 3.2 OTHER USES

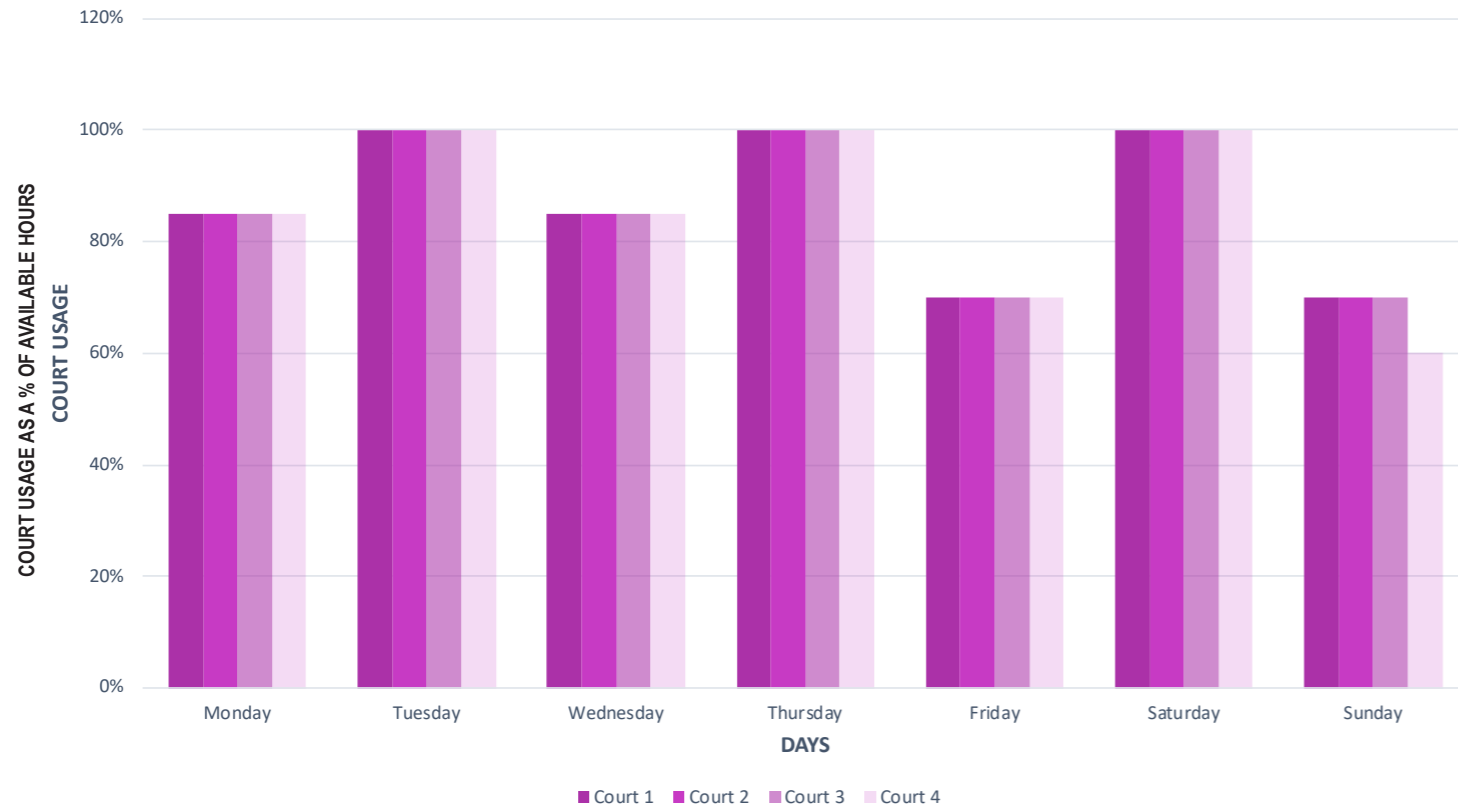
In addition to formal sporting use of the Waverley Netball Centre and Waverley Softball Centre, it is also recognised that the broader precinct is used by local residents for informal recreation, including dog walkers, casual users, walkers/joggers, recreational cyclists, local schools and to access adjacent facilities including Jells Park, café, playground, lake, golf course and open space areas.



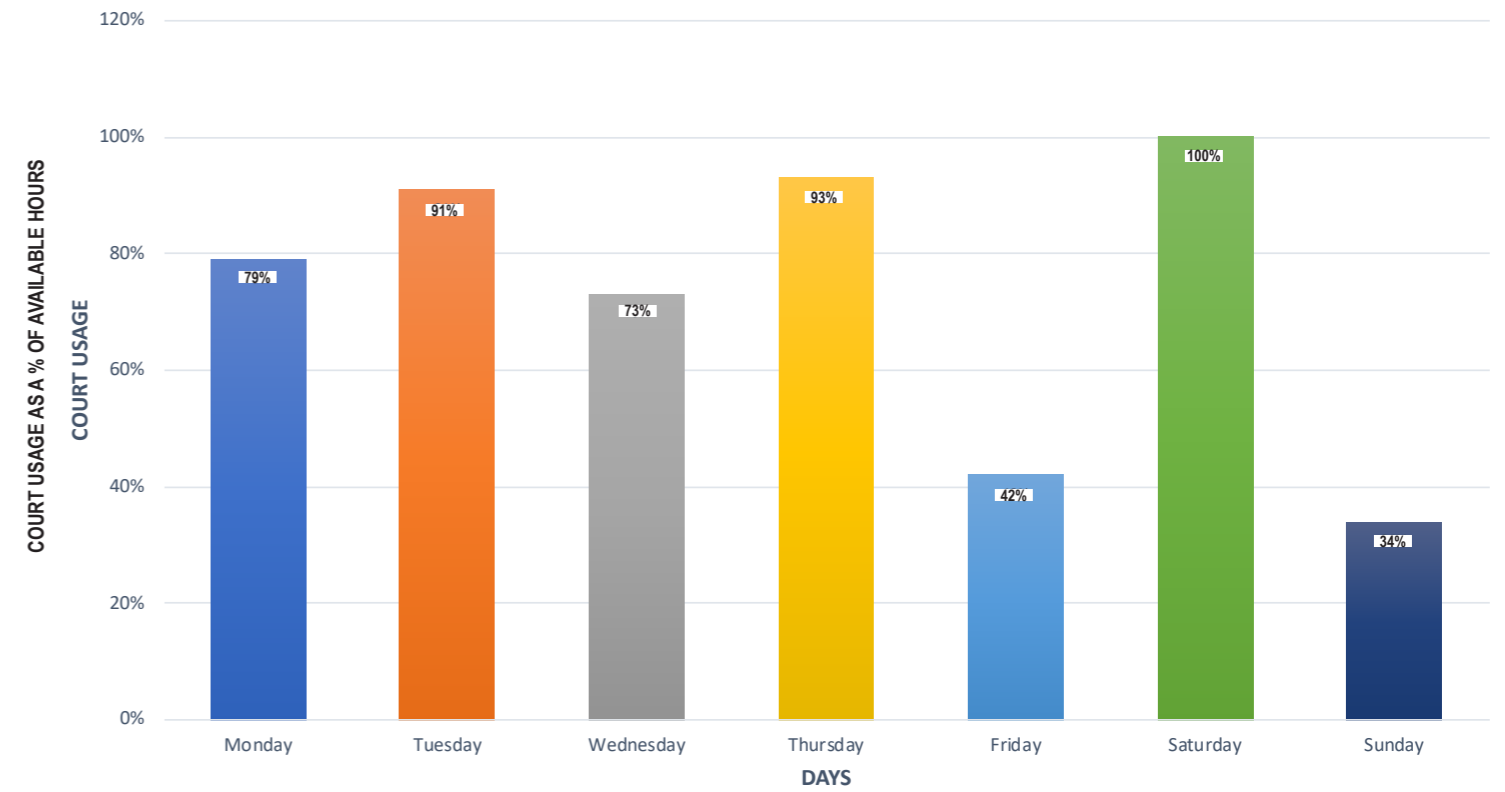


# 3.3 WAVERLEY NETBALL CENTRE TYPICAL SCHEDULE OF USE

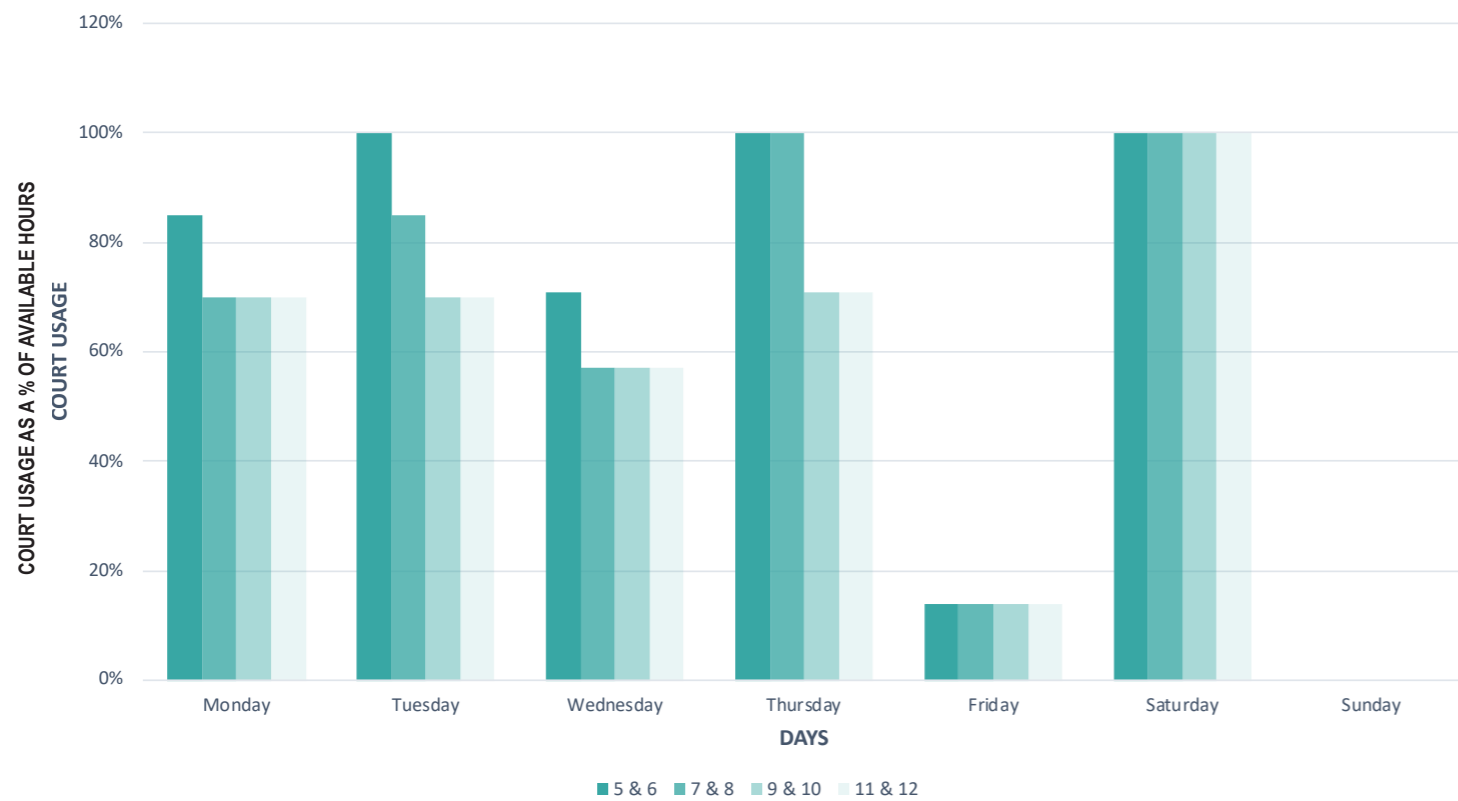
## INDOOR COURTS



## OVERALL USAGE INDOOR AND OUTDOOR



## OUTDOOR COURTS



\*NB: 'Typical' usage schedule does not take into account sporadic use of the venue for representative team trials and training which is usually conducted on Sundays when required throughout the year.

WNNA has recently (Nov 2019) formalised an agreement with the Eastern Football League (EFL) to utilise all indoor courts from 6.30pm-11pm Fridays, April-Aug commencing in 2020).

### Comment:

- The Waverley Netball Centre is extremely well utilised during peak periods (i.e. 4-11pm weekdays, 9am-8pm weekend), particularly the indoor courts.
- Capacity for additional use of the indoor courts is limited to the first hour from 4pm-5pm Monday and Wednesday which is difficult to program given the working age of the majority of participants. WNNA's recent agreement with the Eastern Football League (EFL) to utilise the indoor courts on Fridays from April-August each year – commencing in 2020 – addresses a current vacancy. There are also opportunities to increase use of the indoor courts on Sundays, however the flexibility to retain access to the courts on Sundays for club and representative team training, trials and clinics as required is highly valued.
- There is some capacity for additional use of the outdoor courts, however this is generally limited to late evening after 9pm which is not a time preferred by participants.
- There is considerable scope for additional use of both the indoor and outdoor courts during non-peak periods.





## 3.4 WAVERLEY SOFTBALL CENTRE

Softball operates over two main seasons - Summer (September – April) and Winter (May – August). The Waverley Softball Association has indicated that 10-12 diamonds are regularly used 7-days per week during the summer season for a combination of training and competitions. Actual hours of use have not been provided, however the majority of use occurs in peak periods (i.e. 4pm-10pm weekdays and 8am-5pm weekends). During summer the venue reportedly attracts between 800-1500 people per week (players and spectators).

Not all diamonds are regularly used during the Winter season and use is limited to 2-3 nights per week plus Saturday/Sunday for training and competition – including training for Softball Victoria representative teams. During Winter the venue reportedly attracts between 500-600 people per week (players and spectators).

The venue is also well used by schools year round, including School Sport Victoria teams 2-3 times per month, using 8-10 Diamonds; 3-4 local schools 2-3 times per fortnight; and School Sport Victoria State Softball Teams around 10 times per year.

The venue is scheduled to host the Open Women's Softball Victoria State Championships in December 2019 and U16 Women Australian Championships in January 2020.

Both the Waverley Softball Association and Softball Victoria have indicated that the current number of fields is adequate, rather the priority is to upgrade facilities to ensure the venue remains the premier softball facility in Victoria and improve the capacity to host significant events and competitions (e.g. Australian Championships) as well as grassroots to elite level participation.



View of softball spectator area from carpark





# 4.0 INITIAL CONSULTATION SUMMARY

SCALE

KEY

PROJECT  
2-30 JELLS ROAD, WHEELERS HILL

CLIENT  
Monash Council

PROJECT #  
1378

DATE  
18-11-2019

PAGE  
12

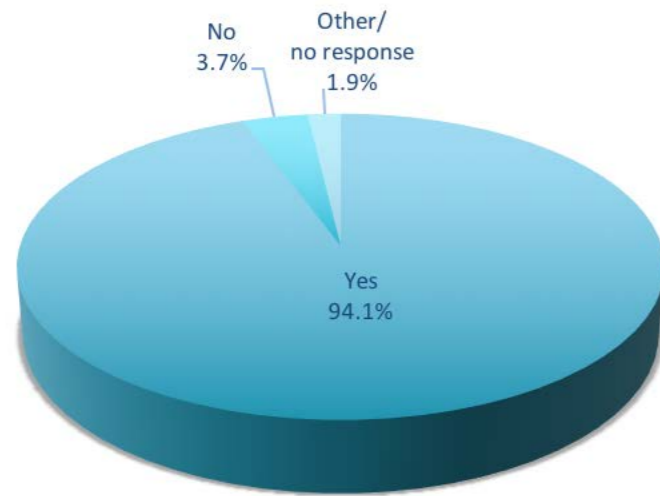


# 4.1 INITIAL CONSULTATION SUMMARY

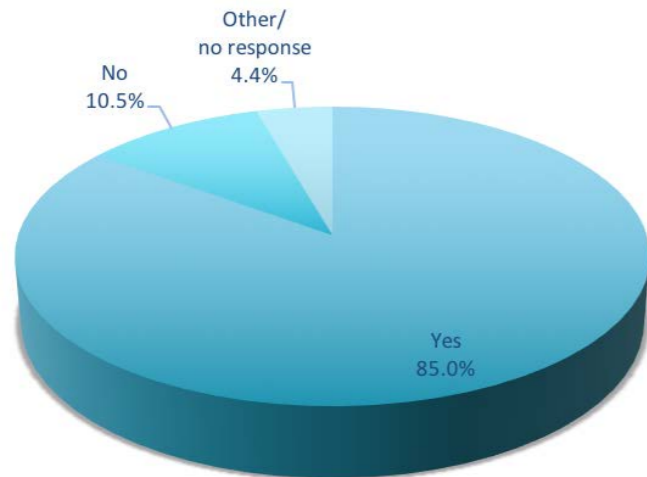
## Community Survey

The following section provides a summary of key findings from the on-line community survey conducted in June/ July 2019. The survey attracted strong interest and was completed by 426 individuals. Key highlights are provided below.

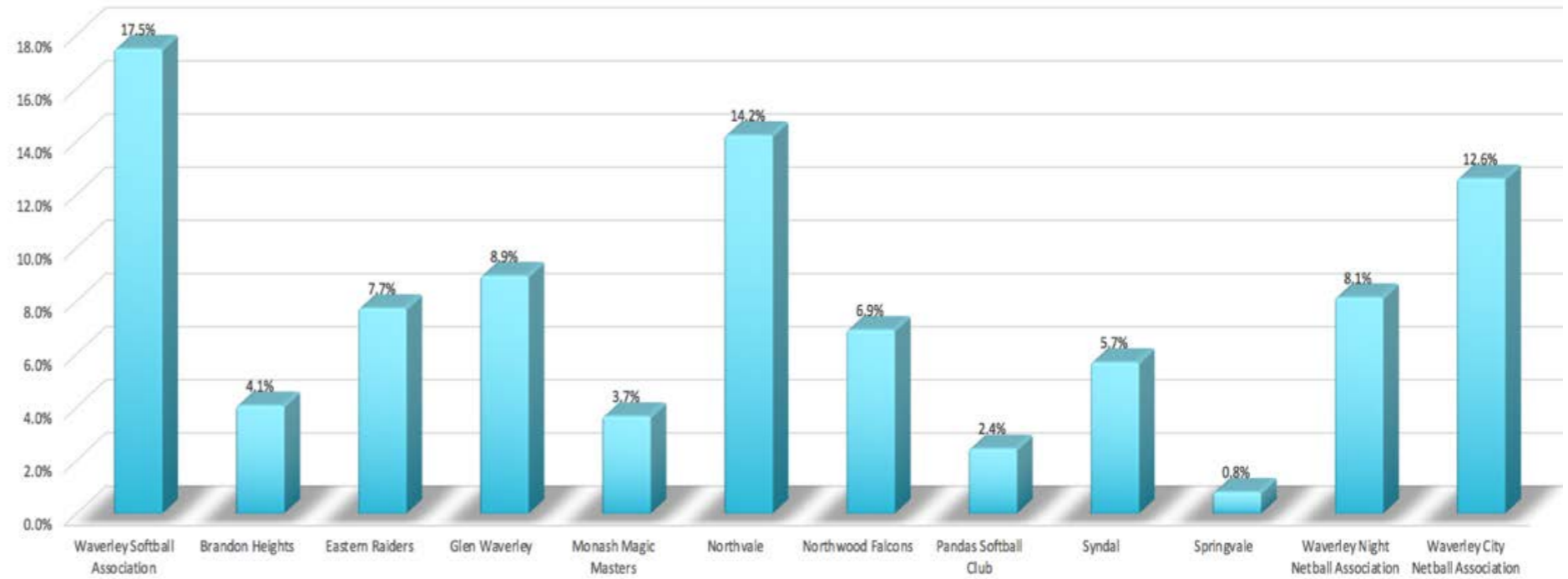
### Have you used or visited the Waverley Women's Sports Centre (netball or softball centres) in the last twelve months?



### Are you a member of any sports club or group that regularly uses the reserve?



### Club membership - selected clubs as a percentage of total survey responses

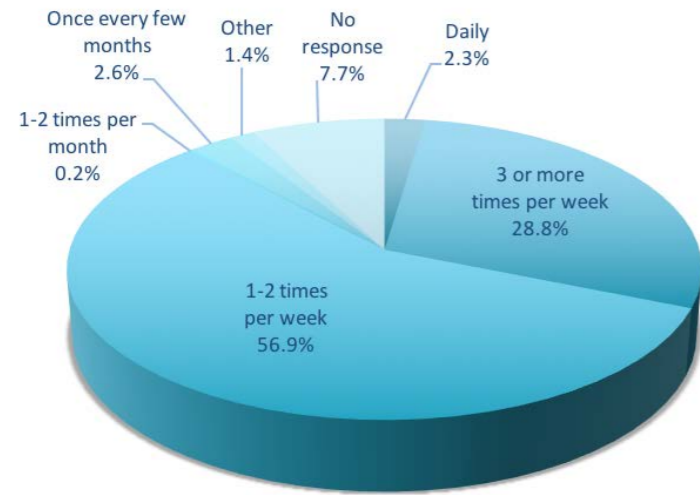


- Approximately 85% of survey respondents identified as a member of an existing club or group that utilises the Waverley Women's Sports Precinct.
- A considerable number and variety of individual clubs were identified, however the most common responses are identified in the graph above. Approximately 18% identified as members of the Waverley Softball Association, 13% WCNA and 8% WNNA, with the most common individual club represented being the Northvale Netball Club with approximately 14% of total responses.



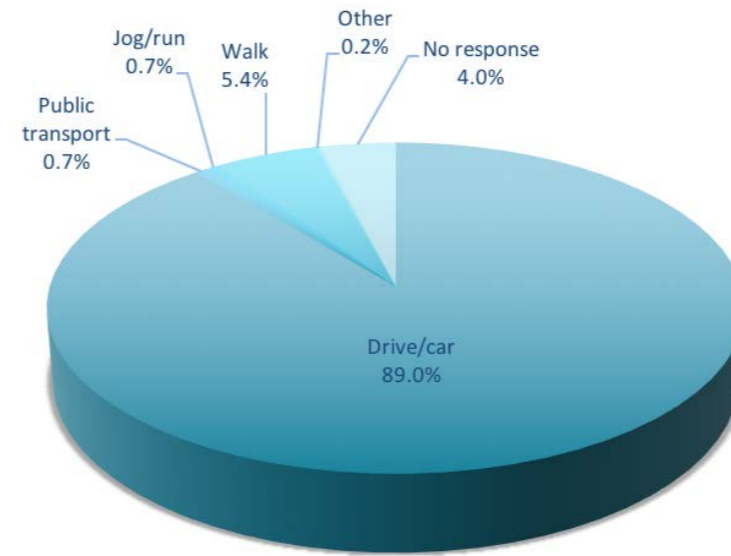


### How often do you usually visit the Waverley Women's Sports Centre precinct?



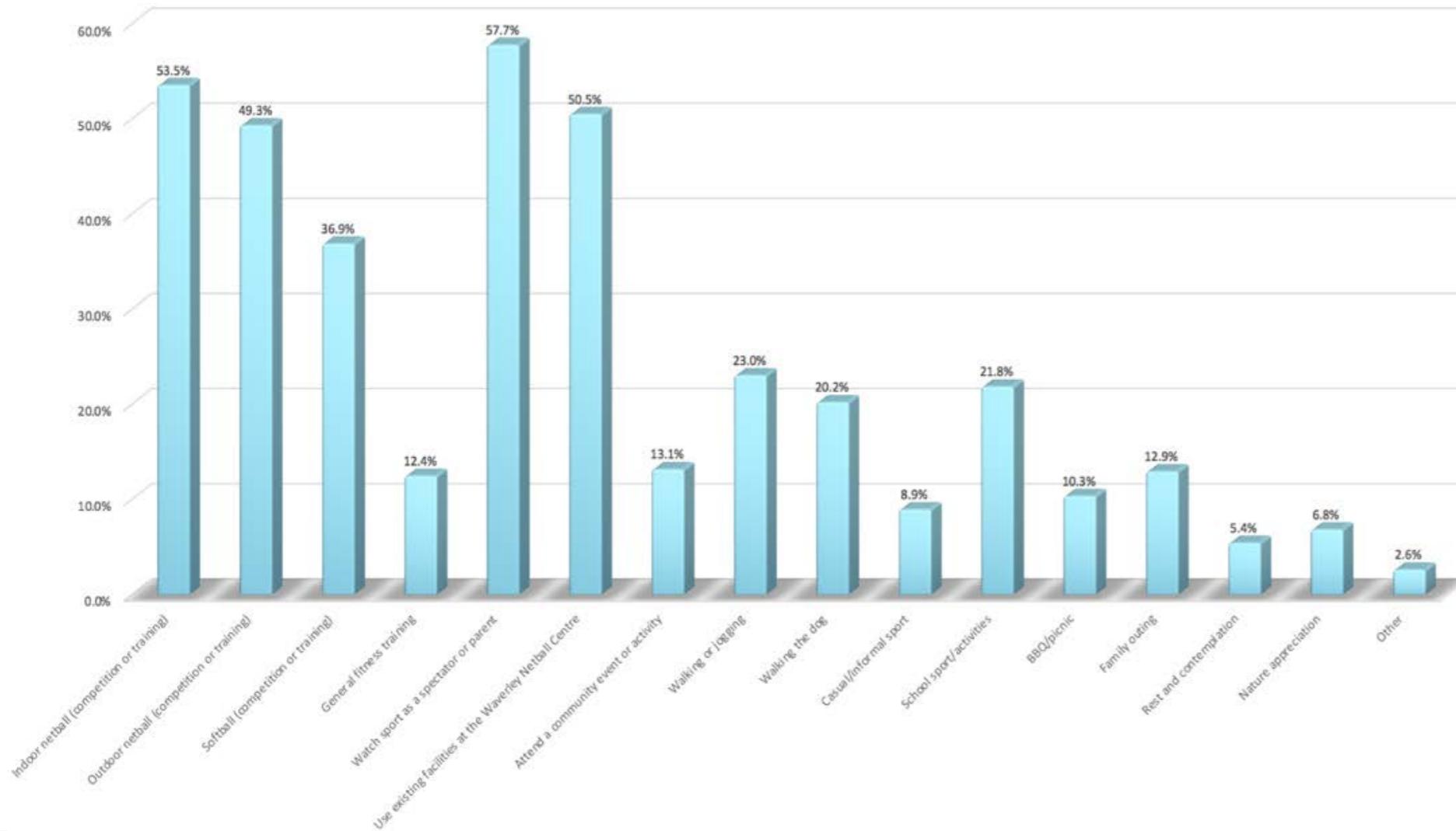
- Responses indicate that the majority of users (i.e. almost 86%) utilise the venue at least once per week and over one-quarter (i.e. 28.8%) three or more times per week.

### How do you usually travel to visit the Waverley Women's Sports Centre precinct?



- The vast majority of users (89%) access the venue by private vehicle. This reinforces the importance for effective traffic management, functionality, amenity and safety in order to ensure user expectations and requirements are met.

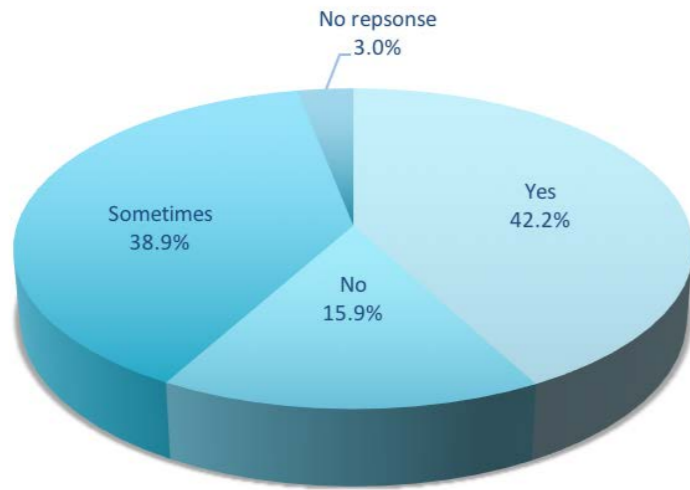
### What activities do you usually do when visiting the Waverley Women's Sports Centre precinct?



- Interestingly the majority of respondents (almost 58%) indicate that they visit the centre primarily as a parent or spectator to watch sport activities. Such a high proportion of users reinforces the importance of quality spectator facilities, amenities and overall experience.
- Not surprisingly the other most common activities undertaken included indoor netball, outdoor netball and softball as well as participation in school sport activities.
- The most popular non-sporting activities included walking, jogging and dog-walking.



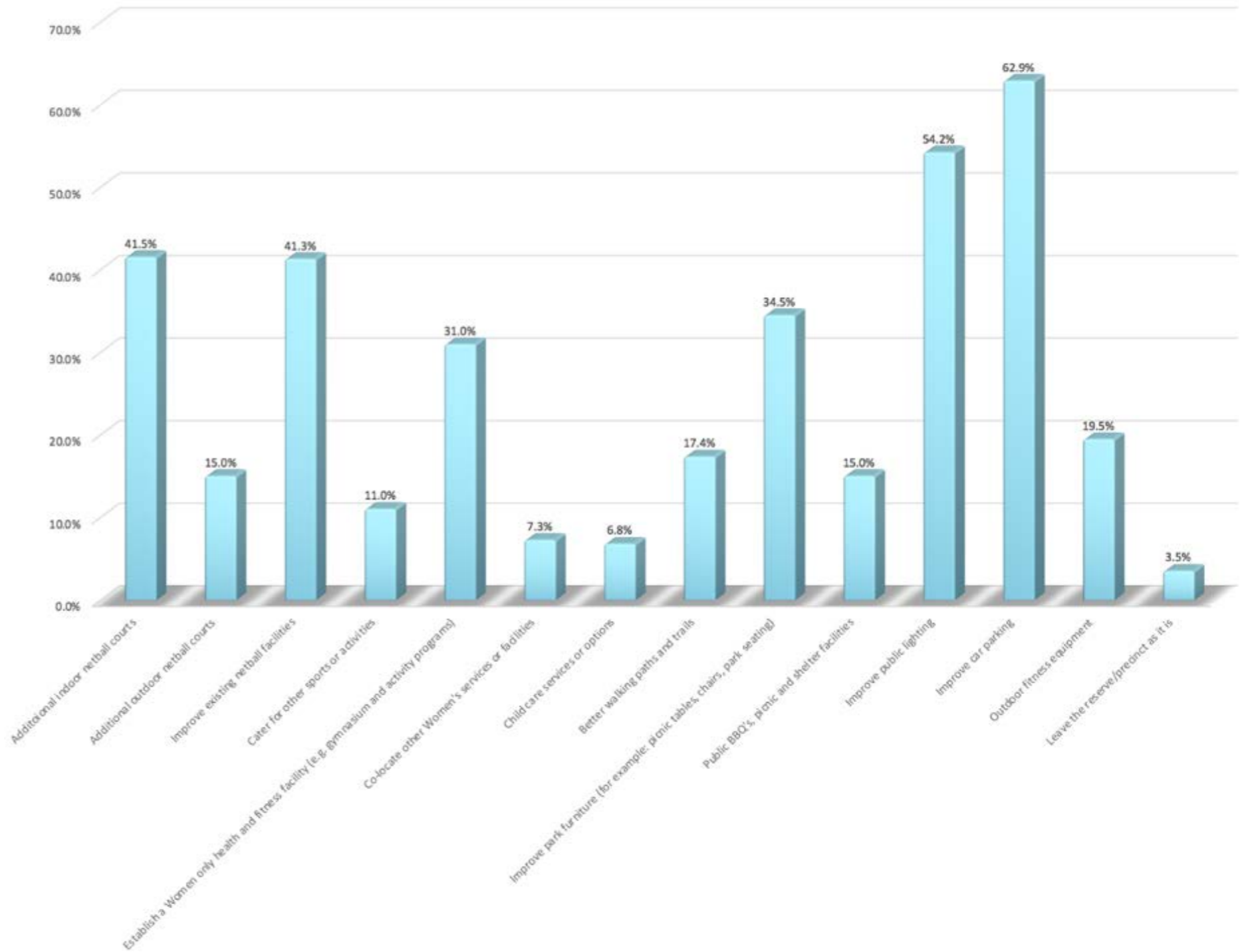
**Do the existing sport, recreation and community facilities available at the Waverley Women's Sports Centre precinct meet your needs?**



If not, why not? What would you like to see changed or improved?



**Is there anything that would encourage you to use or visit the Waverley Women's Sports Centre precinct more often?**



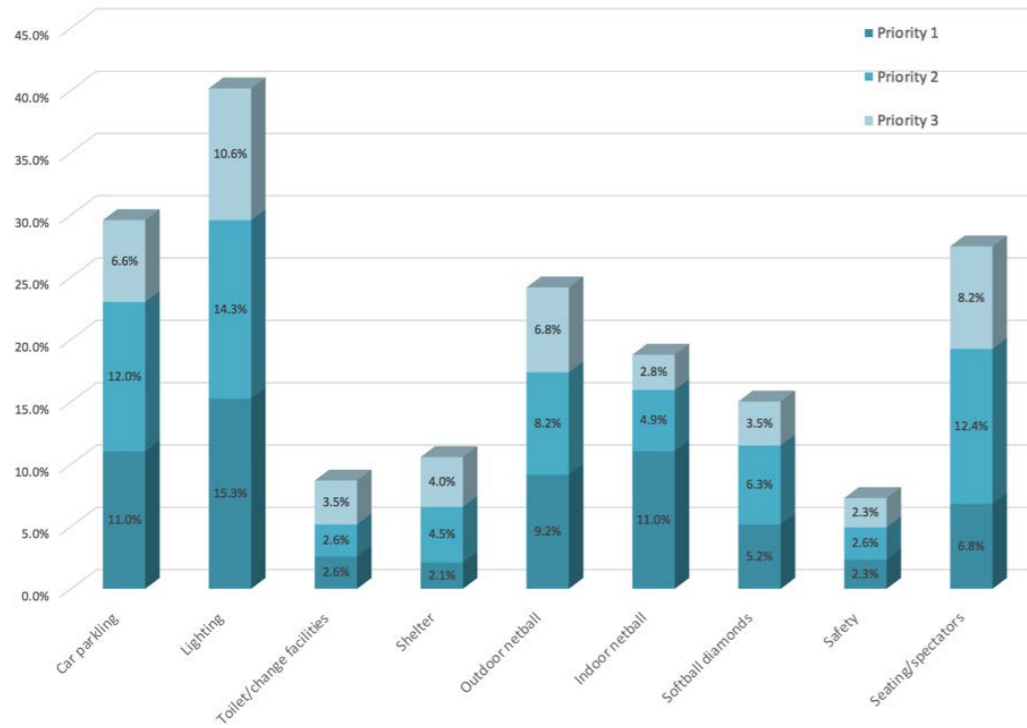
- Interestingly the majority of respondents (almost 58%) indicate that they visit the centre primarily as a parent or spectator to watch sport activities. Such a high proportion of users reinforces the importance of quality spectator facilities, amenities and overall experience.
- Not surprisingly the other most common activities undertaken included indoor netball, outdoor netball and softball as well as participation in school sport activities.
- The most popular non-sporting activities included walking, jogging and dog-walking.
- The majority of respondents indicated that existing facilities are meeting their needs (42.2%) or sometimes meeting their needs (38.95). When combined, this indicates that over 81% of respondents suggested that existing facilities are usually or sometimes meeting their needs.
- However, almost 16% of respondents indicated that facilities do not meet their needs, with reasons suggested primarily relating to inadequate car parking, lighting (safety), limited spectator facilities and access to amenities.

- There is strong direction in terms of priority facility improvements to encourage additional use and enhanced user experience at the Precinct, specifically improvements to:
  - Car parking;
  - Public lighting;
  - Existing outdoor netball courts; and
  - Additional indoor netball courts;
  - Establishment of a women only fitness centre; as well as
  - Improvements to park furniture, seating and overall amenity within the Precinct.



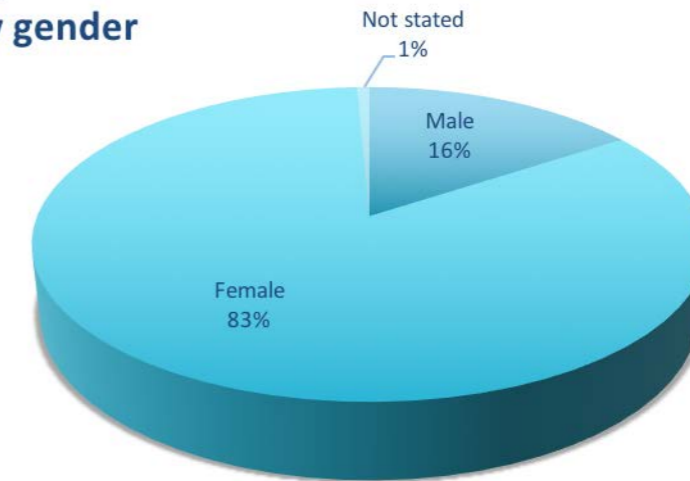


If you had to nominate the THREE MAIN PRIORITIES for any future improvements at the Waverley Women's Sports Centre precinct what would they be?

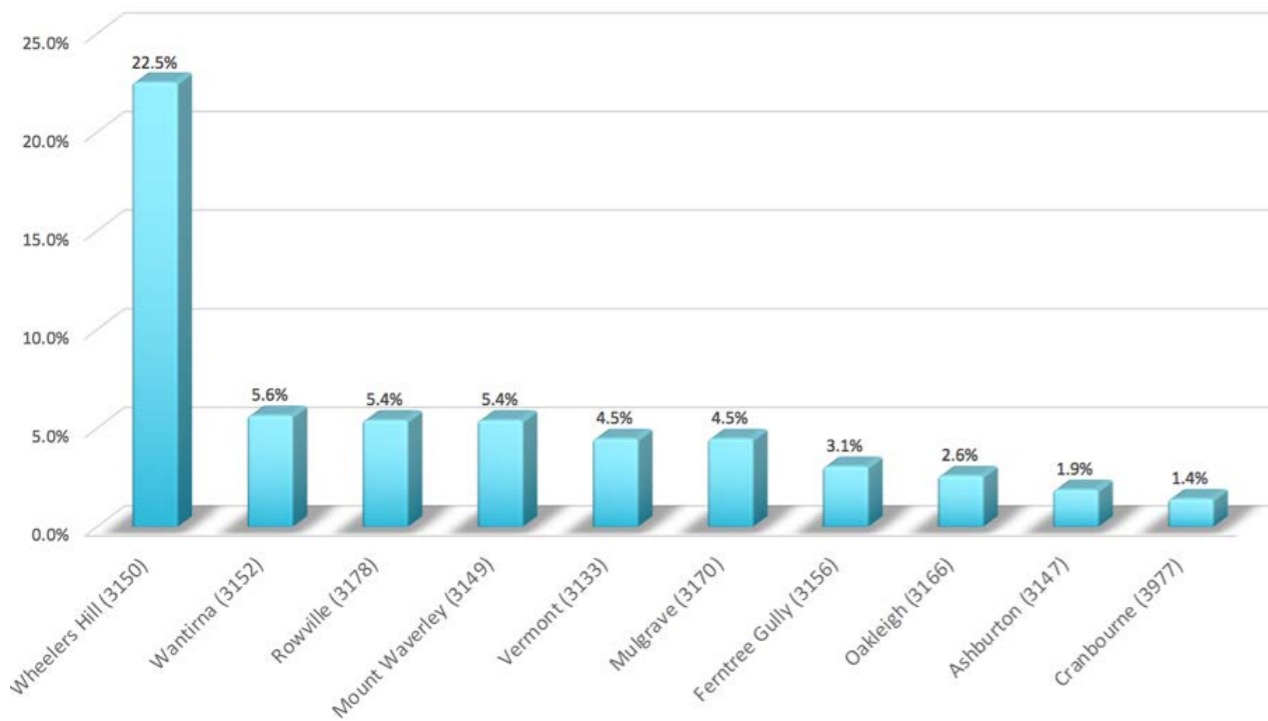


- Priorities identified for improvement reflect earlier responses and provide clear guidance for future priorities, specifically improvements to:
  - Public/safety lighting;
  - Car parking;
  - Seating and spectator facilities;
  - Outdoor netball courts;
  - Indoor courts; and
  - Softball diamonds.

Respondents by gender

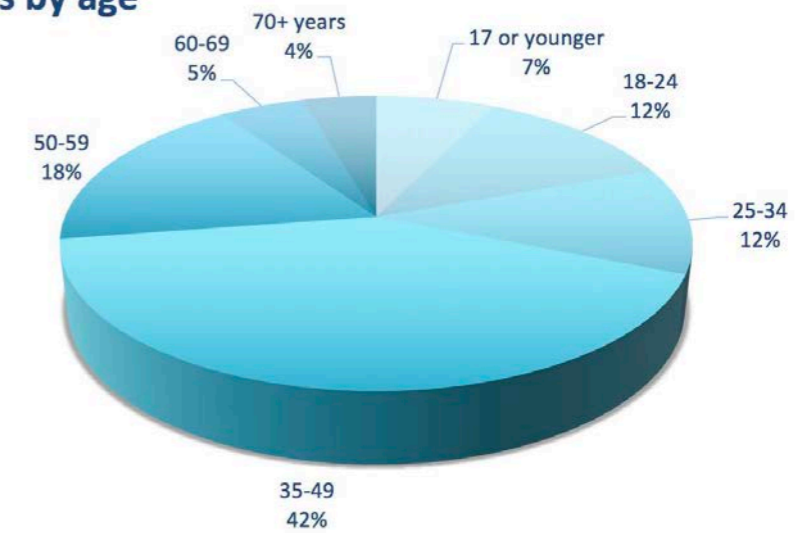


Top 10 respondent's postcodes



- There was an extensive range of individual postcodes identified by survey respondents, representing a wide regional catchment for the Precinct – including beyond City of Monash municipal borders. The most common postcodes nominated by respondents are identified above.

Respondents by age



# 5.0 NEXT STEPS

SCALE

KEY

PROJECT  
2-30 JELLS ROAD, WHEELERS HILL

CLIENT  
Monash Council

PROJECT #  
1378

DATE  
18-11-2019

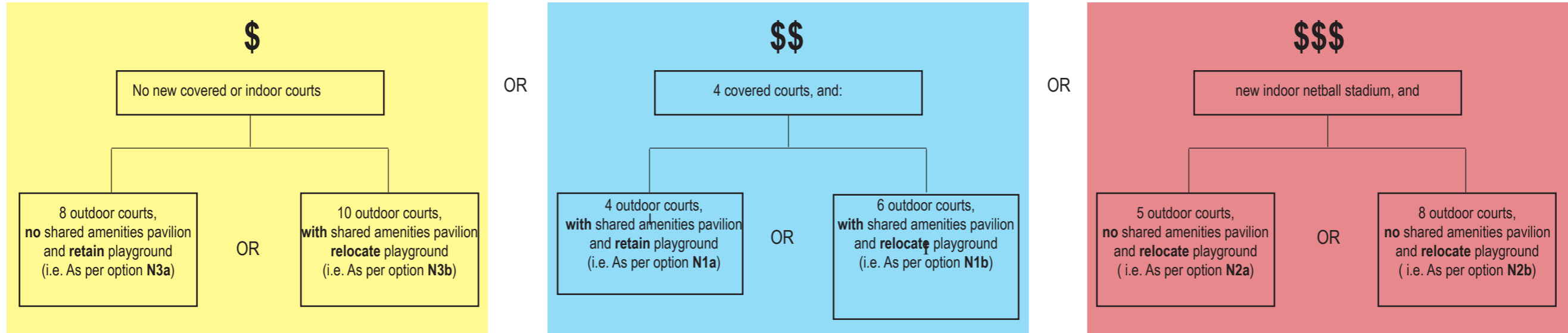
PAGE  
17



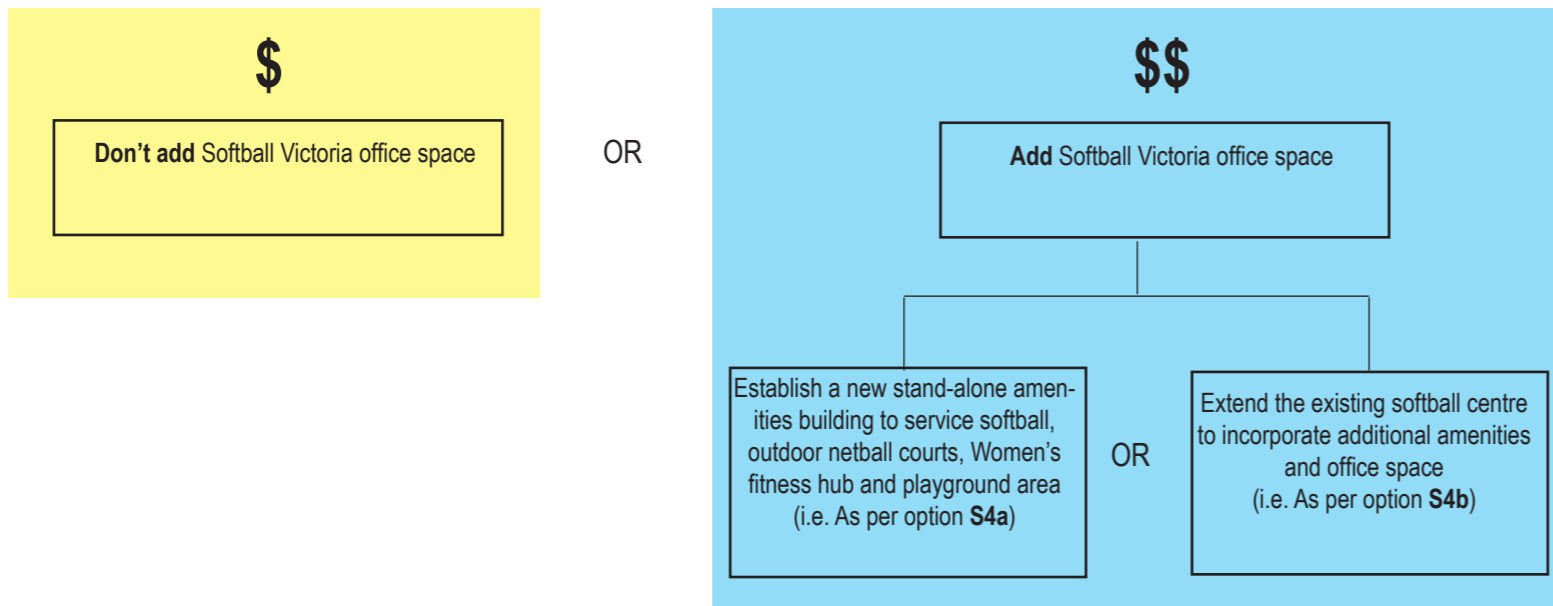


# 5.1 DECISION POINTS

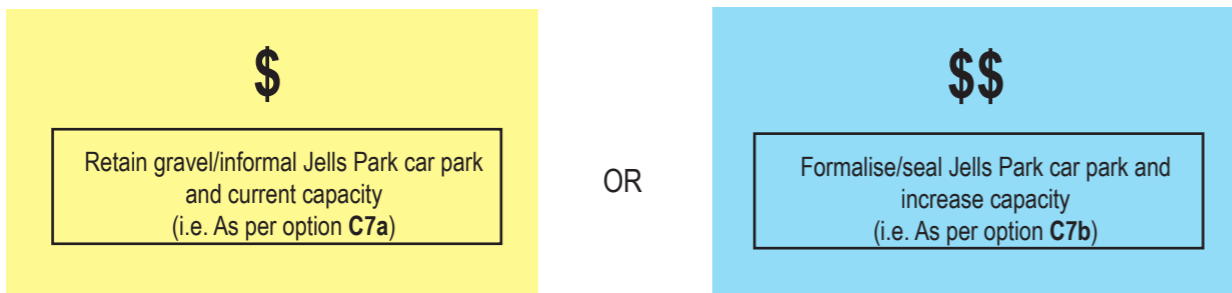
Select netball and softball options:



Select Softball Victoria Hub options:



Select carpark options:



### Legend

- LOW COST INTERVENTION
- MEDIUM COST INTERVENTION
- HIGH COST INTERVENTION

SCALE

KEY

PROJECT  
2-30 JELLS ROAD, WHEELERS HILL

CLIENT  
Monash Council

PROJECT #  
1378

DATE  
18-11-2019

PAGE  
19

