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## AGENDA

Council Meeting to be held  
at Darebin Civic Centre,  
350 High Street Preston  
on Monday, 20 November 2017  
at 6.00 pm.

Public question time will  
commence shortly after 6.00 pm.





## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN**

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

Council pays respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.





**Italian**

Questo è l'ordine del giorno della riunione del Consiglio Comunale di Darebin per la data che compare sulla prima pagina di questo documento. Se desiderate informazioni in lingua italiana sugli argomenti dell'ordine del giorno, siete pregati di chiamare la Linea Telefonica Multilingue del Comune al 8470 8888.

**Greek**

Αυτή είναι η ημερήσια διάταξη για τη συνεδρίαση του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου Darebin, για την ημερομηνία που φαίνεται στο εξώφυλλο αυτού του εγγράφου. Αν θα θέλατε πληροφορίες στα Ελληνικά σχετικά με τα θέματα σ' αυτή την ημερήσια διάταξη, παρακαλούμε καλέστε την Πολυγλωσσική Τηλεφωνική Γραμμή του Δήμου στον αριθμό 8470 8888.

**Chinese**

這是一份戴瑞濱市議會議程表，其開會日期顯示於此文件之封面。如果您欲索取有關此議程表的中文資料，敬請致電 8470 8888 聯絡市議會的多語種電話專線。

**Arabic**

هذا هو جدول أعمال اجتماع مجلس بلدية داربيبن والذي سيحدد في التاريخ الوارد في الصفحة الأولى من هذه الوثيقة. إذا أردت الحصول على مزيد من المعلومات في اللغة العربية حول المواضيع المذكورة في جدول الأعمال، فيرجى الاتصال برقم هاتف البلدية المتعدد اللغات  
8470 8888

**Macedonian**

Ова е дневниот ред за состанокот на Општината на Градот Даребин, која ќе биде на датумот покажан на предната корица од овој документ. Ако Вие сакате некои информации на Македонски јазик, за предметите на овој дневен ред, Ве молиме повикајте ја Општинската Повеќејазична Телефонска Линија на 8470 8888.

**Vietnamese**

Đây là nghị trình cho cuộc họp của Hội đồng Thành phố Darebin; ngày họp có ghi ở trang bìà tài liệu này. Muốn biết thêm về chương trình nghị sự bằng Việt ngữ, xin gọi cho Đường dây Điện thoại Đa Ngôn ngữ của Hội đồng Thành phố qua số 8470 8888.

**Bosnian**

Ovo je dnevni red za sastanak Gradske općine Darebin čiji je datum održavanja naznačen na prvoj strani ovog dokumenta. Ako želite više informacija o tačkama ovog dnevnog reda na bosanskom jeziku, molimo nazovite općinsku višjejezičnu telefonsku službu na 8470 8888.

**Croatian**

Ovo je dnevni red sastanka u Darebin City Council za dan koji je naveden na prednjem ovitku ovog dokumenta. Ako želite informacije o tačkama ovog dnevnog reda na hrvatskom jeziku, molimo da nazovete Council Multilingual Telephone Line (Višjejezičnu telefonsku liniju) na 8470 8888.

**Portuguese**

Esta é a pauta para a reunião da Câmara Municipal de Darebin a ser realizada na data que consta na capa deste documento. Se você deseja informação em Português sobre os itens desta pauta, por favor ligue para a Linha Telefônica Multilíngue da Câmara no 8470 8888.

**Serbian**

Ово је дневни ред за састанак Darebin City Council-а (Градско веће Darebin) који ће се одржати на дан који је наведен на насловној страни овог документа. Ако желите информације на српском о тачкама дневног реда, молимо вас да назовете Council Multilingual Telephone Line (Вишејезичку телефонску линију Већа), на 8470 8888.

**Somali**

Kuwani waa qodobada shirka lagaga wada hadli doono ee Degmada Degaanka Darebin ee taariikhda lagu xusey boga ugu sareeya ee qoraalkan. Haddii aad doonysid wararka ku saabsan qodobadan oo ku qoran Af-Somali, fadlan ka wac Khadka Taleefanka Afafka ee Golaha oo ah 8470 8888.



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# Agenda

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## 1. MEMBERSHIP

Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Chairperson)

Cr. Steph Amir

Cr. Gaetano Greco

Cr. Tim Laurence

Cr. Trent McCarthy

Cr. Lina Messina (Deputy Mayor)

Cr. Susanne Newton

Cr. Susan Rennie

Cr. Julie Williams

## 2. APOLOGIES

## 3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

## 4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That** the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16 October 2017 and the Special Meeting of Council held on 13 November 2017 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

## 5. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Members of the public can lodge questions for Council to answer or make a Comment or Submission prior to a specific item listed on the Agenda of an Ordinary Council meeting.

### **QUESTIONS**

Members of the public can ask up to two (2) questions at an Ordinary Council meeting.

Questions submitted online will be responded to in the first instance. If you are not present at the meeting, the Chairperson will read the question and provide a response. The Chairperson may then take questions from members in the gallery.

Any question not answered at the meeting will be taken on notice and a written response will be provided to the person asking the question.

In accordance with the Darebin Governance Local Law, the Chairperson may disallow a question if it:

- is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance; or
- deals with a subject matter already answered; or
- is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or an officer.

If you are unable to submit your question prior to the Ordinary Council meeting, the Chairperson may take questions from the floor.

### **SUBMISSIONS OR COMMENTS**

Members of the public may make a comment or 2 minute submission on a matter listed on the Agenda prior to the item being debated.

A person who is unable to stay at the meeting until the Agenda item is heard, may make their comment or submission during Question Time.

### **HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION OR MAKE A COMMENT OR SUBMISSION**

Members of the public who wish to ask a question, or make a comment or submission to an agenda item, at an Ordinary Council meeting are encouraged to do so in one of the following ways:

- (a) online at [darebin.vic.gov.au/questionsandsubmissions](http://darebin.vic.gov.au/questionsandsubmissions) by 3pm on the day of the meeting; or
- (b) by email to [QandS@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:QandS@darebin.vic.gov.au); by 3pm on the day of the meeting; or
- (c) in person at the Preston Customer Service Centre, 274 Gower Street, Preston; or
- (d) by mail to PO Box 91, Preston 3072; or
- (e) with a Council officer prior to a Council meeting.

Council meetings can be viewed at the Watch Council and Planning Committee meetings page.

Agenda's will be available for viewing on Council's website at the 'Meeting Agendas and Minutes' page by 5pm, up to 6 days prior to the date of the meeting. Copies are also available at Customer Service centres and libraries.

**6. PETITIONS**

**7. URGENT BUSINESS**

## 8. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

### 8.1 FINANCIAL REPORT - 3 MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

**Author:** Financial Accountant

**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

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#### Report Background

Under the *Local Government Act 1989*, at least every three months the Chief Executive Officer is required to present to the Council a statement comparing the budgeted with the actual revenues and expenses for the financial year to date.

#### Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

#### Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

#### Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 – A leading, modern and open Council

#### Summary

A comprehensive financial review has been undertaken for the three months ended 30 September 2017 to assess the financial performance of Council year-to-date. The outcome of the review indicates that Council has achieved a year-to-date operating surplus of \$95.98 million, which is \$4.39 million ahead of budget and capital works expenditure of \$4.50 million, which is \$1.80 million behind the budget.

All material variations have been explained in the report.

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That** Council receives the contents of the 'Financial Report for the three months ended 30 September 2017' included as **Appendix A** to this report and notes the year-to-date actual and budget operating and capital results.

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#### Introduction

In compliance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, the attached report (**Appendix A**) compares for the three months ended 30 September 2017:

- Actual and budgeted operating revenues and expenses;
- Actual and budgeted capital revenues and expenses;

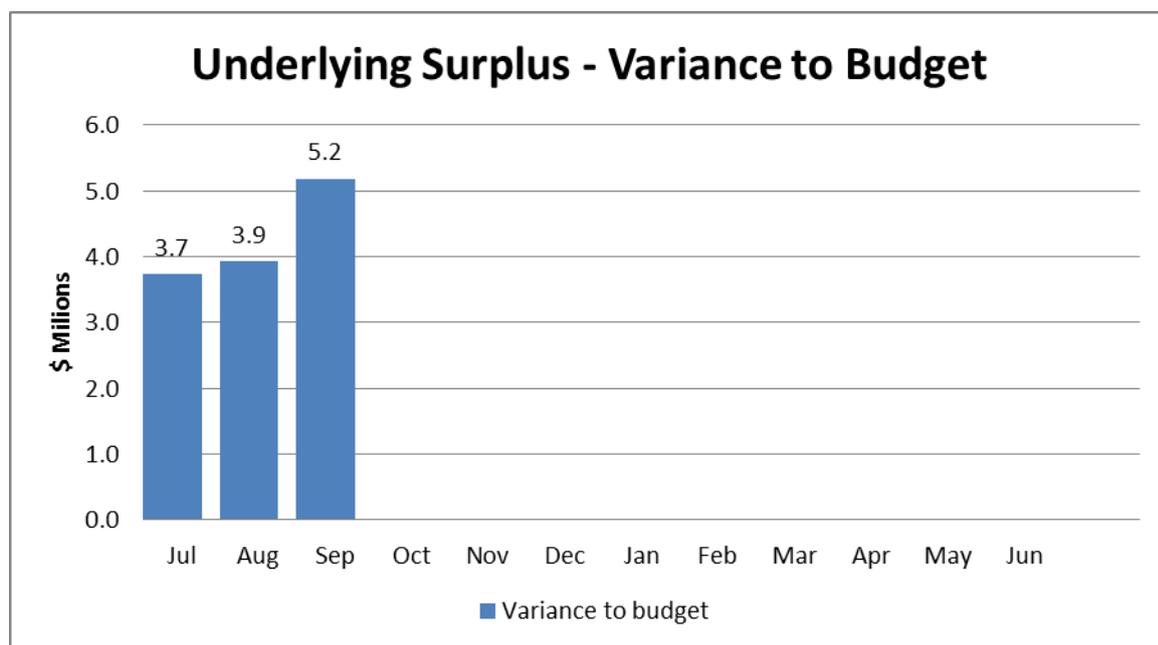
- Actual and budgeted movements in the Balance Sheet; and
- Actual and budgeted movements in the Cash Flow Statement.

**Issues and Discussion**

***Operating Performance***

For the three months ended 30 September 2017, Council has recorded an operating surplus of \$95.98 million, which is \$4.39 million ahead of the year to date budget. After eliminating capital and other items, the adjusted underlying surplus is \$94.10 million, which is \$5.18 million ahead of budget.

The main items contributing to this favourable variance are rates and charges, monetary contributions and materials and services.



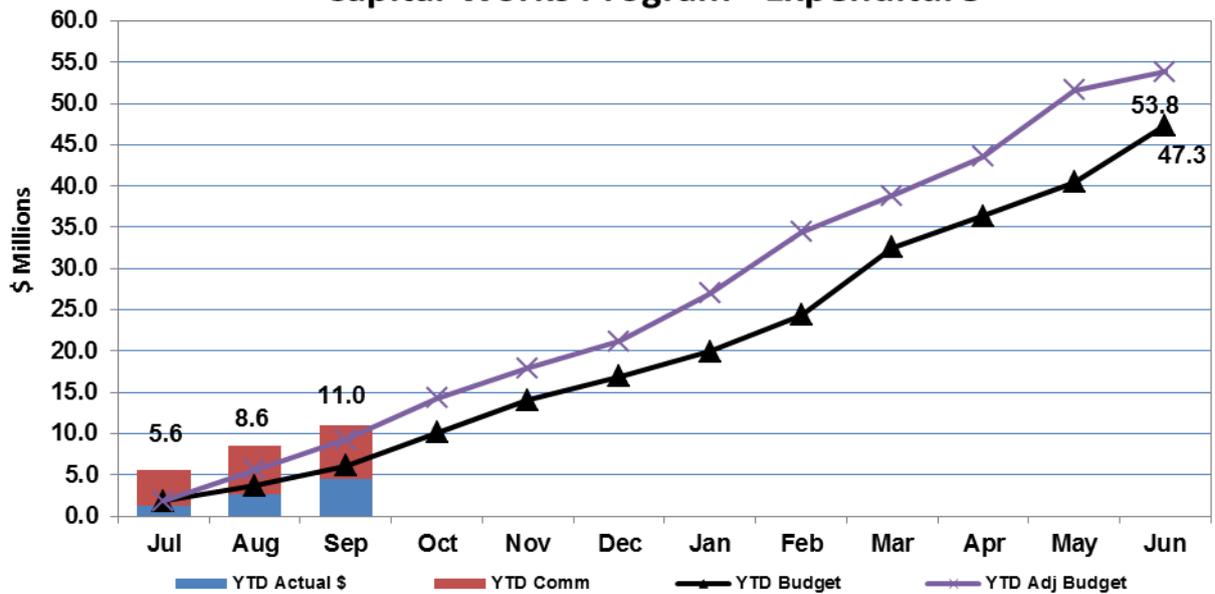
***Capital Performance***

For the three months ended 30 September 2017, Council has expended \$4.50 million on the capital works program, which is \$1.81 million behind the year to date budget. The variance is due mainly to delays in buildings works, footpath and cycleways and plant, machinery and equipment.

As at 30 September 2017, a further \$6.79 million has been committed by way of issued purchase orders. Commitments are not reflected in the reported capital expenditure and may indicate that many projects are well progressed.

	YTD Budget	YTD Adj Budget	YTD Actual
% of budget expended	16%	13%	9%
% of budget expended and committed			22%

### Capital Works Program - Expenditure



	YTD Adj Budget	YTD Actual	Budget	2016/2017 Actual
% Renewal Ratio (LGPRF)	83%	48%	122%	79%
% Renewal / Upgrade Ratio (VAGO)	107%	62%	158%	93%

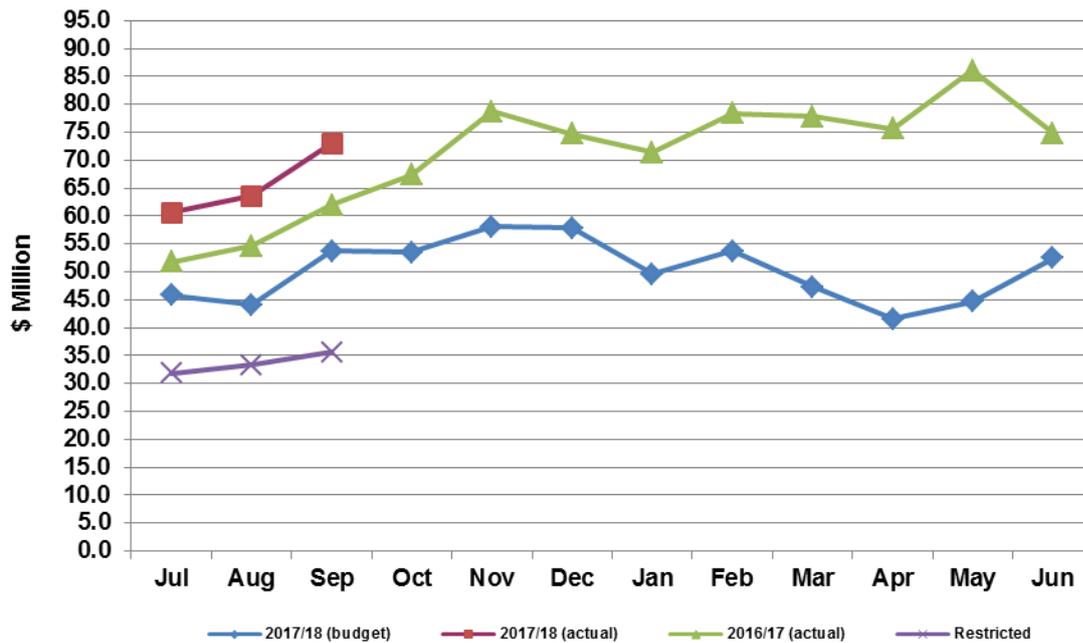
#### Financial Position

The Financial Position as at 30 September 2017 shows a cash and investment balance of \$73.01 million which is \$19.26 million ahead of budget. The variance is due mainly to timing differences in receipt of rates, user fees and charges, contributions, payments to employees and suppliers, delay in payments for capital works and a higher opening cash and investment position compared with budget.

The cash and investment balance of \$73.01 million was sufficient to meet restricted cash and intended allocation obligations of \$35.60 million at the end of September. Restricted cash is the amount of cash holdings Council requires to meet external restrictions such as trust funds, statutory reserves and cash for intended allocations such as cash held to fund future capital works.

The net current asset position is \$153.52 million which is \$20.59 million more than budget. The net asset position of \$1.46 billion is \$80.58 million more than budget.

**Actual and Budget cash and investments balance by month**



**Options for Consideration**

Nil

**Financial and Resource Implications**

Nil

**Risk Management**

Nil

**Policy Implications**

**Economic Development**

There are no economic development considerations relating to this report.

**Environmental Sustainability**

There are no environmental sustainability considerations relating to this report.

**Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

There are no human rights, equity and inclusion considerations relating to this report.

**Other**

There are no other considerations relating to this report.

**Future Actions**

The Financial Report for the six months ended 31 December 2017 will be presented to Council's for review at its meeting in February 2018.

**Consultation and Advocacy**

- Managers and Coordinators

**Related Documents**

- Nil

**Attachments**

- Financial Report - three months ended 30 September 2017 (**Appendix A**)

**Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

Three months ended  
30 September 2017



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## Financial Report 3 months ended 30 September 2017

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## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

## 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1.1 Operating performance

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Var \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000
<b>Operating</b>				
Revenue	132,107	133,767	1,660	<b>170,181</b>
Expenditure	(40,513)	(37,789)	2,724	<b>(157,381)</b>
<b>Surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>91,594</b>	<b>95,978</b>	<b>4,384</b>	<b>12,800</b>
<b>Capital &amp; other</b>				
Revenue / grants	(1,428)	0	1,428	<b>(2,696)</b>
Developer contributions	(1,248)	(1,882)	(634)	<b>(5,000)</b>
<b>Adjusted underlying surplus</b>	<b>88,918</b>	<b>94,096</b>	<b>5,178</b>	<b>5,104</b>

For the three months ended 30 September 2017, Council has recorded an operating surplus of \$95.98 million, which is \$4.39 million ahead of the year to date budget. After eliminating capital and other items, the adjusted underlying surplus is \$94.10 million, which is \$5.18 million ahead of budget.

The main items contributing to this favourable variance are rates and charges, monetary contributions and materials and services.

### 1.2 Capital performance

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Var \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Adjusted Budget \$'000
Property	1,396	662	734	<b>7,670</b>	10,311
Plant & equipment	1,756	1,374	382	<b>9,458</b>	10,123
Infrastructure	3,151	2,459	691	<b>30,199</b>	33,374
<b>Total capital works</b>	<b>6,303</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>1,807</b>	<b>47,327</b>	<b>53,808</b>

For the three months ended 30 September 2017, Council has expended \$4.50 million on the capital works program, which is \$1.81 million behind the year to date budget. The variance is due mainly to delays in buildings works, footpath and cycleways and plant, machinery and equipment.

As at 30 September 2017 a further \$6.79 million has been committed by way of issued purchase orders. Commitments are not reflected in the reported capital expenditure and may indicate that many projects are well progressed.

### 1.3 Financial position

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Var \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Audited 2017 \$'000
Cash and investments	53,743	73,007	19,264	<b>50,571</b>	74,881
Net current assets	132,928	153,518	20,590	<b>30,541</b>	56,370
Net assets and total equity	<b>1,374,263</b>	<b>1,454,846</b>	<b>80,583</b>	<b>1,295,469</b>	1,358,869

The Financial Position as at 30 September 2017 shows a cash and investment balance of \$73.01 million which is \$19.26 million ahead of budget. The variance is due mainly to timing differences in receipt of rates, user fees & charges, contributions, payments to employees and suppliers, delay in payments for capital works and a higher opening cash and investment position compared with budget.

## Financial Report 3 months ended 30 September 2017

The cash and investment balance of \$73.01 million was sufficient to meet restricted cash and intended allocation obligations of \$35.60 million at the end of September. Restricted cash is the amount of cash holdings Council requires to meet external restrictions such as trust funds, statutory reserves and cash for intended allocations such as cash held to fund future capital works.

The net current asset position is \$153.52 million which is \$20.59 million more than budget. The net asset position of \$1.46 billion is \$80.58 million more than budget.

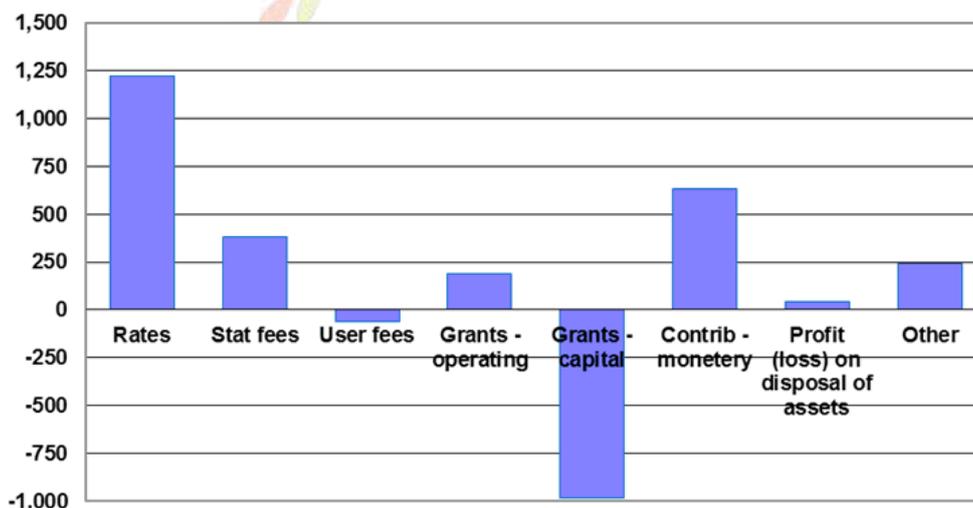
### 2. FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

#### 2.1 Operating performance

##### 2.1.1 Operating income

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Bud Var \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000
<b>Income</b>				
Rates and charges	119,597	120,819	1,222	123,775
Statutory fees and fines	1,768	2,151	383	8,348
User fees	2,888	2,824	(64)	11,852
Grants - operating	4,305	4,492	187	14,850
Grants - capital	1,483	499	(984)	3,163
Contributions - monetary	1,248	1,882	634	5,000
Net gain (loss) on disposal of assets	(29)	14	43	(13)
Other income	847	1,086	239	3,206
<b>Total income</b>	<b>132,107</b>	<b>133,767</b>	<b>1,660</b>	<b>170,181</b>

City of DAREBIN  
Income YTD variances



## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### Major Operating Income Variances

	Var	YTD Fav Budget \$'000	YTD Unfav Budget \$'000
<b>Rates and charges</b>		<b>1,222</b>	
General rates	P	359	
Rebates & other adjustments	T	166	
Supplementary rates	P	687	
<b>Statutory fees &amp; fines</b>		<b>383</b>	
Civic compliance	T	267	
Governance (non-voting fines)	T	73	
<b>User fees</b>			<b>64</b>
Leisure contracts	T		50
Property management	T		67
Reservoir Leisure Centre	T		92
Civic compliance	T	75	
Valuation services	T	107	
<b>Grants - operating</b>		<b>187</b>	
Civic compliance	T	161	
Darebin speak	P	48	
Libraries	T	478	
Service delivery	T	69	
Victorian Grants Commission *	P		562
<b>Grants - capital</b>			<b>984</b>
Dundas St bridge replacement	T		365
Inner city netball program	T		1,000
Wood St pedestrian bridge	T		50
Roads to Recovery	T	443	
<b>Contributions - monetary</b>		<b>634</b>	
Public open space	P	634	
<b>Net gain / (loss) on sale of PP&amp;E</b>		<b>43</b>	
WDV of assets sold	P	41	
<b>Other</b>		<b>239</b>	
Interest on investments, loans & rates	T	72	
Revenue services	T	77	
WorkCover salary recoup	P	89	
Arts precincts	T		76

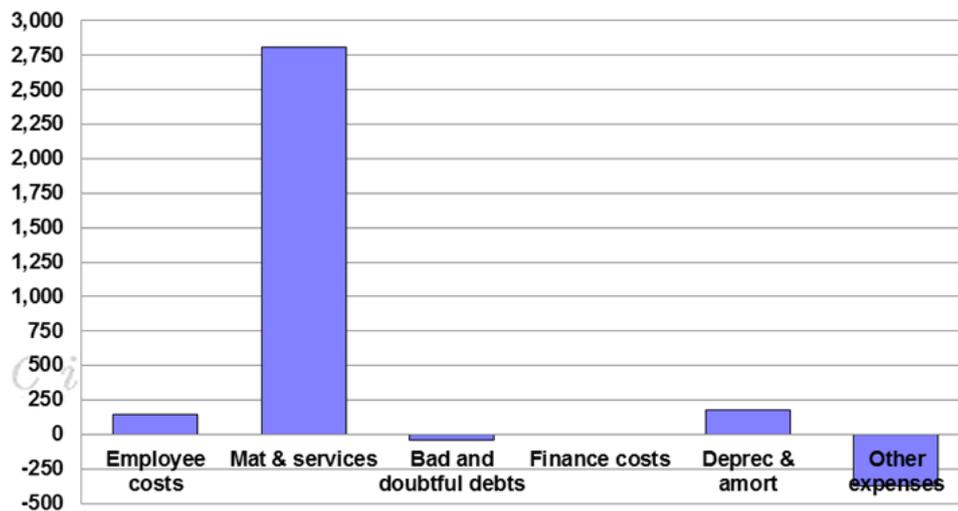
Note: Var T = Timing P = Permanent CF = Carried forward prior year  
 Fav – Favourable against budget, Unfav – Unfavourable against budget  
 \*Note: 50% of the 2017/18 VGC funding was paid in June 2017.

## Financial Report 3 months ended 30 September 2017

### 2.1.2 Operating expenses

Expense type	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Bud Var \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000
<b>Expenses</b>				
Employee costs	19,886	19,742	144	81,860
Materials and services	11,644	8,831	2,813	43,197
Bad and doubtful debts	219	258	(39)	876
Depreciation and amortisation	5,696	5,520	176	22,784
Other expenses	3,068	3,438	(370)	8,664
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>40,513</b>	<b>37,789</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>157,381</b>

### Expenses YTD variances



## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### Major Operating Expense Variances

	Var	YTD Fav Budget \$'000	YTD Unfav Budget \$'000
<b>Employee costs</b>		<b>144</b>	
Community development	T	70	
City futures & assets	T	112	
Civic compliance	T	66	
Environmental operations	T	96	
Operations & environment	T	108	
Service delivery	T	178	
Transition & assessment	T	69	
Corporate initiatives	T		452
Parental leave wages & salary	T		62
WorkCover wages & salary	T		71
<b>Materials and services</b>		<b>2,813</b>	
Business systems	T	441	
City design & strategic planning	T	249	
City futures & assets	T	86	
Client & information services	T	171	
Capital delivery/Engineering services	T	111	
Economic & business development	T	70	
Environmental operations	T	111	
Infrastructure planning	T	59	
Leisure contracts	T	328	
Leisure services	T	116	
Operation projects from capital works**	P,CF	237	
Parks infrastructure	T	59	
Public places	T	104	
Transport Strategy	T	1,016	
Youth services	T	112	
Advocacy & communication	T		63
Arboriculture planning	T		385
Facility management	T		115
Governance	P		103
Infrastructure maintenance & support	T		102
Reservoir Leisure Centre	T		172
Service delivery	T		69
Statutory planning	T		81
<b>Depreciation and amortisation</b>		<b>176</b>	
Plant & equipment	T	73	
Property	T	163	
Infrastructure	T		60
<b>Other</b>			<b>370</b>
Animal control*	P		172
Community grants	T		187
Planning & building services	P		234
Public places	T		175
Arts precincts	T	85	
Insurance	P	185	

Note: Var T = Timing P = Permanent CF = Carried forward prior year,  
Fav – Favourable against budget, Unfav – Unfavourable against budget

\*Note: Amortised Animal Welfare Facility contribution paid in 2016/17.

\*\*Note: Includes expenditure from the 2017/18 capital works program not recognised as Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment and intangible assets.

# Financial Report

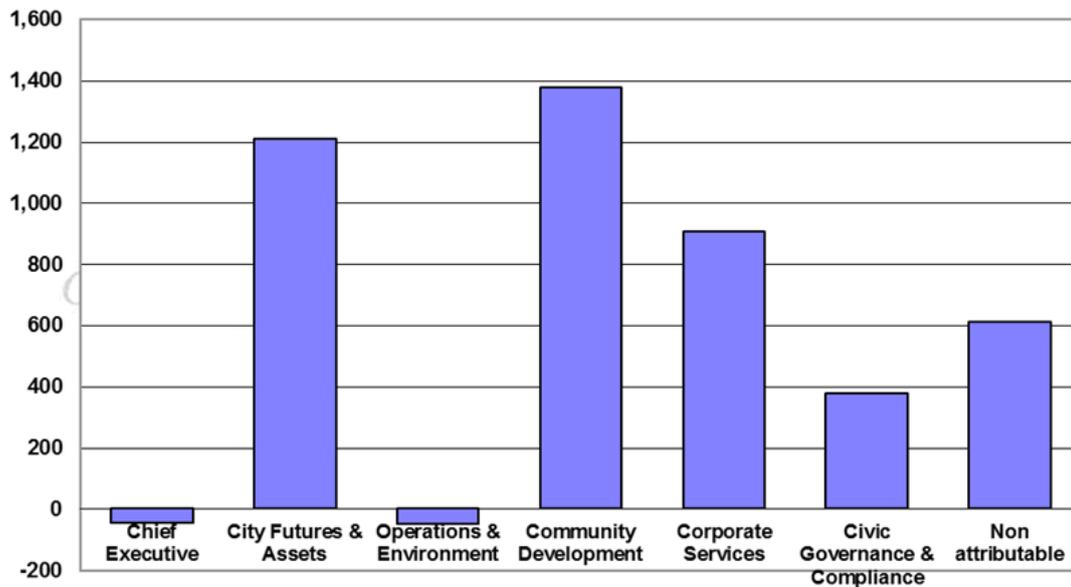
## 3 months ended 30 September 2017

### 2.1.3 Department analysis

	YTD Budget Net cost \$'000	YTD Actual Net cost \$'000	YTD Bud Var Net cost \$'000	Adopted Budget Net cost \$'000
<b>Department</b>				
Chief Executive	206	254	(48)	868
City Futures & Assets	3,699	2,489	1,210	11,292
Operations & Environment	8,352	8,400	(48)	41,126
Community Development	6,603	5,226	1,377	28,015
Corporate Services	3,624	2,719	905	12,572
Civic Gov. & Compliance	1,428	1,051	377	4,855
	23,912	20,139	3,773	98,728
Other non-attributable <sup>1</sup>	(115,506)	(116,117)	611	(111,528)
<b>Net (surplus) deficit</b>	<b>(91,594)</b>	<b>(95,978)</b>	<b>4,384</b>	<b>(12,800)</b>

1. Other non-attributable includes rate revenue, grants commission, capital revenue, depreciation, insurance and other significant items.

### Department net cost YTD variances



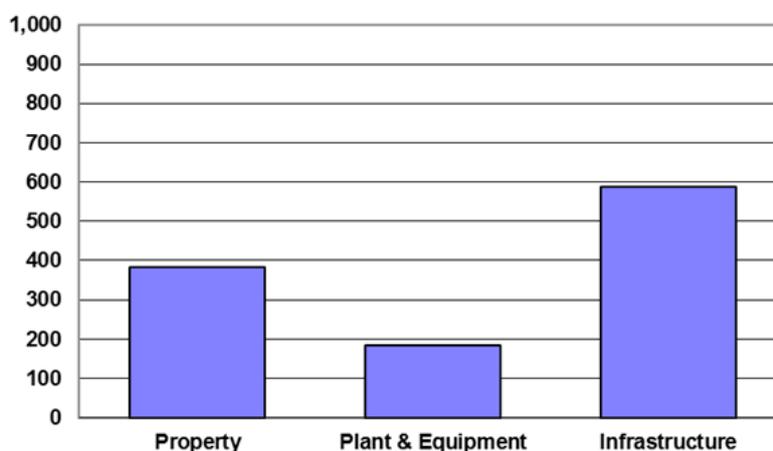
## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### 2.2 Capital performance

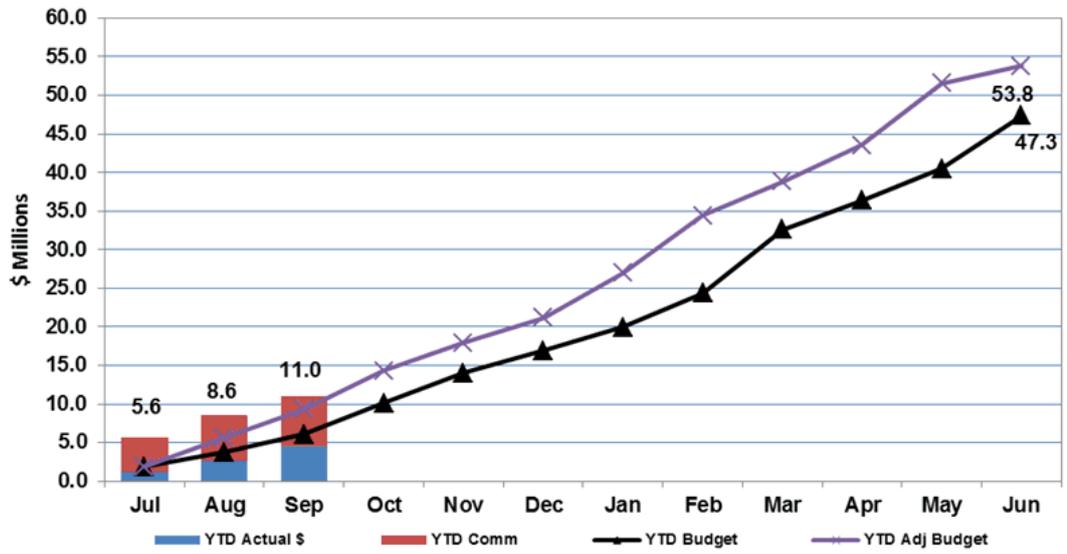
	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Bud Var \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000	Adjusted Budget \$'000
<b>Capital Projects</b>					
<b>Property</b>					
Land Improvements	111	174	(63)	508	692
Buildings	1,179	358	821	6,008	7,854
Building Improvements	106	130	(24)	1,154	1,765
<b>Total Property</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>7,670</b>	<b>10,311</b>
<b>Plant &amp; Equip.</b>					
Plant, machinery & eq.	1,362	935	427	5,488	5,534
Fixtures, fit & furn.	15	0	15	147	200
Computers & telecom.	39	133	(94)	3,034	3,600
Library books	340	306	34	789	789
<b>Total Plant &amp; Equip.</b>	<b>1,756</b>	<b>1,374</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,458</b>	<b>10,123</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>					
Roads	162	47	115	6,999	7,577
Bridges	182	16	166	3,417	3,417
Footpaths & cycleways	806	496	310	3,690	3,820
Drainage	47	161	(114)	1,621	2,561
Recreation, leis facil.	95	18	77	386	414
Parks, open space & str.	1,669	1,667	2	12,837	14,070
Off street carpark	1	0	1	46	46
Other infrastructure	189	54	134	1,203	1,469
<b>Total Infrastructure</b>	<b>3,151</b>	<b>2,459</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>30,199</b>	<b>33,374</b>
<b>Total capital works</b>	<b>6,303</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>1,808</b>	<b>47,327</b>	<b>53,808</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>					
Asset renewal	3,698	2,638	1,060	27,766	31,568
New assets	1,330	948	382	9,985	11,352
Asset expansion	168	120	48	1,265	1,438
Asset upgrade	1,107	789	318	8,311	9,449
<b>Total capital works</b>	<b>6,303</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>1,808</b>	<b>47,327</b>	<b>53,808</b>

#### Capital works YTD variances by asset class



**Financial Report**  
**3 months ended 30 September 2017**

*Capital works YTD & Committed expenditure cumulative*



## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### Major Capital Works Variances

	Var	YTD Ahead of Budget \$'000	YTD Behind Budget \$'000
<b>Property</b>			734
<b>Land improvements</b>		63	
Sports ground drainage	T	141	
Sports ground upgrades	T		74
<b>Buildings</b>			821
Multi-sports stadium	P,CF		300
NARC masterplan	P,CF		117
NARC redevelopment	P,CF		101
PRACE portables	P,CF		100
Relocatable buildings	P,CF		59
GH Mott pavilion	P,CF	91	
<b>Building improvements</b>		24	
Disability access	T,CF	114	
Environmental sustainable design	T		86
<b>Plant &amp; Equipment</b>			382
<b>Plant, machinery &amp; equipment</b>			427
Plant replacement	P,CF ,E		279
RLC security & risk upgrade	T		50
<b>Computer equipment</b>		94	
IT infrastructure	T	131	
<b>Library books</b>			34
<b>Infrastructure</b>			692
<b>Roads</b>			115
Road rehab – Garden St	T		55
<b>Bridges</b>			166
Dundas St bridge replacement	T		174
<b>Footpath &amp; cycle ways</b>			310
Footpath renewal program	T	57	
Shared path – parks renewal	T		372
<b>Drainage</b>		114	
Strategic water outcomes	T	52	
<b>Recreation, leisure &amp; comm fac.</b>			77
No individual significant item	T		
<b>Other infrastructure</b>			134
Traffic management/road safety	T		133

Note: Var T = Timing P = Permanent CF = Carried forward prior/next year E = Externally funded

IF = Infrastructure Funded project

Note –\*\* City wide beautification works (\$2.0M) have been split into 11 individual projects

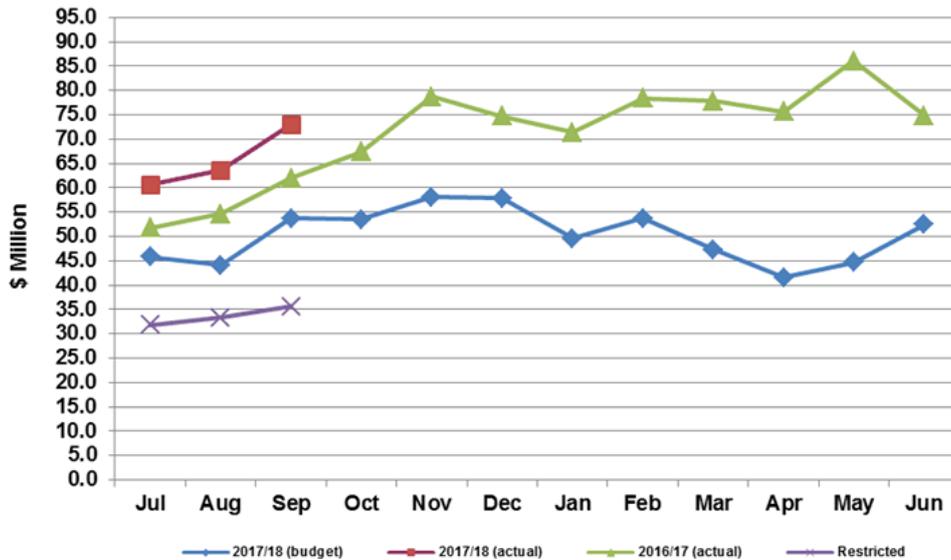
# Financial Report

## 3 months ended 30 September 2017

### 2.3 Financial position

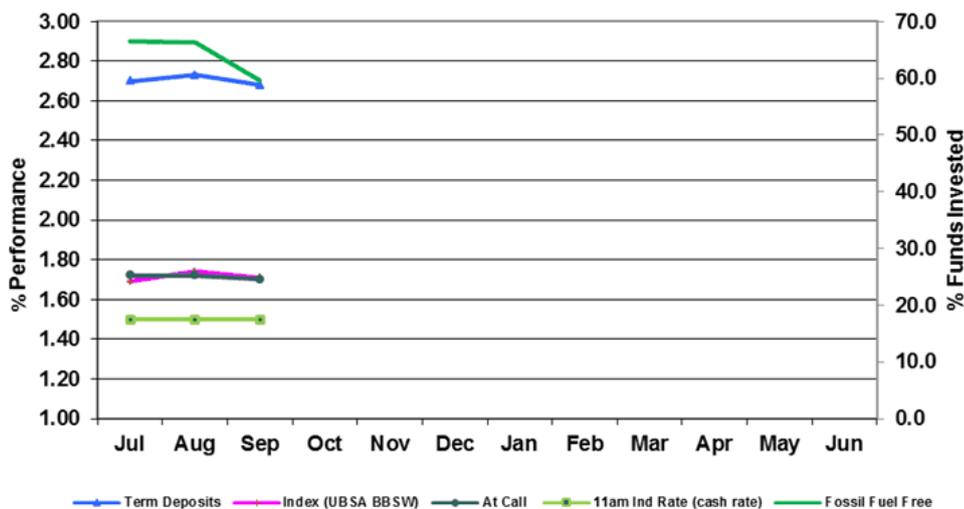
	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Var \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000
Cash and investments	53,743	73,007	19,264	50,571
Net current assets	132,928	153,518	20,590	30,541
Net assets and total equity	1,374,263	1,454,846	80,583	1,295,469

Actual & Budget cash & investments balance by month



Note: Cash and investments include term deposits with a maturity date exceeding 90 days which are classified as other financial assets in the Balance Sheet (\$22.23M).

Cash & Investment Weighted Average Interest Rate v Benchmark

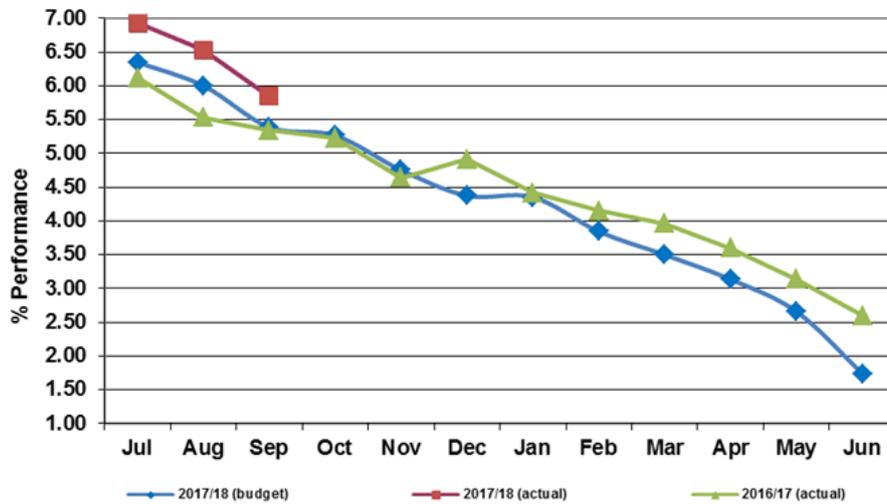


As at 30 September 2017, 60% of all invested funds were placed with financial institutions and ADIs which don't have a record of funding fossil fuels. (30 June, 64%).

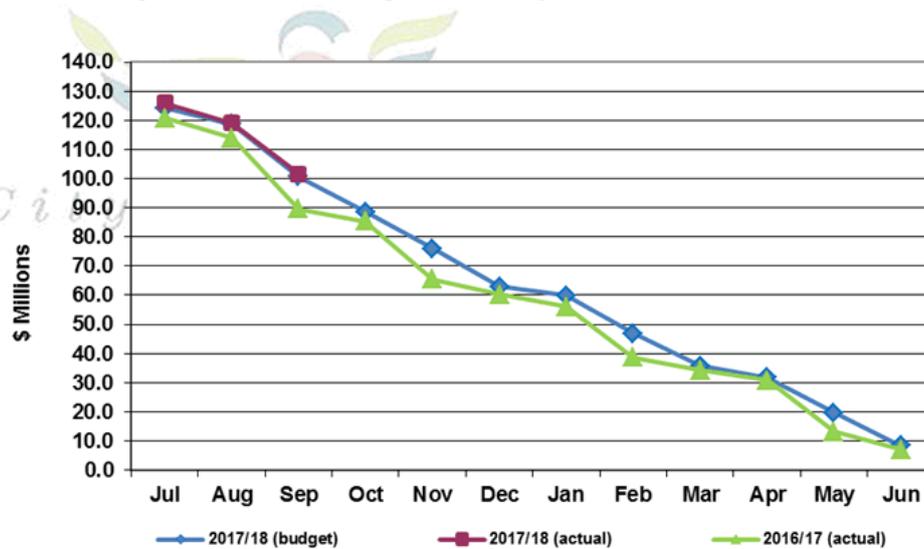
# Financial Report

## 3 months ended 30 September 2017

**Actual & Budget working capital ratio by month**  
(Current assets / Current liabilities)



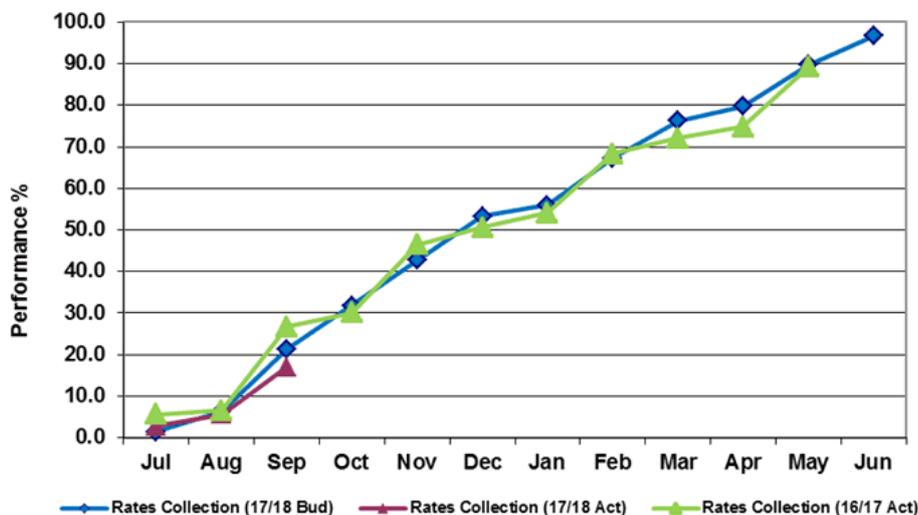
**Actual & Budget rates outstanding balances by month**



# Financial Report

## 3 months ended 30 September 2017

**Actual & Budget % of rates received by month**



**Major Balance Sheet YTD variances**

	Var	YTD Fav Budget \$'000	YTD Unfav Budget \$'000
<b>Current assets</b>		<b>21,980</b>	
Cash and investments	CF, P *	19,264	
Rate receivables	P	3,079	
Other receivables	T		1,214
Other assets	P	849	
<b>Current liabilities</b>			<b>1,390</b>
Trade creditors	P		446
Other payables	P	407	
Trust funds and deposits	P		2,744
Employee provisions	P	1,393	
<b>Non-current assets</b>		<b>60,062</b>	
Other receivables	T	71	
Property, Infra. plant & equipment	P	59,392	
Intangible assets	P	324	
Investment property	P	275	
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			<b>69</b>
Employee provisions	P		69
<b>Equity</b>		<b>80,583</b>	
Accumulated surplus	P	10,509	
Asset revaluation reserve	P	69,541	
Other reserves	P	533	

\*Note: Cash and investments include term deposits with a maturity date exceeding 90 days which are classified as other financial assets in the Balance Sheet (\$29.67M).

Note: Var T = Timing P = Permanent CF = Carried forward prior year  
 Fav – Favourable against budget, Unfav – Unfavourable against budget

**Financial Report**  
**3 months ended 30 September 2017**

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**APPENDIX A**

Comprehensive Income Statement  
Balance Sheet  
Statement of Cash Flows  
Statement of Capital Works



## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL

#### Comprehensive Income Statement

For the 3 months ended 30 September, 2017

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	Annual Budget
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Income</b>				
Rates and charges	119,597	120,819	1,222	123,775
Statutory fees and fines	1,768	2,151	383	8,348
User fees	2,888	2,824	(64)	11,852
Grants - operating	4,305	4,492	187	14,850
Grants - capital	1,483	499	(984)	3,163
Contributions - monetary	1,248	1,882	634	5,000
Net gain (loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(29)	14	43	(13)
Other income	847	1,086	239	3,206
<b>Total income</b>	<b>132,107</b>	<b>133,767</b>	<b>1,660</b>	<b>170,181</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Employee costs	19,886	19,742	144	81,860
Materials and services	11,644	8,831	2,813	43,197
Bad and doubtful debts	219	258	(39)	876
Depreciation and amortisation	5,696	5,520	176	22,784
Other expenses	3,068	3,438	(370)	8,664
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>40,513</b>	<b>37,789</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>157,381</b>
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<b>91,594</b>	<b>95,978</b>	<b>4,384</b>	<b>12,800</b>
<b>Less</b>				
Grants - capital (non-recurrent)	(1,428)	0	1,428	(2,696)
Contributions - monetary	(1,248)	(1,882)	(634)	(5,000)
<b>Adjusted underlying surplus/ (deficit)</b>	<b>88,918</b>	<b>94,096</b>	<b>5,178</b>	<b>5,104</b>

## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL

#### Balance Sheet

As at 30 September 2017

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Audited 2017 \$'000
<b>Current assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	34,579	50,782	16,203	<b>33,297</b>	47,035
Trade and other receivables	106,880	108,745	1,865	<b>15,311</b>	13,140
Other financial assets	19,164	22,225	3,061	<b>17,274</b>	27,846
Inventories	65	67	2	<b>65</b>	67
Other assets	2,545	3,394	849	<b>1,640</b>	3,596
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>163,233</b>	<b>185,213</b>	<b>21,980</b>	<b>67,587</b>	<b>91,684</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>					
Trade and other receivables	114	185	71	<b>114</b>	185
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	1,239,471	1,298,863	59,392	<b>1,263,356</b>	1,299,929
Investment property	2,867	3,142	275	<b>2,867</b>	3,142
Intangible assets	352	676	324	<b>80</b>	781
Other financial assets	236	236	0	<b>236</b>	236
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>1,243,040</b>	<b>1,303,102</b>	<b>60,062</b>	<b>1,266,653</b>	<b>1,304,273</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>1,406,273</b>	<b>1,488,315</b>	<b>82,042</b>	<b>1,334,240</b>	<b>1,395,957</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Trade and other payables	5,520	5,559	(39)	<b>11,748</b>	11,662
Trust funds and deposits	5,038	7,782	(2,744)	<b>5,151</b>	5,034
Provisions	19,747	18,354	1,393	<b>20,147</b>	18,618
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>30,305</b>	<b>31,695</b>	<b>(1,390)</b>	<b>37,046</b>	<b>35,314</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>					
Provisions	1,705	1,774	(69)	<b>1,725</b>	1,774
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>1,705</b>	<b>1,774</b>	<b>(69)</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>1,774</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>32,010</b>	<b>33,469</b>	<b>(1,459)</b>	<b>38,771</b>	<b>37,088</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>1,374,263</b>	<b>1,454,846</b>	<b>80,583</b>	<b>1,295,469</b>	<b>1,358,869</b>
<b>Equity</b>					
Accumulated surplus	619,578	630,087	10,509	<b>536,484</b>	534,108
Asset revaluation reserve	742,157	811,698	69,541	<b>742,157</b>	811,699
Other reserves	12,528	13,061	533	<b>16,828</b>	13,062
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>1,374,263</b>	<b>1,454,846</b>	<b>80,583</b>	<b>1,295,469</b>	<b>1,358,869</b>

## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL

#### Statement of Cash Flow

For the 3 months ended 30 September, 2017

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000
	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)		Inflows (Outflows)
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>				
Rates	25,277	24,305	(972)	120,472
Statutory fees and fines	1,575	2,036	461	7,562
User fees & charges (inclusive of GST)	3,530	2,880	(650)	14,368
Government receipts	5,702	5,223	(479)	17,898
Contributions - Monetary	1,248	1,882	634	5,000
Other income	191	693	502	1,647
Employee costs	(22,479)	(20,939)	1,540	(81,860)
Materials and services (inclusive of GST)	(16,822)	(15,658)	1,163	(61,248)
Net FSPL refund / payment	2,842	2,551	(291)	0
	1,064	2,972	1,909	23,839
Interest	321	395	74	1,695
Trust funds and deposits	0	154	154	0
Net GST refund / payment	1,881	2,880	999	9,188
Net cash provided by operating activities	3,266	6,401	3,135	34,722
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>				
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	159	173	14	734
Payment for property, infrastr. plant & equipment	(10,032)	(8,449)	1,582	(47,327)
Repayment of loans and advances	0	0	0	0
Proceeds from sale of other financial assets	0	0	0	3,983
Net cash used in investing activities	(9,873)	(8,276)	1,596	(42,610)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>				
Net cash used in financing activities	0	0	0	0
<b>Net increase / (decrease) in cash &amp; cash equivalents</b>	(6,607)	(1,875)	4,732	(7,888)
Cash & cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	60,350	74,881	14,531	60,350
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at the end of the period</b>	<b>53,743</b>	<b>73,006</b>	<b>19,263</b>	<b>52,462</b>

Note: Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year includes term deposits with a maturity date exceeding 90 days which are classified as other financial assets in the Balance Sheet (\$27.85M).

## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL

#### Statement of Cash Flow

For the 3 months ended 30 September, 2017

#### Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus

	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	Annual Budget
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Surplus for the year	91,594	95,978	4,384	12,800
Items not involving cash or non operating in nature				
Depreciation and amortisation	5,696	5,520	(176)	22,784
Interest expense	0	0	0	0
Bad & doubtful debts	219	258	39	876
Net (gain) / loss on sale of assets	29	(14)	(43)	13
	<u>97,538</u>	<u>101,742</u>	<u>4,204</u>	<u>36,473</u>
Change in operating assets and liabilities				
Decrease / (Increase) in rate debtors	(92,977)	(96,514)	(3,537)	(192)
Decrease / (Increase) in other operating assets	565	660	95	252
(Decrease) / Increase in Trade creditors	(5,489)	(1,719)	3,770	738
(Decrease) / Increase in other operating liabilities	3,629	2,314	(1,315)	(2,969)
(Decrease) / Increase in provisions	0	(82)	(82)	420
	<u>(94,272)</u>	<u>(95,341)</u>	<u>(1,069)</u>	<u>(1,751)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>3,266</u>	<u>6,401</u>	<u>3,135</u>	<u>34,722</u>



## Financial Report

### 3 months ended 30 September 2017

#### DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL

#### Statement of Capital Works

For the 3 months ended 30 September, 2017

	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Annual Budget \$'000	Adjusted Budget \$'000	YTD Adj Budget \$'000
<b>Capital works</b>						
<b>Property</b>						
Land Improvements	111	174	(63)	508 ✓	692	111
Buildings	1,179	358	821	6,008 ✓	7,854	1,538
Building improvements	106	130	(24)	1,154 ✓	1,765	285
<b>Total property</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>7,670</b>	<b>10,311</b>	<b>1,934</b>
<b>Plant &amp; equipment</b>						
Plant, machinery & equipment	1,362	935	427	5,488	5,534	1,009
Fixtures, fittings & furniture	15	0	15	147	200	0
Computers & telecommunications	39	133	(94)	3,034	3,600	126
Library books	340	306 ✓	34	789	789	340
<b>Total plant &amp; equipment</b>	<b>1,756</b>	<b>1,374</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>9,458</b>	<b>10,123</b>	<b>1,475</b>
<b>Infrastructure</b>						
Roads	162	47	115	6,999	7,577	343
Bridges	182	16	166	3,417	3,417	182
Footpaths & cycleways	806	496	310	3,690	3,820	806
Drainage	47	161	(114)	1,621	2,561	113
Recreation, leisure & community facilities	95	18	77	386	414	93
Parks, open space & streetscapes	1,669	1,667	2	12,837	14,070	2,894
Off street car parks	1	0	1	46	46	1
Other infrastructure	189	54	134	1,203	1,469	189
<b>Total infrastructure</b>	<b>3,151</b>	<b>2,459</b> ✓	<b>692</b>	<b>30,199</b>	<b>33,374</b>	<b>4,621</b>
<b>Total capital works</b>	<b>6,303</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>1,808</b>	<b>47,327</b>	<b>53,808</b>	<b>8,030</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>						
Asset renewal	3,698	2,638	1,060	27,766	31,568	4,711
New assets	1,330	948	382	9,985	11,352	1,694
Asset expansion	168	120	48	1,265	1,438	215
Asset upgrade	1,107	789	318	8,311	9,449	1,410
<b>Total capital works</b>	<b>6,303</b>	<b>4,495</b>	<b>1,808</b>	<b>47,327</b>	<b>53,808</b>	<b>8,030</b>

**8.2 2016-2017 ANNUAL SUMMARY RESULTS OF DAREBIN COMMUNITY SURVEY****Author:** Research Officer**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

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**Report Background**

An Annual Summary is presented to Council every year. *The Darebin Community Survey* has been commissioned by Council since 1999 and examines the levels of community satisfaction with a range of services and programs conducted by Council. Since March 2007 the survey has been conducted quarterly.

The Community Survey was implemented as part of the Best Value Principles legislative requirement in the *Local Government Act 1989* under section 208B. It is a survey conducted on behalf of Council to regularly assess the community's perceptions throughout each year.

**Previous Council Resolution**

At its meeting held on 3 October 2016, Council resolved:

*'That Council note and endorse the 2015/2016 Annual Summary of the Darebin Community Survey attached as Appendix A'.*

**Previous Briefing(s)**

- Councillor Briefing – 23 October 2017

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

- Goal 5 - Involving our diverse community

**Summary**

The Darebin Community Survey is conducted quarterly and provides Council with a comprehensive analysis of the community's perception of Council's performance in a broad range of services and facilities as well as overall. The survey also measures satisfaction with particular aspects of governance and leadership, customer service, community safety and the community's perception of Council as an organisation.

A section in the survey is also included which enables Council to ascertain the issues that the community perceives to be important and gauge awareness level of advocacy campaigns and local improvements.

The community survey also measures indicators from the Council Plan and Local Government Performance Reporting Framework.

This paper provides the summary of the 2016-2017 annual results. Key findings from the 2016-2017 annual results were as follows:

- Overall performance score remained the same as the previous year.
- The overall performance score compares favourably to the metropolitan Melbourne average results from the 2017 Governing Melbourne Survey and the 2017 Local Government Satisfaction Survey.

- Satisfaction ratings with most of the Governance and Leadership aspects have decreased from the previous year.
- Satisfaction with a notable number of Council Services and Facilities that are measured quarterly and twice a year has decreased from the previous year.
- A total of 129 Council advocacy campaigns were mentioned.
- A total of 502 responses were received from the Darebin community identifying improvements noticed in the local area in the last twelve months.
- The top three most commonly identified issues were 'Traffic Management', (22.8% of respondents), 'Building, Planning, Housing and Development' (14.1% of respondents), and 'Parking' (10.1% of respondents).

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

**That** Council notes and endorses the 2016-2017 Annual Summary of the Darebin Community Survey attached as **Appendix A**.

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## Introduction

The Darebin Community Survey is a door-to-door quarterly interview style questionnaire survey which combined, provided data from 1,000 Darebin households in 2016-17. A sample size of 250 residential households is surveyed every quarter which is made up of approximately 30 surveys from each of the eight planning precincts within the municipality.

The survey provides an analysis of detailed issues relating to specific Council services and the flexibility of the methodology allows quarterly changes to sections of the survey. The annual summary also enables scrutiny of responses according to demographic factors like age, language spoken, and location of residence.

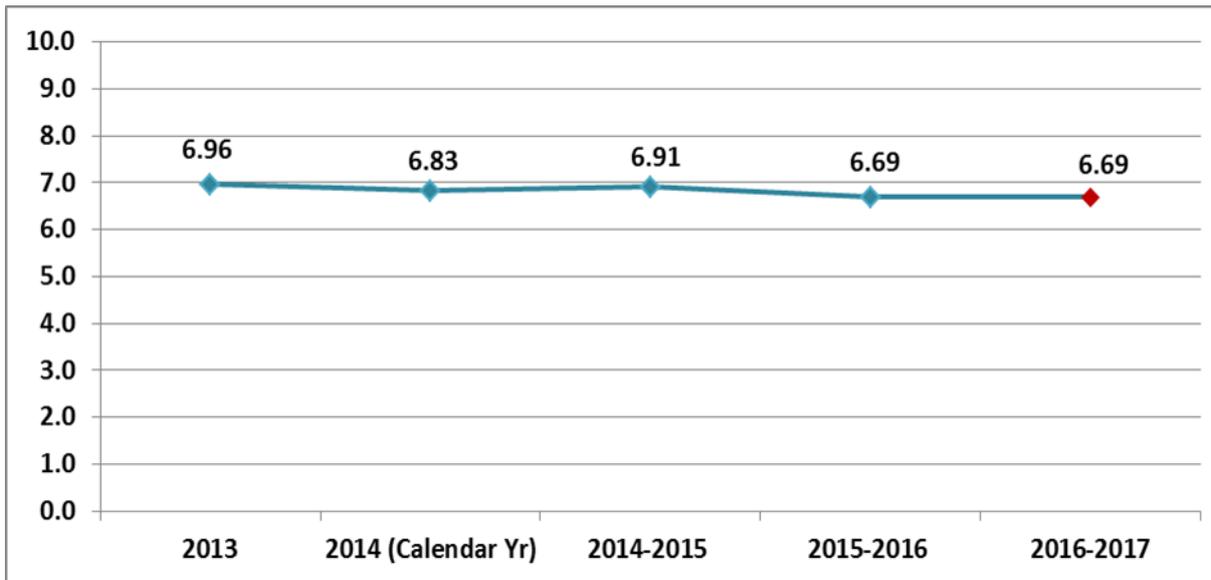
A review of the Community Survey Program was undertaken in 2014 which resulted in changes to the structure. The new structure aims to monitor service areas which are considered the most important by the community, and be more beneficial for Council operations and service improvement.

## Issues and Discussion

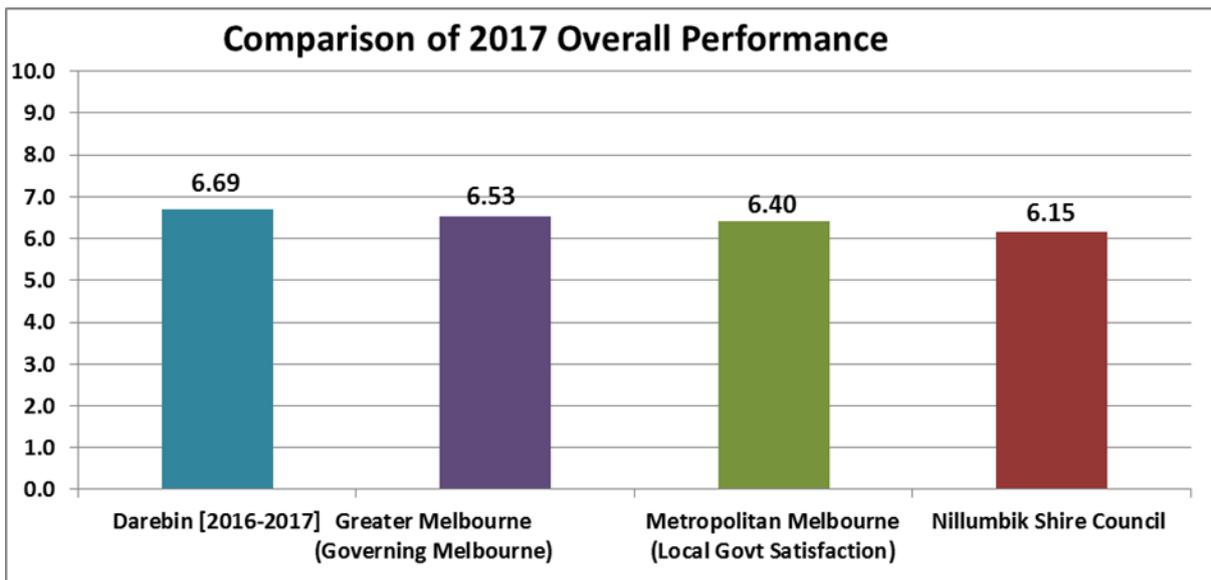
### Key findings from 2016-2017 Annual Summary

The following results are displayed as average (mean) scores from 0-10, where scores less than 5 are categorised as 'extremely poor' and scores of 7.75 and above are categorised as 'excellent'.

Overall Performance

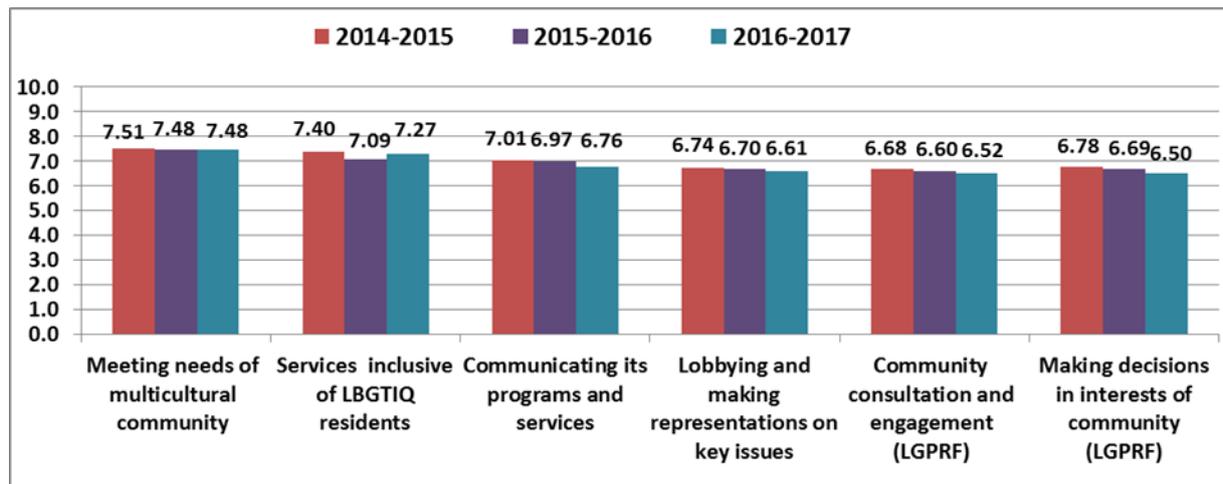


- Darebin’s overall performance score in 2016-2017 remained the same as the previous year



- Darebin Council’s overall performance score in 2016-2017 was 6.69, which compares favourably to the metropolitan Melbourne average results from the 2017 Governing Melbourne Survey and the 2017 Local Government Satisfaction Survey.
- Governing Melbourne is a survey conducted by Metropolis Research Ltd with a sample of 1000 respondents drawn in equal numbers from all Councils in Greater (metropolitan) Melbourne. Local Government Satisfaction Survey is a State Government coordinated survey that enables Councils to collectively measure community satisfaction across various areas and measure statutory indicators.
- Darebin’s overall performance score for 2016-2017 is also higher than the overall performance score of Nillumbik Shire Council which is currently the least disadvantaged Council in the Greater Melbourne Region.

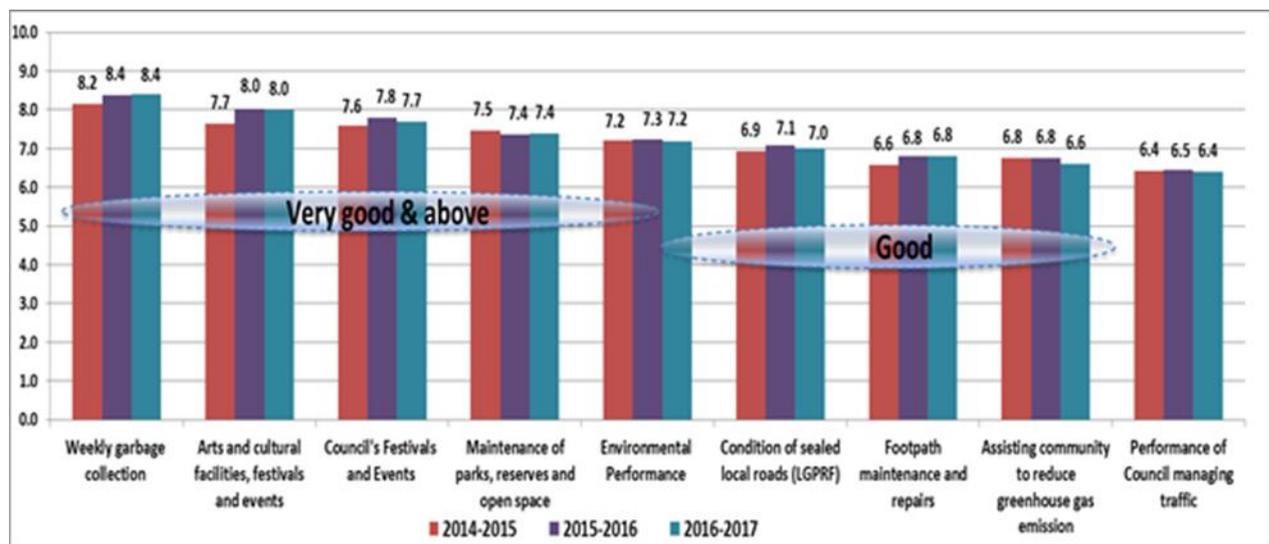
**Satisfaction with Governance and leadership aspects**



- Satisfaction ratings with four of the six Governance and Leadership aspects have decreased from the previous year.
- ‘Services inclusive of LGBTIQ residents’ had an increase in satisfaction and satisfaction with ‘Meeting needs of multicultural community’ remained the same.
- Darebin’s 2016-2017 scores for the LGPRF indicators ‘Community consultation and engagement’ and ‘Making decisions in the interests of the community’ were higher than the metropolitan Melbourne average scores for these indicators from the 2017 Local Government Satisfaction Survey, 5.70 and 5.80 respectively.

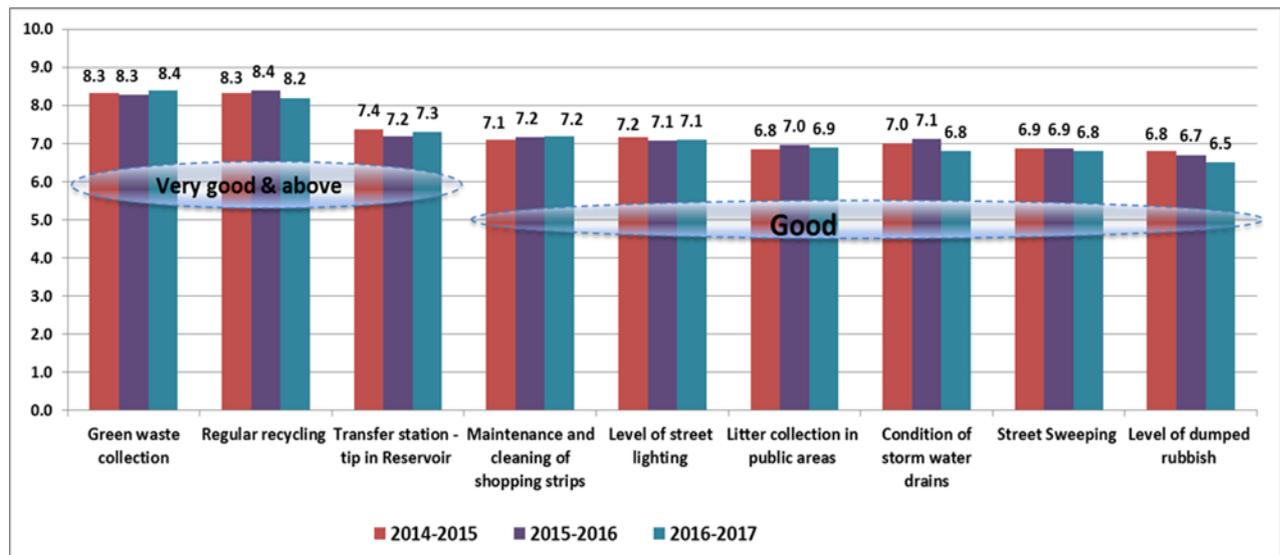
**Satisfaction with Council Services and Facilities**

Measured every quarter



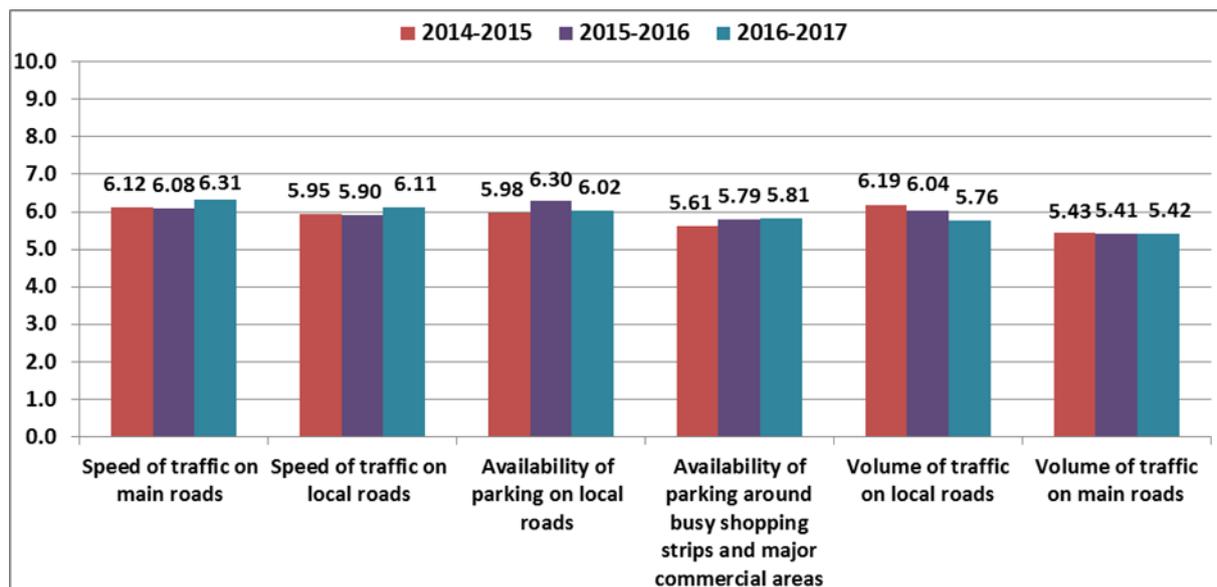
- Satisfaction with six of the nine Council Services and Facilities that are measured quarterly has decreased from the previous year and has increased with ‘Weekly garbage collection’, ‘Arts and culture’ and ‘Maintenance of parks and open spaces’.
- Darebin’s 2016-2017 score for LGPRF indicator ‘Condition of sealed local roads’ was higher than the metropolitan Melbourne average score of 6.60 from the 2017 Local Government Satisfaction Survey.

Measured twice a year



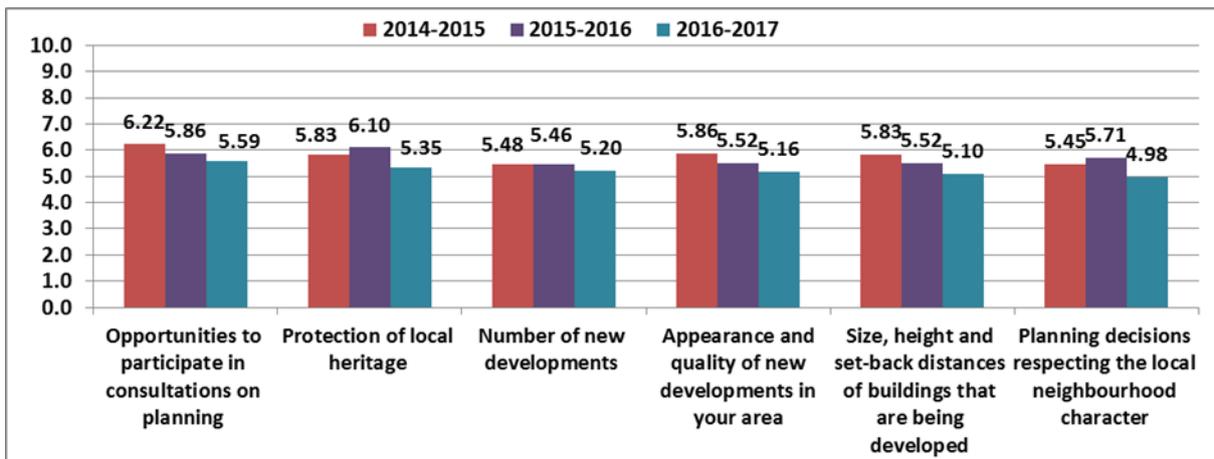
- Satisfaction ratings with five of the nine services and facilities that are measured twice a year have decreased from the previous year and have increased with 'Maintenance of shopping strips', 'Street lighting', 'Green waste' and 'Transfer station'.

Traffic and Parking



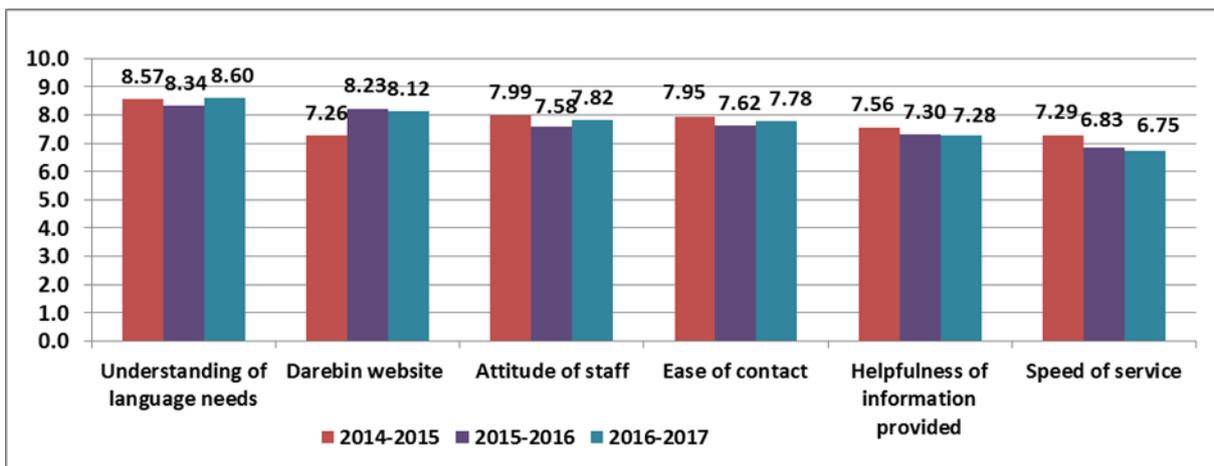
- Satisfaction ratings with four of the six traffic and parking aspects have increased from the previous year and have decreased with the remaining two.

Planning and Housing Development



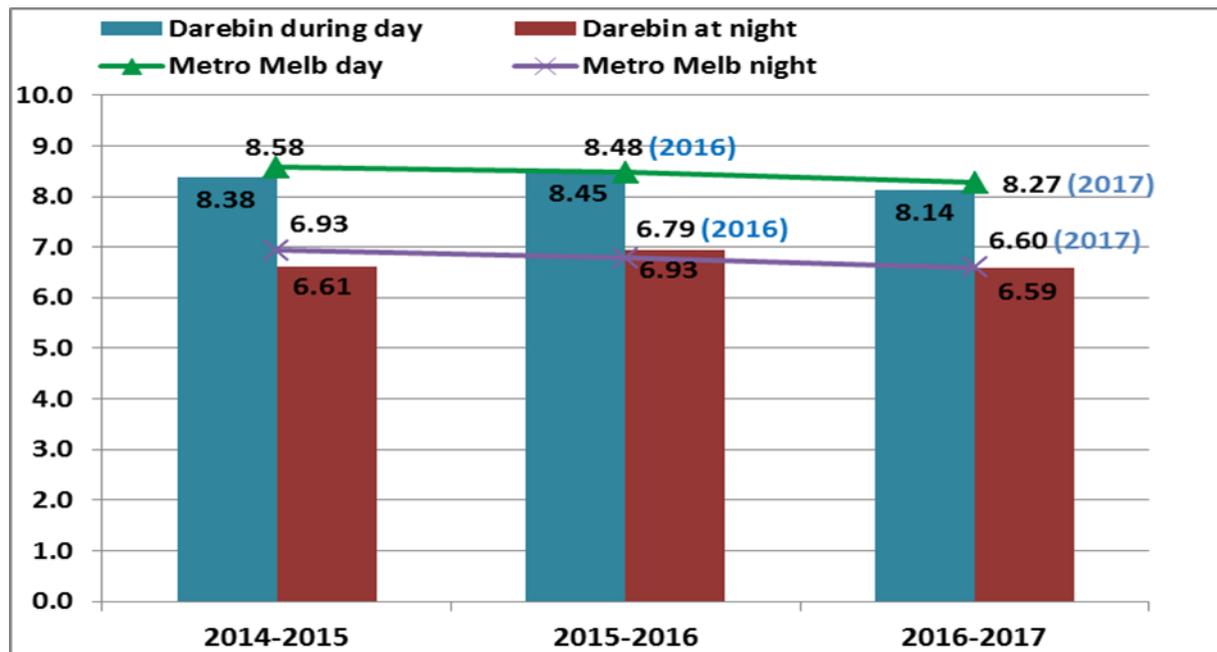
- Satisfaction ratings with all six planning and housing development aspects decreased from the previous year. The decrease in satisfaction with 'Protection of local heritage' and 'Respecting local neighbourhood character' were statistically significant.

Customer Service



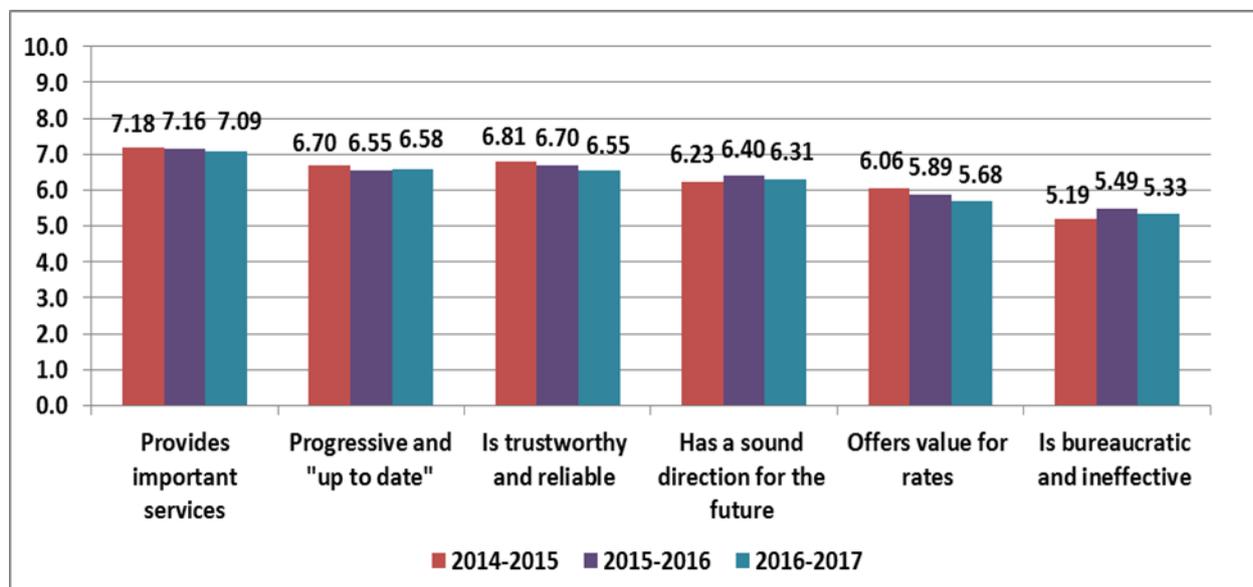
- Satisfaction rating with three of the customer service aspects decreased and increased with the other half.
- Residents from multi-lingual speaking households were marginally less satisfied than residents from English speaking households with three of the four customer service aspects that were compared. 'Speed of service' was the only aspect which residents from multi-lingual speaking households rated marginally higher than residents from English speaking households.

Community Safety



- Darebin’s ‘Safety during the day’ score for 2016-2017 (8.14) decreased from the previous year and is slightly lower than the 2017 greater Melbourne (metropolitan Melbourne) average (8.27).
- The 2016-2017 Darebin ‘Safety at night’ score (6.59) decreased from the previous year but is nearly identical to the greater Melbourne (metropolitan) average (6.60).

Council as an organisation



- The three statements about Council that residents most commonly agreed with have remained the same from the previous year. These are: ‘Provides important services’, ‘Progressive and “up to date”’ and ‘Is trustworthy and reliable’.

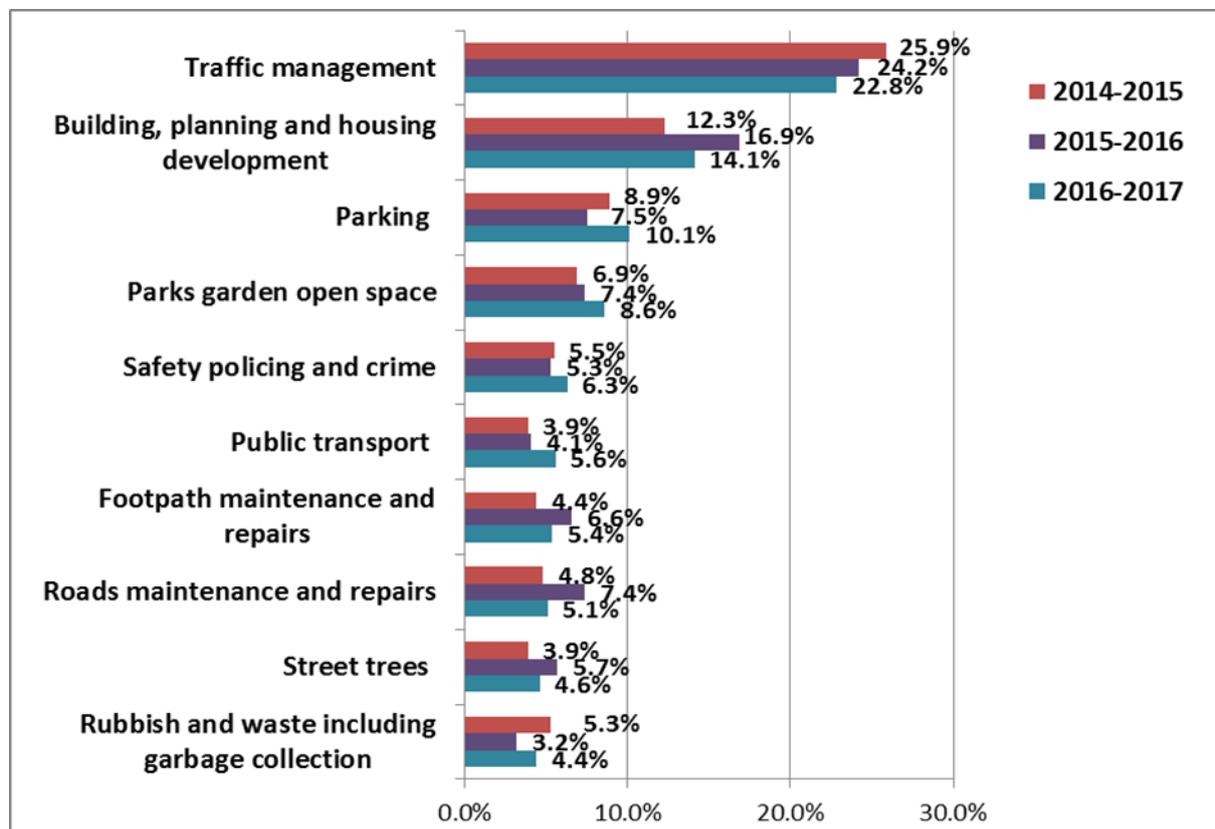
**Issues for Council**

Council advocacy campaigns and Improvements in the local area

The two questions included in the community survey under the section ‘Issues for Council’ are: “Can you please list any Council advocacy campaigns of which you are aware?” and “What, if any, improvements have you noticed in your local area in the last twelve months?”

- A total of 129 Council advocacy campaigns were mentioned by the community in 2016-2017.
- A total of 502 responses were received from the community identifying improvements noticed in the local area in the last twelve months in 2016-2017.
- The most commonly identified improvements related to ‘Parks, gardens and open space maintenance’ and ‘Roads maintenance and repairs’.

Top issues for Council to address



The community survey explores issues experienced by Darebin residents through the question: *Can you please list what you consider to be the three most important issues for Council to address in the next twelve months?*

- A total of 1,492 issues were mentioned in 2016-2017 and categorised into areas. The most commonly identified issue was ‘Traffic Management’ (22.8% of respondents).
- The second highest identified issue was ‘Building, Planning, Housing and Development’ (14.1% of respondents).
- The third highest identified issue was ‘Parking’ (10.1% of respondents).
- The precinct analysis of these issues shows that seven of the eight precincts identified ‘Traffic Management’ as the highest issue. Preston East was the only precinct that did not identify ‘Traffic Management’ as the highest issue.

- All precincts except Reservoir West mentioned the three most commonly identified issues in their top ten issues.
- Respondents who identified the top three issues had a noticeably lower satisfaction rating of overall performance than the municipal average, particularly those who identified 'Building, Planning, Housing and Development' and 'Parking' as issues to be addressed.

### **Options for Consideration**

The 2016-2017 results show that Council's overall performance has remained the same from the previous year. The overall performance score remains comparatively favourable to the metropolitan Melbourne average results from the 2017 Local Government Satisfaction Survey and the 2017 Governing Melbourne Survey.

The decrease in satisfaction with the four Governance and Leadership aspects should be noted when making significant decisions in the next year.

The satisfaction decrease with the six services and facilities that are measured quarterly and the five that are measured twice a year should be carefully monitored in the following year, as well as the decrease in satisfaction with the six aspects of planning and housing development.

### **Actions to respond to feedback and issues identified**

Through the community feedback provided and top issues raised for the past twelve months namely, traffic management, building, planning and housing development and parking, Council has recognised a need to improve the way it informs and engages with the community about Council services, the projects and works, either planned, being undertaken or completed to assist addressing the issues identified through the quarterly community surveys.

By 30 June 2018, Council will develop a 'Community Engagement Strategy' (Strategy), which will focus on Council members physically being out in the community, connecting, engaging and informing on everything Council offers and delivers to and for the community. The Strategy will inform the organisation ways in which it can increase greater community participation which in turn will allow Councillors to have additional information on what's important to the community and assist with their decision making. Over the next twelve months the aim is also for Council to receive higher satisfaction rates from the community through its quarterly satisfaction surveys.

The Strategy should also include a mechanism to inform the community of actions in response to community feedback on key issues.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

The allocated budget for the 2016-2017 community survey program is approximately \$54,000. This includes the funds received from the new initiative application to increase the quarterly sample size to 250.

### **Risk Management**

There were no risks identified during the 2016-2017 Darebin Community Survey Program.

## Policy Implications

### Economic Development

There are no economic development impacts related to this report.

### Environmental Sustainability

There are no environmental impacts related to this report.

### Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Some groups are harder to access in opinion surveys, including homeless people, people with lower English proficiency and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. To ensure the Darebin Community Survey reflects Darebin's diversity as much as possible, survey participants are supported through the use of interpreters and multilingual staff.

Health, human rights and equity and diversity issues are also considered when designing the questionnaire every quarter. There is the opportunity to include questions regarding new and emerging issues i.e. gambling, family violence, and attitudes to refugees.

### Other

In its Council Plan, Darebin makes a commitment to provide regular and accurate reporting to the community. The 2016-2017 Community Survey Program measured 14 of the Council Plan performance indicators. A further commitment is made to undertake meaningful community engagement and research and Council's community survey supports these commitments.

### Future Actions

- The next quarterly survey will be conducted in December 2017
- Develop a Community Engagement Strategy by 30 June 2018

### Consultation and Advocacy

The quarterly surveys include a specialised topics section which involves consultation with the service areas who request for those topics.

### Related Documents

- *Local Government Act 1989*

### Attachments

- 2016-2017 Annual Summary of Darebin Community Survey (**Appendix A**)

### Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.



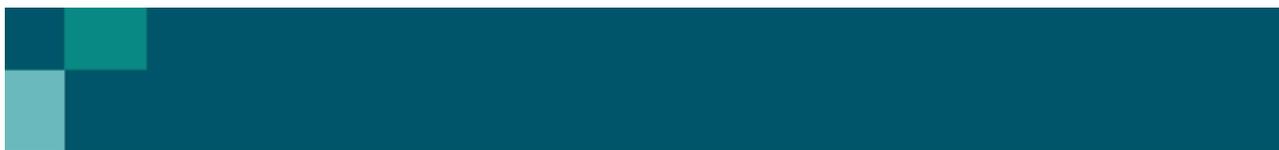
the place  
to live

# 2016-17 ANNUAL COMMUNITY SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2017



Report prepared by  
Metropolis Research Pty Ltd  
on behalf of Darebin City Council



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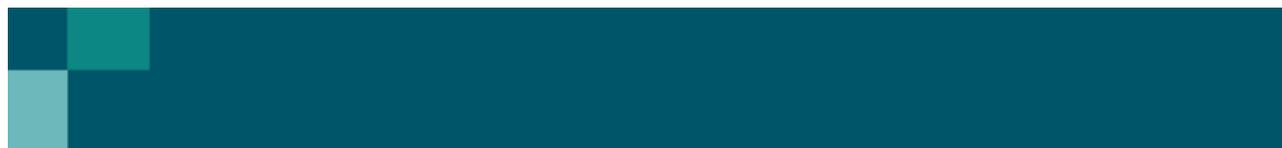
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## Introduction

This is the fourteenth year that Metropolis Research has conducted the *Community Survey* program for the City of Darebin. The *Community Survey* has been conducted quarterly since 2007 to provide a regular assessment of the community's perceptions throughout each year. Prior to 2007, the *Community Survey* was conducted annually.

The aim of the survey is to provide Council with a comprehensive picture of the community's perception of Council's performance across eighteen services and facilities, aspects of governance and leadership, aspects of planning and housing development, aspects of customer service, as well as Council's overall performance. In addition, each quarterly survey includes a more detailed investigation of one group of services/facilities.

This survey does not aim to replace satisfaction surveys of individual client based services. It does however provide a broad measure of the community's perception of performance for core services and allows for comparison of services across Council.

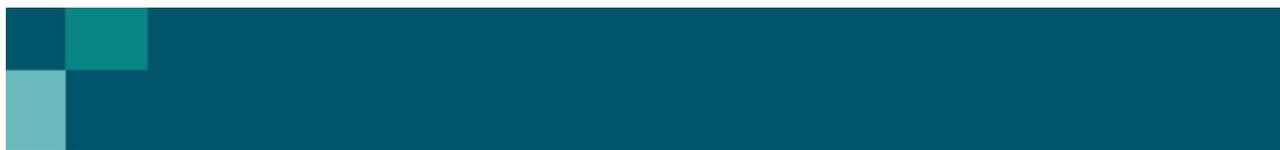
In addition to measuring community satisfaction with aspects of Council performance, the *Community Survey* measures community perception of safety in public areas of Darebin. The *Community Survey* also quantifies the issues of importance to the community and examines specific questions as required by Council each quarter.

The sample size and methodology employed in this survey is statistically robust and provides results with a level of statistical significance generally greater than that obtained by other individual service specific surveys. Within the margin of error (as detailed for individual services), the results published in this report are an accurate reflection of the community's perceptions. Readers are advised however to be mindful of the sample size for the quarterly results and treat the results appropriately.

### ***Methodology, response rate and statistical strength***

The *Community Survey* program is conducted as a face-to-face interview style survey of approximately fifteen to twenty minutes duration, conducted at the door of residential properties located within the City of Darebin. All surveys are conducted daylight hours at weekends to ensure the best opportunity for all residents to participate if invited. The sample is drawn in equal numbers from each of the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin. The sample has been weighted to ensure that each precinct contributed the correct proportion to the overall results, based on the *2011 Census of Population & Housing*.

A total of approximately 6,419 households were approached to participate in the survey over the course of the four quarterly surveys. Of these households, 3,533 were unattended when approached, were therefore not invited to participate, and played no further part in the research. 1,889 refused to participate and one thousand completed the survey.



This provides a response rate of 34.6%, which almost identical to the 36.9% recorded in 2015-16. This is consistent with the response rate achieved by *Governing Melbourne* across metropolitan Melbourne as well as other municipal *Annual Community Survey* programs conducted by Metropolis Research.

The 95% confidence interval (margin of error) of these results is plus or minus 3.1%, at the fifty percent level. In other words, if a yes / no question obtains a result of fifty percent yes, it is 95% certain that the true value of this result is within the range of 46.9% and 53.1%. This is based on a total sample size of one thousand respondents, and an underlying population of the City of Darebin of 155,022. The 95% confidence interval is approximately 6.2% for the precinct level results.

### ***Governing Melbourne***

*Governing Melbourne* is a new service provided by Metropolis Research since 2010. *Governing Melbourne* is a survey of one thousand respondents drawn in equal numbers from every municipality in metropolitan Melbourne.

*Governing Melbourne* provides an objective, consistent and reliable basis on which to compare the results of this survey. It is not intended to provide a “league table” for local councils, rather to provide additional context with which to understand the results of this survey.

### ***Glossary of terms***

#### *Precinct*

The term precinct is used by Metropolis Research to describe the small areas utilised by Council in the *Community Profile*. Readers seeking to use precinct results should seek clarification of specific precinct boundaries if necessary.

#### *Measurable and statistically significant*

A measurable difference is one where the difference between or change in results is sufficiently large to ensure that they are in fact different results, i.e. the difference is statistically significant. This is due to the fact that survey results are subject to a margin of error or an area of uncertainty.

#### *Significant result*

Metropolis Research uses the term *significant result* to describe a change or difference between results that Metropolis Research believes to be of sufficient magnitude that they may impact on relevant aspects of policy development, service delivery and the evaluation of performance and are therefore identified and noted as significant or important.

5





### *Somewhat / notable / marginal*

Metropolis Research will describe some results or changes in results as being marginally, somewhat, or notably higher or lower. These are not statistical terms rather they are interpretive. They are used to draw attention to results that may be of interest or relevant to policy development and service delivery. These terms are often used for results that may not be statistically significant due to sample size or other factors but may none-the-less provide some insight.

### *95% confidence interval*

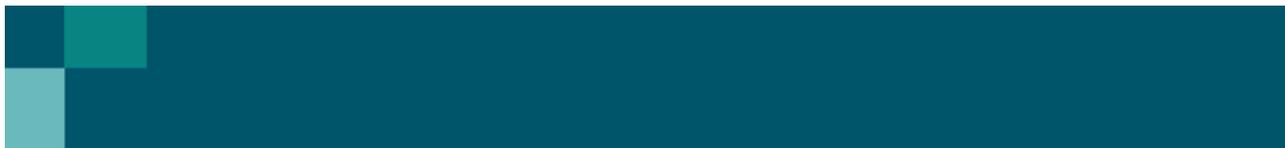
Average satisfaction results are presented in this report with a 95% confidence interval included. These figures reflect the range of values within which it is 95% certain that the true average satisfaction falls.

The 95% confidence interval based on a one-sample t-test is used for the mean scores presented in this report. The margin of error around the other results in this report at the municipal level is plus or minus 3.1%.

### *Satisfaction categories*

Metropolis Research typically categorises satisfaction results to assist in the understanding and interpretative of the results. These categories have been developed over many years as a guide to the scores presented in the report and are designed to give a general context. These categories are designed to be indicative of the level of satisfaction. They are generally defined as follows:

<b><i>Excellent:</i></b>	Scores of 7.75 and above are categorised as excellent
<b><i>Very Good:</i></b>	Scores of 7.25 to less than 7.75 are categorised as very good
<b><i>Good:</i></b>	Scores of 6.5 to less than 7.25 are categorised as good
<b><i>Solid:</i></b>	Scores of 6 to less than 6.5 are categorised as solid
<b><i>Poor:</i></b>	Scores less than 6 are categorised as poor
<b><i>Very Poor:</i></b>	Scores less than 5.50 are categorised as very poor
<b><i>Extremely Poor:</i></b>	Scores less than 5 are categorised as extremely poor



## Executive summary

Satisfaction with the performance of the Darebin City Council across all areas of responsibility ([overall performance](#)) remained stable in 2016-17 at 6.69 out of a potential ten. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “good”. This result was 2.4% higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.53 recorded in the Metropolis Research *Governing Melbourne* research program.

Almost four-fifths (79.1%) of respondents were satisfied with Council’s overall performance, whilst 8.8% (up from 8.4%) were dissatisfied.

There was some variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed across the municipality, with respondents from Reservoir East rating satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average.

There was also a significant degree of variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed by respondent profile, with the following pattern evident:

- ⊗ **Higher than average satisfaction** - adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years), senior citizens (aged 76 years and over), rental (both public and private) households, respondents from households with a member with a disability, and newer residents of Darebin (less than five years) tended to be more satisfied than average.
- ⊗ **Lower than average satisfaction** – middle-aged and older adults (aged 46 to 75 years), home owners and mortgagees, and long-term residents of Darebin (ten years or more) tended to be less satisfied than average.

This pattern of satisfaction by age structure, housing situation and period of residence is not unique to the City of Darebin, and tends to be a strong theme across metropolitan Melbourne.

It is important to note that there was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed by the respondents’ gender, or language spoken at home. Consistent with their small numbers in the Darebin community, there was only thirteen respondents identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. These respondents tended to be on average marginally less satisfied with Council’s performance than other respondents.

Metropolis Research notes that whilst satisfaction with Darebin City Council remained stable in 2016-17, in 2016 satisfaction with local government across metropolitan Melbourne tended to decline, with the metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction in 2016 declining six percent, and recovering by two percent in 2017. A range of issues affected satisfaction with local government in 2016, including the effect of the local government elections which are often a negative influence on community satisfaction with local government. That satisfaction did not decline in the City of Darebin reflects well of the performance of the Darebin City Council over the last twelve months.



Consistent with the stable satisfaction with Council's overall performance, the average satisfaction with the six aspects of [governance and leadership](#) declined by less than one percent, down from 6.92 to 6.86, and remains at a level categorised as "good". Respondents rated as "very good" Council's performance meeting the needs of the multi-cultural community and providing services that are inclusive of LGBTIQ residents. These results strongly suggest that Council is effectively engaging with its diverse and multi-cultural community. This is further borne out by the fact that respondents from multi-lingual households reported similar levels of satisfaction with Council performance than respondents from English speaking households.

Respondents rated as "good" the core aspects of governance and leadership including; communicating its programs and services (6.76), lobbying and making representations (6.61), community consultation and engagement (6.52), and making decisions in the interests of the community (6.50). Satisfaction with these aspects varied by demographic profile (age, gender, language spoken at home, period of residence, disability, and ATSI status) in a similar pattern to overall satisfaction with Council.

[Customer service](#) remains a very positive area of Council performance, with the average satisfaction with the included aspects declining only marginally this year, down 1.3% to 8.13. Despite this marginal decline, satisfaction remains at a level categorised as "excellent", and customer service is again in 2016-17, the area of Council performance with the highest average satisfaction.

There were eighteen [Council services and facilities](#) included in the *Community Survey*, and the average satisfaction with these services and facilities was 7.26 in 2016-17, a level of satisfaction categorised as "very good". This was a marginal decline of less than one percent on the 7.32 recorded last year. It is important to note that this average satisfaction with services and facilities was measurably and significantly higher than satisfaction with Council's overall performance. Of these eighteen services and facilities, only three reported satisfaction scores lower than overall satisfaction with Council, and only satisfaction with Council's performance managing local traffic (6.38) was measurably lower than overall satisfaction with Council. Satisfaction with services and facilities was broadly similar to the metropolitan Melbourne results, and was higher for five and lower for six services and facilities.

[Traffic](#) remains a significant issue in the City of Darebin in 2016-17, highlighted by a number of questions included in the survey program. Satisfaction with the volume and speed of traffic both on local streets and main roads remains very low. Satisfaction with the volume of traffic on local streets was rated as "poor", and for main roads was rated as "very poor". Satisfaction with the speed of traffic on both main roads and local streets was rated as "solid". As discussed above, satisfaction with the performance of Council managing local traffic was rated as "solid". In addition, as in previous years "traffic management" remains the most commonly identified issue to address in the City of Darebin in the coming twelve months, with 22.8% identifying this issue this year. Respondents identifying "traffic management" as an issue for Council were on average 3.9% less satisfied with Council's overall performance than the municipal average.



Satisfaction with traffic and parking was measurably and significantly lower in the City of Darebin than the metropolitan Melbourne average as recorded in *Governing Melbourne*.

[Parking](#) was also a significant issue, with 10.1% of respondents identifying this issue this year. Satisfaction with the availability of parking on local streets was rated as “solid”, whilst the availability of parking around busy shopping strips and major commercial areas was rated as “poor”.

Parking was also the third most commonly identified issue to address in Darebin, with 10.1% of respondents identifying this issue this year. Respondents identifying this issue were on average ten percent less satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the municipal average.

The third significant issue of concern in the City of Darebin was related to the nature, extent and impact of [planning and new housing development](#) occurring in the municipality. Issues with planning and housing development were a major theme developed throughout this report. Most significantly average satisfaction with the six aspects of planning and housing development outcomes was just 5.23 out of ten, a level of satisfaction categorised as “very poor”. This is a decline of 8.1% on the 2015-16 result, and 9.5% down on the 2014-15 result. This includes a 12.8% decline in satisfaction with planning decisions respecting local neighbourhood character, and a 12.3% decline in satisfaction with the protection of local heritage.

It is also noted that “building, housing, planning and development” related issues were the second most commonly identified issues for the City of Darebin this year, with 14.1% of respondents identifying these issues this year. Respondents that identified “building, planning, housing and development” issues were on average measurably and significantly (12.5%) less satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the municipal average (5.85 compared to 6.69). These results strongly suggest that these issues exert a significant negative influence on community satisfaction with Darebin City Council. Dissatisfaction with planning related issues are not unique to the City of Darebin, and Metropolis Research has consistently found dissatisfaction with planning outcomes growing across metropolitan Melbourne, and in particular inner and middle-ring municipalities. Satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments and the protection of local heritage was measurably and significantly lower in the City of Darebin than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne results.

The [perception of safety](#) in the public areas of the City of Darebin both during the day (down 3.7%) and at night (5.0%) did decline this year; however they remain at quite high levels. The overwhelming majority (90.7%) of respondents felt safe in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day, and almost three-quarters (71.3%) felt safe in the public areas of the municipality at night. It is noted however that female respondents (6.18) felt measurably and significantly less safe in the public areas of Darebin at night than male respondents (7.04). Significantly it is noted that one-quarter (25.2%) of female respondents felt unsafe at night in the public areas of Darebin at night.

9



Taken as a whole, the *Community Survey* this year found a steady level of satisfaction with the performance of Darebin City Council, with services and facilities and customer service in particular being very well received by the Darebin community.

The major issues community concern still relate to traffic congestion, car parking, and the nature and extent of new housing development occurring in Darebin.

## Key findings

The following are the key findings from the *Darebin City Council – 2016-17 Annual Community Survey*.

### Overall performance

- ⊗ Satisfaction with Council's overall performance remained stable in 2016-17 at 6.69, a level of satisfaction best categorised as "good".
- ⊗ This result was 2.4% higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.53.
- ⊗ Almost four-fifths (79.1% down from 82.9%) of respondents were satisfied with Council's overall performance, whilst 8.8% (up from 8.4%) were dissatisfied.
- ⊗ Respondents from Reservoir East were measurably more satisfied than the municipal average.
- ⊗ Adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years) were measurably more satisfied with Council's overall performance, whilst middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years) were measurably less satisfied.
- ⊗ Rental household respondents (both public and private) were measurably more satisfied with Council's overall performance.
- ⊗ Satisfaction with Council's overall performance tended to decline with the period of residence in the City of Darebin.
- ⊗ There was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council's overall performance based on the respondents' gender or language spoken at home.

### Governance and leadership

- ⊗ The average satisfaction with the six included aspects of governance and leadership declined by less than one percent in 2016-17, down from 6.92 to 6.86, although it remains at a level categorised as "good".
- ⊗ Satisfaction with the six aspects of governance and leadership were as follows:
  - Meeting the needs of the multicultural community (7.48 - stable) "very good"
  - Providing services inclusive of LGBTIQ community (7.27 up from 7.09) "very good"
  - Communicating its programs and services (6.76 dn from 6.97) "good"
  - Lobbying and making representations on key issues (6.61 dn from 6.70) "good"
  - Making decisions in the interests of the community (6.50 dn from 6.69) "good"
  - Community consultation and engagement (6.52 dn from 6.60) "good".

## Council services and facilities

- ⊗ The average satisfaction with the eighteen included Council services and facilities declined by less than one percent in 2016-17, down from 7.32 to 7.26, although it remains at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ Satisfaction with the eighteen services and facilities included in the 2016-17 quarterly surveys were as follows:
  - Weekly garbage collection (8.41 up from 8.39) “excellent”
  - Green waste collection service (8.36 up from 8.28) “excellent”
  - Regular recycling (8.24 dn from 8.40) “excellent”
  - Arts and culture (incl. libraries, Homestead, DAEC) (8.03 up from 8.02) “excellent”
  - Council’s festivals and events (7.74 dn from 7.80) “very good”
  - Maintenance and repair of parks, reserves, open space (7.40 up from 7.37) “very good”
  - Transfer station – tip in Reservoir (7.25 up from 7.20) “very good”
  - Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips (7.23 up from 7.16) “good”
  - Council’s overall environmental performance (7.20 dn from 7.25) “good”
  - The level of street lighting (7.09 up from 7.08) “good”
  - Condition of sealed local roads (7.04 dn from 7.08) “good”
  - Litter collection in public areas (6.85 dn from 6.96) “good”
  - Condition of storm water drains (6.83 dn from 7.11) “good”
  - Footpath maintenance and repairs (6.75 dn from 6.81) “good”
  - Street sweeping (6.75 dn from 6.87) “good”
  - Performance in assisting community reduce GGE (6.57 dn from 6.76) “good”
  - The level of dumped rubbish (6.53 dn from 6.70) “good”
  - The performance of Council managing traffic (6.38 dn from 6.46) “solid”.

## Traffic and parking

- ⊗ Satisfaction with the six aspects of traffic and parking remains relatively low, and can best be summarised as follows:
  - Speed of traffic on main roads (6.31 up from 6.08) “solid”
  - Speed of traffic on local streets (6.11 up from 5.90) “solid”
  - The availability of parking on local streets (6.02 dn from 6.30) “solid”
  - The availability of parking in, around shopping strips (5.81 up from 5.79) “poor”
  - Volume of traffic on local streets (5.76 dn from 6.04) “poor”
  - Volume of traffic on main roads (5.42 up from 5.41) “very poor”.
- ⊗ Satisfaction with the volume of traffic on both local residential streets and main roads was measurably and significantly lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne results.
- ⊗ Satisfaction with the speed of traffic on both local residential streets and main roads, as well as parking on local residential streets was marginally but not measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne results.



## Planning and housing development

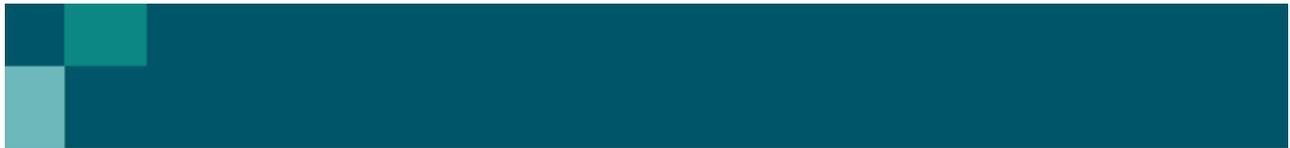
- ⊗ The average satisfaction with the six included aspects of planning and housing development declined measurably and significantly in 2016-17, down 8.1% to 5.23, a level of satisfaction categorised as “very poor”.
- ⊗ Satisfaction with the six aspects of planning and housing development remains relatively low, and can best be summarised as follows:
  - Opportunities to participate in planning consultations (5.59 dn from 5.86) “poor”
  - The protection of local heritage (5.35 dn from 6.10) “very poor”
  - The number of new developments (5.20 dn from 5.46) “very poor”
  - The appearance and quality of new developments (5.16 dn from 5.52) “very poor”
  - The size, height, set-back of buildings being developed (5.10 dn from 5.52) “very poor”
  - Planning decisions respecting local neighborhood character (4.98 dn from 5.71) “extremely poor”.

## Customer service

- ⊗ A little less than half of the respondents (41.7% up from 40.4%) had contact with Council in the last twelve months.
- ⊗ The most common forms of contacting Council remain telephone (59.1% down from 62.8%), visits in person (19.5% up from 15.5%), and email (7.9% down from 11.0%).
- ⊗ Average satisfaction with the six included aspects of customer service declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 1.3% to 8.13, however it remains at a level categorised as “excellent”.
- ⊗ Satisfaction with the six aspects of customer service can best be summarised as follows:
  - Staff understanding language needs (multi-lingual only) (8.60 up from 8.34) “excellent”
  - Satisfaction with the Darebin website (visitors only) (8.12 dn from 8.23) “excellent”
  - Attitude of staff (7.82 up from 7.58) “excellent”
  - Ease of contact (7.78 up from 7.62) “excellent”
  - Helpfulness of the information provided (7.28 dn from 7.30) “very good”
  - Speed of service (6.75 dn from 6.83) “good”.

## Perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin

- ⊗ The perception of safety during the day remains very high, although it declined by 3.7% in 2016-17 to 8.14 (down from 8.45).
- ⊗ The perception of safety at night declined somewhat, albeit not measurably in 2016-17, down five percent to 6.59.
- ⊗ The perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin was very similar to the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne results as recorded in *Governing Melbourne*.



### Council as an organisation

- ⊗ Respondents were asked to rate their agreement with six statements about the Darebin City Council as an organisation. The average agreement results remained relatively consistent in 2016-17 with those recorded in previous years.
- ⊗ Agreement with the statements was as follows:
  - Darebin City Council provides important services *(7.09 dn from 7.16)*
  - Is progressive and up-to-date *(6.58 up from 6.55)*
  - Is trustworthy and reliable *(6.55 dn from 6.70)*
  - Has a sound direction for the future *(6.31 dn from 6.40)*
  - Offers value for rates *(5.68 dn from 5.89)*
  - Is bureaucratic and ineffective *(5.33 dn from 5.49)*

### Council advocacy campaigns

- ⊗ A total of 129 responses were received from eighty-nine respondents identifying Council advocacy campaigns. Some of the campaigns most commonly identified by respondents related to the Preston Market redevelopment (11 responses), Level Crossing Removal (10 responses), and The Greens Advocacy (6 responses).

### Improvements noticed in the local area in the last twelve months

- ⊗ A total of 378 (37.8% down from 38.9%) respondents identified 502 improvements they had noticed in the last twelve months.
- ⊗ The most commonly identified improvements were:
  - Parks, gardens and open space related *(14.8% dn from 15.4%)*
  - Road maintenance and repair related *(7.8% up from 3.9%)*
  - Footpath maintenance and repair related *(3.5% up from 1.9%)*

### Issues for Council to address in the coming twelve months

- ⊗ A total of 734 respondents (73.4% up from 73.0%) identified 1,492 individual issues for Council to address in the coming twelve months.
- ⊗ It is important to note that these issues are not all within the remit of local government, nor are they a list of complaints.
- ⊗ The top five issues to address in the City of Darebin in 2016-17 are as follows:
  - Traffic management *(22.8% dn from 24.2%)*
  - Building, housing, planning and development related *(14.1% dn from 16.9%)*
  - Parking *(10.1% up from 7.5%)*
  - Parks, gardens and open spaces *(8.6% up from 7.4%)*
  - Safety, policing, and crime related issues *(6.3% up from 5.3%)*





## Overall performance

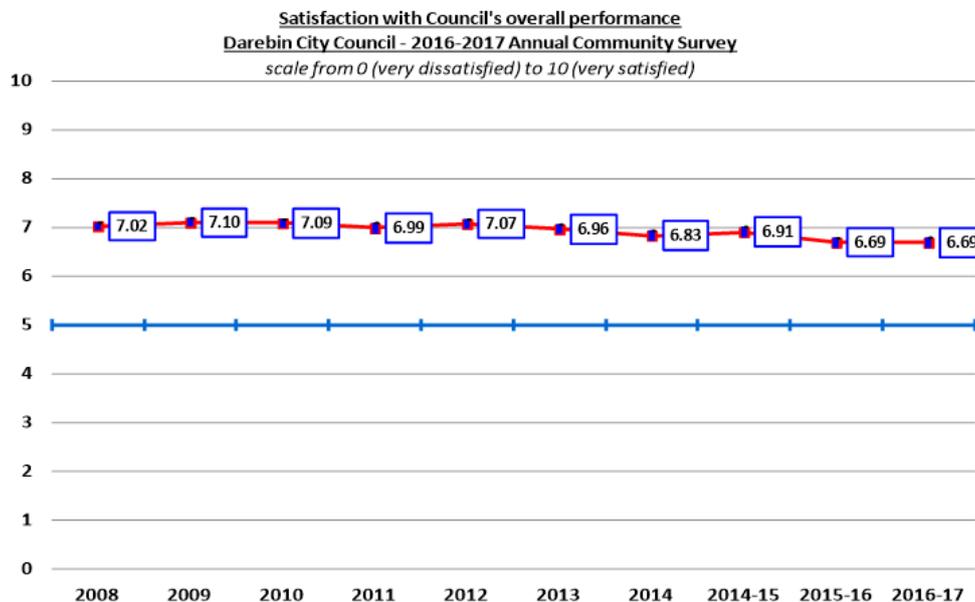
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the performance of Council across all areas of responsibility?”*

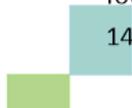
Satisfaction with the performance of Council across all areas of responsibility (overall performance) remained stable in 2016-17 at 6.69 out of a potential ten. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “good”, the same categorisation that Darebin City Council has retained in each of the ten years.

This result is marginally, albeit not measurably higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average overall satisfaction of 6.53, as recorded in the Metropolis Research *Governing Melbourne* survey.

Metropolis Research does note that this result remains the lowest annual level of satisfaction with the overall performance of Council recorded since the commencement of the quarterly survey program in 2007. Prior to 2007, satisfaction with Council’s overall performance was 6.67 in 2002 and 6.38 in 2005. In all other years since 1999, satisfaction with Council’s overall performance has been at least 6.70.



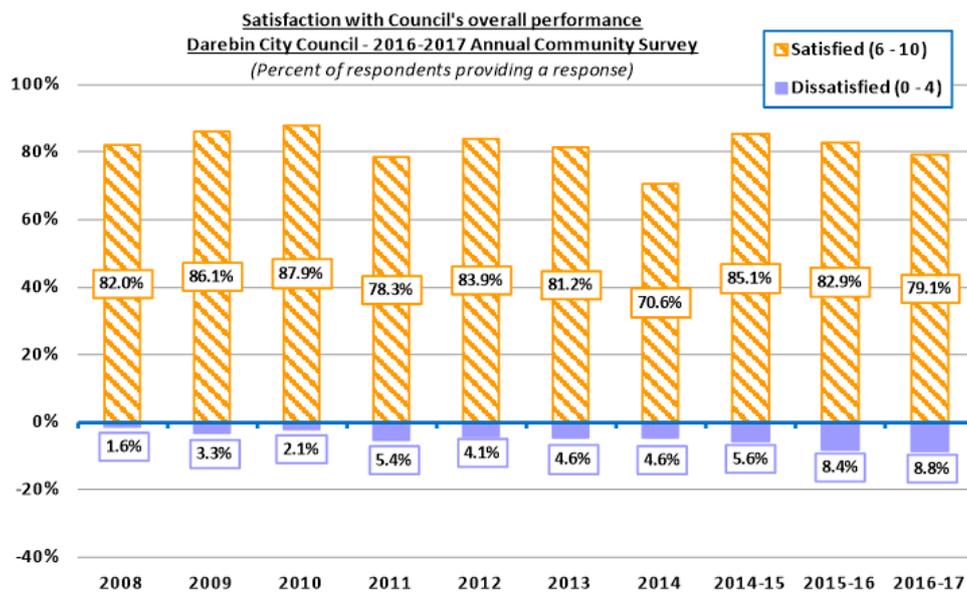
Consistent with the stable average satisfaction with Council’s overall performance, the proportion of respondents satisfied (rating six to ten) and dissatisfied (rating zero to four) with Council’s overall performance has remained relatively stable.





It is noted that the proportion of respondents satisfied with Council’s overall performance declined very marginally in 2016-17, down from 82.9% to 79.1%.

Despite this very small decline, it is again noted that the overwhelming majority of respondents in 2016-17 were satisfied with Council’s overall performance.



Satisfaction with Council’s overall performance increased somewhat in four precincts and declined in four precincts, as follows:

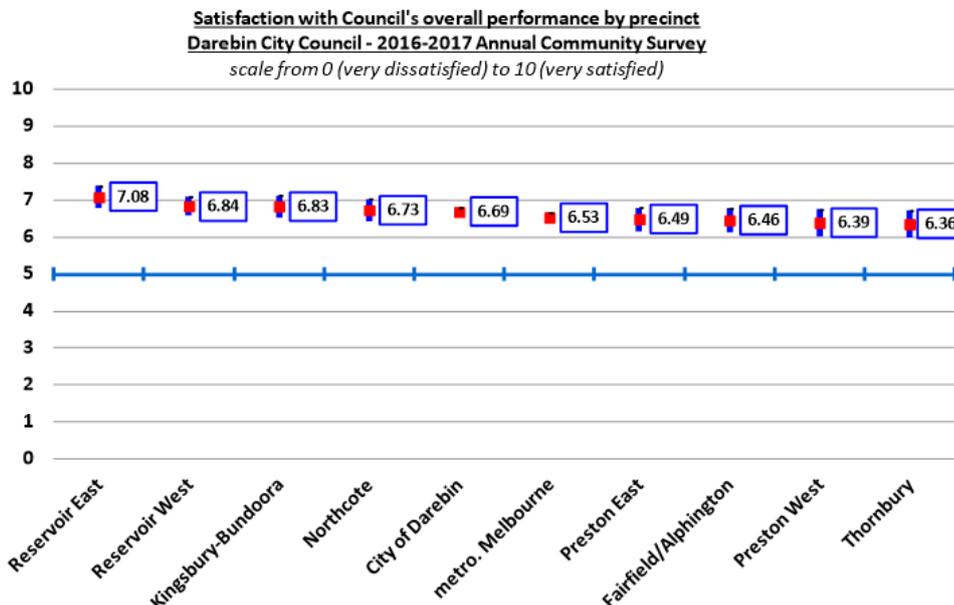
- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased in Reservoir East, Northcote, Fairfield-Alphington, and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased in Reservoir West, Kingsbury-Bundoora, Preston East, and Preston West.

None of these changes were statistically significant.

There was some variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction with Council’s overall performance measurably higher than the municipal average.
- ⊗ **Preston East, Fairfield-Alphington, Preston West, and Thornbury** – respondents rated satisfaction with Council’s overall performance marginally, but not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.





There was significant variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

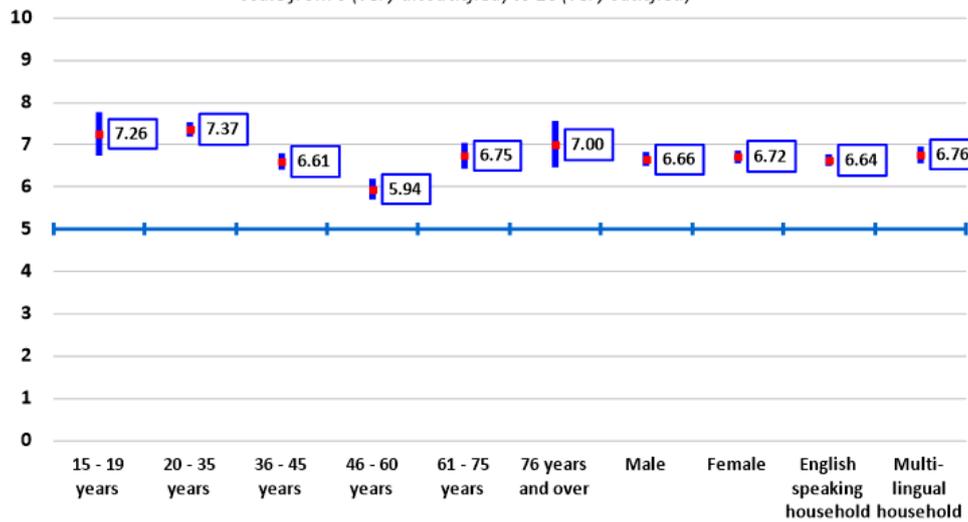
- ⊗ **Adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction with Council’s overall performance measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “poor”.
- ⊗ **Gender** – there was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed between male and female respondents.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – there was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed between respondents from English speaking and multi-lingual households.
- ⊗ **Housing situation** – respondents from rental households (both public and private) rated satisfaction with Council’s overall performance measurably and significantly higher than other respondents and at levels categorised as “very good” and “excellent” respectively.
- ⊗ **Period of residence** – satisfaction with Council’s overall performance declines with the respondents’ period of residence in the City of Darebin, from “very good” for new residents (less than one year) to “solid” for long-term residents (ten years or more).
- ⊗ **Disability status** – respondents from households with a member with a disability rated satisfaction with Council’s overall performance marginally, albeit not measurably higher than other respondents.



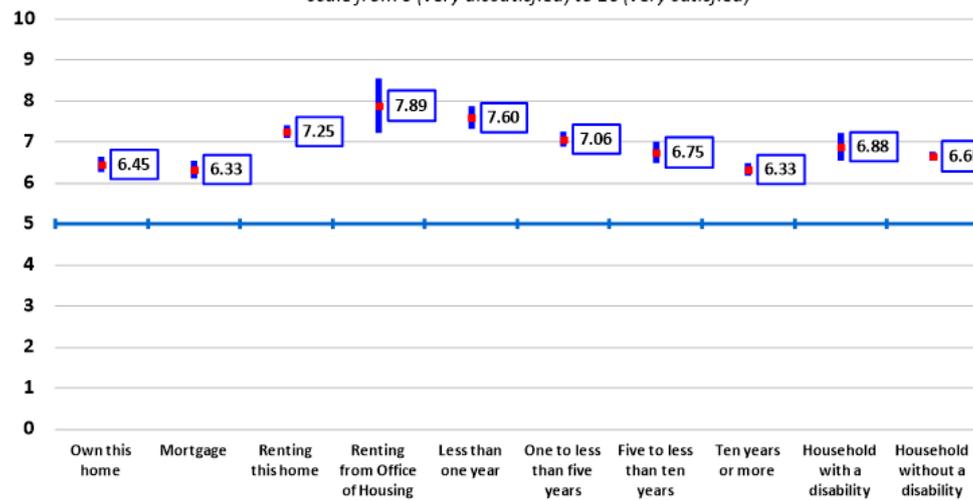
This pattern of demographic and socio-economic profile variation in overall satisfaction has been observed by Metropolis Research across metropolitan Melbourne. It is generally true to say that younger people, renters, and new residents tend to be more satisfied with the local council, whilst middle-aged and older adults (but not senior citizens), home owners, and long-term residents of the municipality tend to be less satisfied with the local council.

This basic pattern of satisfaction is true not only for the overall performance of Council, but is certainly found in satisfaction with governance and leadership, and most particularly with regard to aspects of planning and housing development.

**Satisfaction with Council's overall performance by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



**Satisfaction with Council's overall performance by housing situation, period of residence and household disability status**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



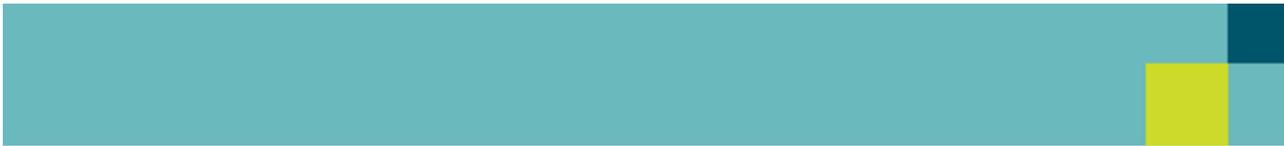
**Satisfaction with Council's overall performance****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Variable	Number	2016-2017		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
15 - 19 yrs	20	6.75	<b>7.26</b>	7.77
20 - 35 yrs	239	7.21	<b>7.37</b>	7.52
36 - 45 yrs	239	6.41	<b>6.61</b>	6.80
46 - 60 yrs	246	5.70	<b>5.94</b>	6.19
61 - 75 yrs	143	6.44	<b>6.75</b>	7.05
76 yrs and over	58	6.46	<b>7.00</b>	7.55
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	413	6.27	<b>6.45</b>	6.63
Mortgage	222	6.10	<b>6.33</b>	6.55
Renting this home	258	7.09	<b>7.25</b>	7.42
Renting from Office of Housing	31	7.22	<b>7.89</b>	8.55
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	94	7.33	<b>7.60</b>	7.87
One to less than five years	211	6.88	<b>7.06</b>	7.25
Five to less than ten years	140	6.47	<b>6.75</b>	7.02
Ten years or more	499	6.17	<b>6.33</b>	6.50
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	12	5.77	<b>7.07</b>	8.38
No	923	6.57	<b>6.68</b>	6.79
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	590	6.50	<b>6.64</b>	6.77
Multi-lingual	353	6.56	<b>6.76</b>	6.96
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	119	6.54	<b>6.88</b>	7.23
No	819	6.53	<b>6.65</b>	6.77
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	432	6.49	<b>6.66</b>	6.82
Female	508	6.57	<b>6.72</b>	6.87
City of Darebin	947	6.58	<b>6.69</b>	6.80

**Satisfaction with Council's overall performance**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	98	6.85	<b>7.16</b>	7.47
	2014	79	6.54	<b>6.89</b>	7.23
	2014-15	97	6.80	<b>7.10</b>	7.40
	2015-16	123	6.62	<b>6.90</b>	7.18
	2016-17	120	6.79	<b>7.08</b>	7.38
Reservoir West	2013	91	6.89	<b>7.18</b>	7.46
	2014	90	6.71	<b>7.01</b>	7.32
	2014-15	91	6.82	<b>7.15</b>	7.49
	2015-16	124	6.74	<b>6.98</b>	7.22
	2016-17	124	6.58	<b>6.84</b>	7.10
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	89	6.81	<b>7.16</b>	7.51
	2014	86	6.58	<b>6.92</b>	7.25
	2014-15	89	6.79	<b>7.12</b>	7.46
	2015-16	120	6.79	<b>7.05</b>	7.31
	2016-17	107	6.53	<b>6.83</b>	7.13
Northcote	2013	93	6.37	<b>6.67</b>	6.96
	2014	85	6.51	<b>6.78</b>	7.04
	2014-15	92	6.69	<b>6.92</b>	7.16
	2015-16	119	5.89	<b>6.22</b>	6.55
	2016-17	118	6.42	<b>6.73</b>	7.04
Preston East	2013	77	6.84	<b>7.08</b>	7.32
	2014	64	6.57	<b>6.97</b>	7.37
	2014-15	85	6.72	<b>7.01</b>	7.30
	2015-16	121	6.56	<b>6.86</b>	7.16
	2016-17	123	6.17	<b>6.49</b>	6.80
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	95	6.01	<b>6.40</b>	6.79
	2014	78	6.41	<b>6.73</b>	7.05
	2014-15	93	6.35	<b>6.63</b>	6.92
	2015-16	118	6.12	<b>6.44</b>	6.76
	2016-17	118	6.13	<b>6.46</b>	6.78
Preston West	2013	92	6.63	<b>6.91</b>	7.20
	2014	73	6.08	<b>6.48</b>	6.88
	2014-15	87	6.46	<b>6.82</b>	7.17
	2015-16	121	6.56	<b>6.85</b>	7.15
	2016-17	115	6.03	<b>6.39</b>	6.75
Thornbury	2013	99	6.56	<b>6.87</b>	7.17
	2014	94	6.48	<b>6.72</b>	6.97
	2014-15	91	6.05	<b>6.43</b>	6.80
	2015-16	118	5.85	<b>6.20</b>	6.55
	2016-17	118	5.99	<b>6.36</b>	6.72





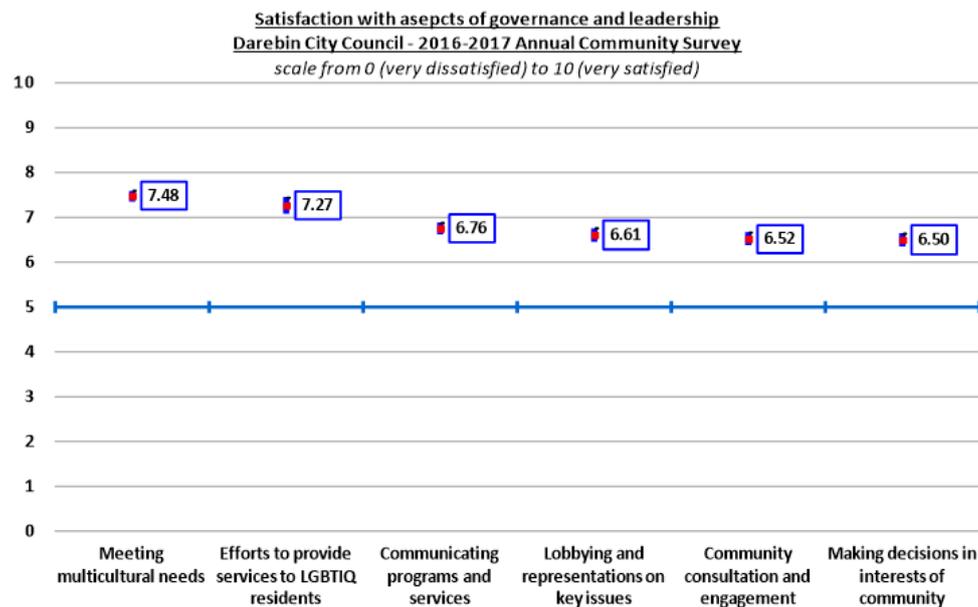
## Governance and leadership

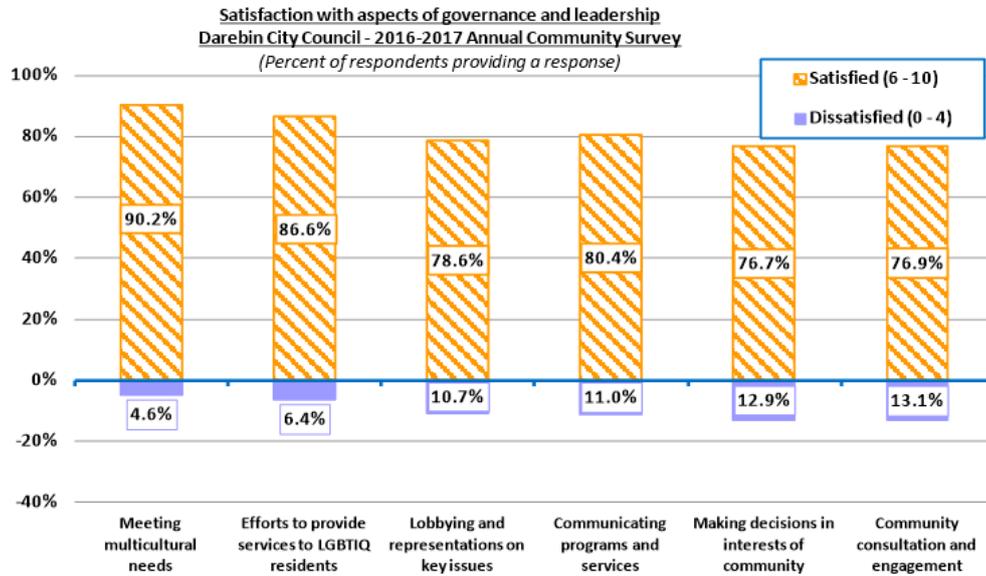
As in previous years the survey program included six aspects of governance and leadership. The average satisfaction with these six aspects in 2016-17 was 6.86, down less than one percent on the 6.92 recorded in 2015-16. Despite this marginal decline, average satisfaction with governance and leadership remains categorised as “good”.

Satisfaction with these six aspects of governance and leadership can best be summarised as follows:

- ⊗ **Very Good** – for Council meeting the needs of the multi-cultural community and efforts to provide services that are inclusive of LGBTIQ residents. More than four-fifths of respondents were satisfied with these two aspects, whilst less than ten percent were dissatisfied.
- ⊗ **Good** – for Council performance communicating its programs and services, lobbying and making representations on key issues, community consultation and engagement, and making decisions in the interests of the community. More than three-quarters of respondents were satisfied with each of these four aspects, whilst between ten and fourteen percent were dissatisfied.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with the four core aspects of governance and leadership (communication, advocacy, consultation, and making decisions) all tend to be similar to or marginally lower than satisfaction with Council’s overall performance, and this is certainly the case in relation to these City of Darebin results this year. This reflects the fact that overall satisfaction and these aspects of governance and leadership are very subjective measures and are all highly correlated.





**Satisfaction with aspects of governance and leadership**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of total respondents)*

Aspect	Dissatisfied (0 - 4)	Neutral (5)	Satisfied (6 - 10)	Can't say
Meeting multicultural needs	4.6%	5.2%	90.2%	303
Communicating programs and services	11.0%	8.6%	80.4%	147
Community consultation and engagement	13.1%	10.0%	76.9%	266
Efforts to provide services to LGBTIQ residents	6.4%	7.0%	86.6%	559
Making decisions in interests of community	12.9%	10.4%	76.7%	225
Lobbying and representations on key issues	10.7%	10.6%	78.6%	428





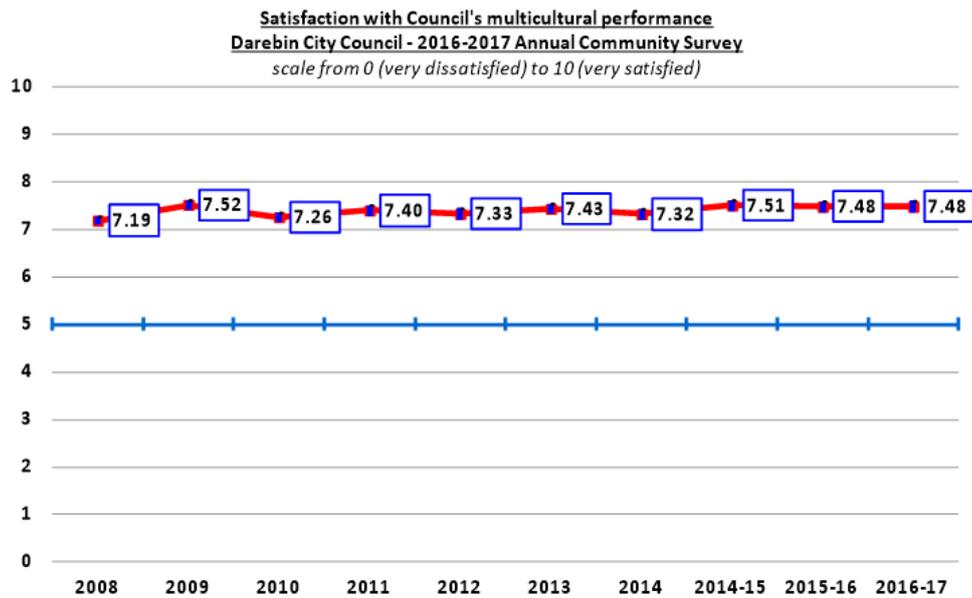
**Meeting the needs of the multicultural community**

Respondents were asked:

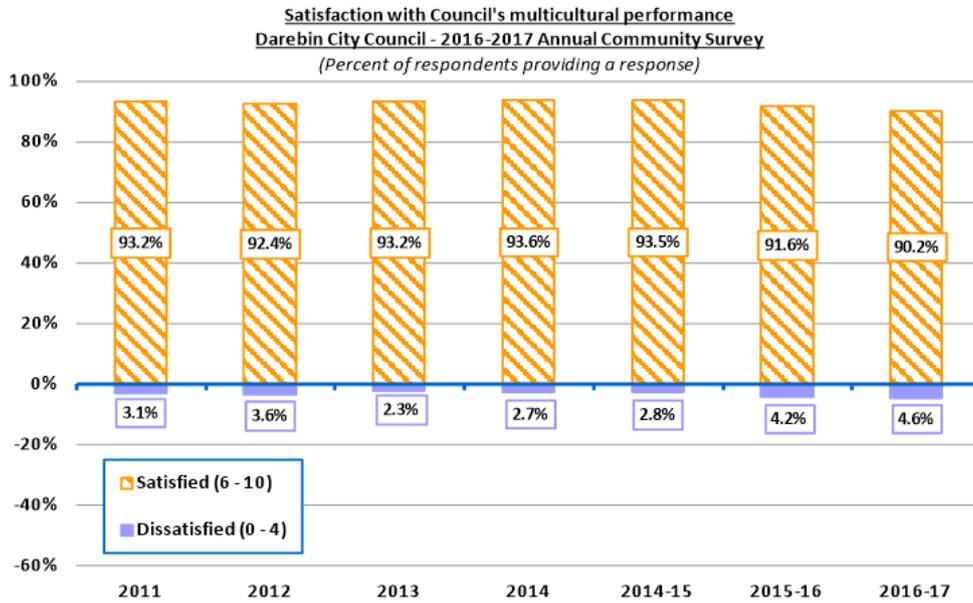
*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in meeting the needs of the multicultural community?”*

Satisfaction with Council’s performance meeting the needs of the multi-cultural community remained stable in 2016-17 at 7.48 out of a potential ten, a level of satisfaction categorised as “very good”.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership has remained at levels categorised as “very good” in nine of the last ten years. This reflects well on Council and the implementation of its principles of equity and inclusion.

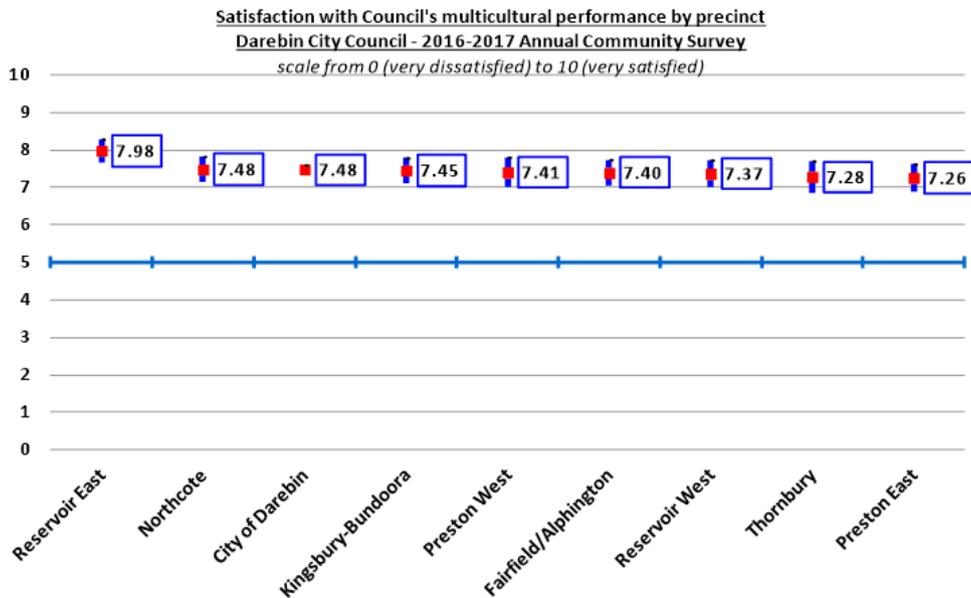


This very good level of satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership is reinforced by the fact that in each of the last seven years more than ninety percent of respondents were satisfied with this aspect, and less than five percent were dissatisfied.



There was some measurable variation in satisfaction with Council’s performance meeting the needs of the multi-cultural community observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents were measurably and significantly more satisfied than average with Council’s performance meeting the needs of the multi-cultural community, rating satisfaction at a level categorised as “excellent”.





There was no statistically significant variation in this result observed by respondent profile, although it is noted that:

- ⊗ **Age structure** - younger respondents (aged 15 to 35 years) were on average somewhat, albeit not measurably more satisfied than average.
- ⊗ **Housing situation** – rental household respondents were on average somewhat, albeit not measurably more satisfied than home owners and mortgagees.
- ⊗ **Period of residence** – average satisfaction declined significantly with the respondents' period of residence in the City of Darebin.
- ⊗ **ATSI status** – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander respondents were marginally, albeit not measurably less satisfied than other respondents.
- ⊗ **Language** – respondents from multi-lingual households were very marginally, albeit not measurably less satisfied than other respondents.

There was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council's performance meeting the needs of the multi-cultural community observed by respondents' gender or disability status of the respondents' household.

These results do reflect the general pattern of satisfaction with the overall performance of Darebin City Council, as discussed in the overall satisfaction section of this report.

When examined at the precinct level over time it is noted that satisfaction with Council's performance meeting the needs of the multi-cultural community:

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased in Reservoir East (up measurably by 9.8%), Northcote, Kingsbury-Bundoora, and Fairfield-Alphington.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased in Preston West, Reservoir West, Preston East, and Thornbury.

**Satisfaction with Council's multicultural performance****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Variable	Number	2016-2017		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
15 - 19 yrs	19	6.92	<b>7.68</b>	8.45
20 - 35 yrs	163	7.63	<b>7.87</b>	8.11
36 - 45 yrs	183	7.19	<b>7.42</b>	7.65
46 - 60 yrs	182	6.90	<b>7.17</b>	7.43
61 - 75 yrs	102	7.16	<b>7.49</b>	7.82
76 yrs and over	48	6.78	<b>7.44</b>	8.11
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	311	7.20	<b>7.39</b>	7.58
Mortgage	168	7.15	<b>7.42</b>	7.69
Renting this home	172	7.44	<b>7.68</b>	7.93
Renting from Office of Housing	29	7.13	<b>7.92</b>	8.71
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	58	7.70	<b>8.08</b>	8.46
One to less than five years	154	7.39	<b>7.66</b>	7.93
Five to less than ten years	106	7.37	<b>7.65</b>	7.94
Ten years or more	377	7.08	<b>7.26</b>	7.44
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	8	4.88	<b>7.11</b>	9.35
No	681	7.36	<b>7.48</b>	7.61
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	436	7.28	<b>7.43</b>	7.58
Multi-lingual	261	7.33	<b>7.56</b>	7.79
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	91	6.95	<b>7.40</b>	7.85
No	600	7.36	<b>7.49</b>	7.62
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	325	7.25	<b>7.45</b>	7.64
Female	370	7.33	<b>7.50</b>	7.67
<b>City of Darebin</b>	697	7.35	<b>7.48</b>	7.61



**Satisfaction with Council's multicultural performance**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	78	7.21	<b>7.50</b>	7.79
	2014	72	6.98	<b>7.29</b>	7.61
	2014-15	81	7.32	<b>7.65</b>	7.99
	2015-16	97	6.88	<b>7.27</b>	7.65
	2016-17	88	7.66	<b>7.98</b>	8.29
Northcote	2013	54	6.76	<b>7.22</b>	7.69
	2014	69	7.05	<b>7.33</b>	7.62
	2014-15	77	7.15	<b>7.43</b>	7.71
	2015-16	79	7.02	<b>7.35</b>	7.68
	2016-17	85	7.14	<b>7.48</b>	7.83
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	87	7.40	<b>7.76</b>	8.12
	2014	69	7.20	<b>7.49</b>	7.79
	2014-15	78	7.14	<b>7.49</b>	7.83
	2015-16	90	7.05	<b>7.36</b>	7.67
	2016-17	77	7.12	<b>7.45</b>	7.79
Preston West	2013	87	7.17	<b>7.45</b>	7.73
	2014	79	6.88	<b>7.27</b>	7.65
	2014-15	78	7.29	<b>7.60</b>	7.92
	2015-16	95	7.71	<b>7.99</b>	8.26
	2016-17	79	7.00	<b>7.41</b>	7.81
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	73	6.56	<b>6.89</b>	7.22
	2014	70	6.99	<b>7.39</b>	7.78
	2014-15	76	7.04	<b>7.40</b>	7.75
	2015-16	85	6.59	<b>6.95</b>	7.32
	2016-17	86	7.05	<b>7.40</b>	7.74
Reservoir West	2013	77	7.26	<b>7.58</b>	7.91
	2014	74	7.03	<b>7.39</b>	7.76
	2014-15	79	7.30	<b>7.62</b>	7.94
	2015-16	93	7.41	<b>7.72</b>	8.04
	2016-17	103	7.01	<b>7.37</b>	7.73
Thornbury	2013	77	7.30	<b>7.57</b>	7.84
	2014	65	6.85	<b>7.19</b>	7.52
	2014-15	79	6.96	<b>7.27</b>	7.57
	2015-16	89	7.58	<b>7.80</b>	8.02
	2016-17	78	6.86	<b>7.28</b>	7.71
Preston East	2013	70	6.91	<b>7.20</b>	7.49
	2014	78	6.95	<b>7.33</b>	7.72
	2014-15	84	7.27	<b>7.56</b>	7.85
	2015-16	95	7.22	<b>7.55</b>	7.89
	2016-17	94	6.89	<b>7.26</b>	7.62



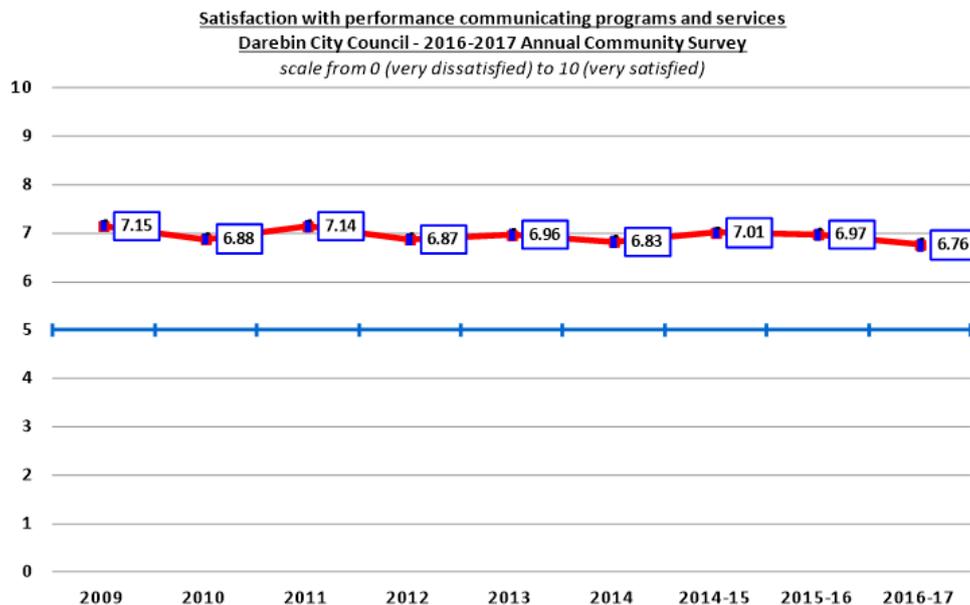
**Communicating programs and services**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in communicating its programs and services?”*

Satisfaction with Council’s performance communicating its programs and services declined somewhat in 2016-17, down three percent from 6.97 to 6.76. This decline was not statistically significant, and despite this decline satisfaction remains at a level categorised as “good”.

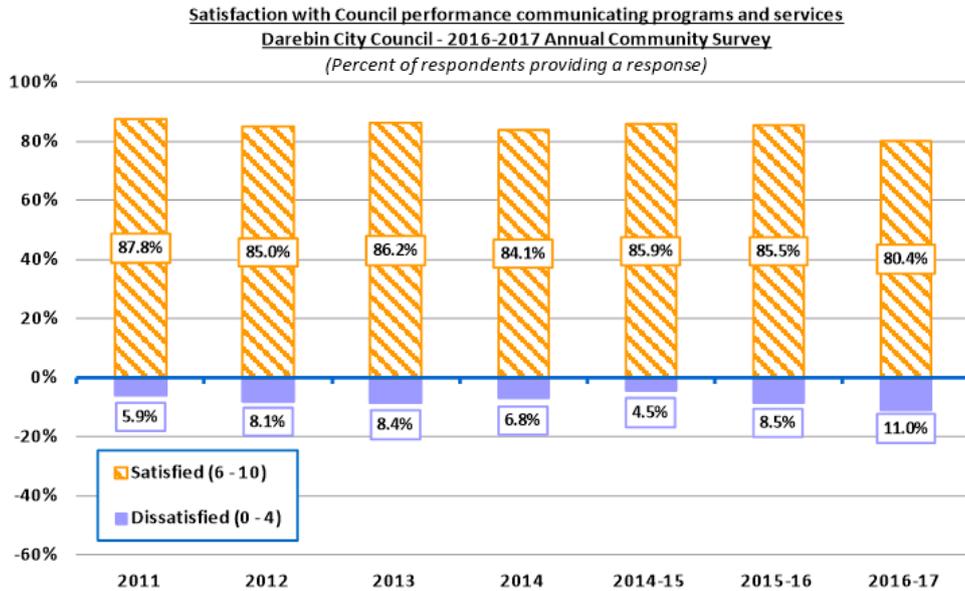
Satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership has consistently been recorded at levels categorised as “good” in each of the last nine years.



Consistent with this good level of satisfaction, more than four-fifths (80.4%) of respondents were satisfied with Council’s performance communicating its programs and services in 2016-17, down just marginally on the 85.5% recorded in 2015-16.

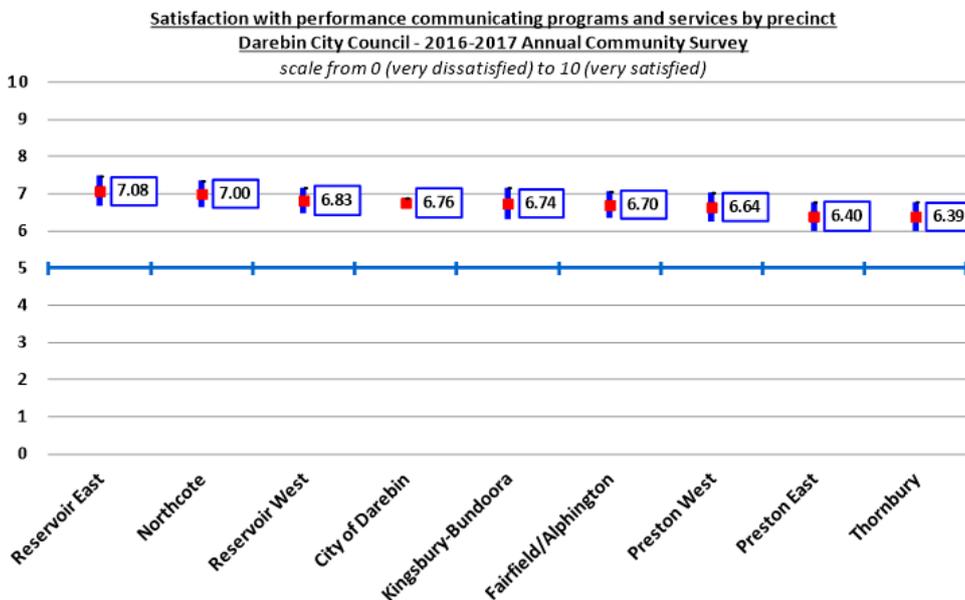
There was a small increase in the proportion of respondents dissatisfied with Council’s performance in this area, up from 8.5% in 2015-16 to eleven percent this year. It is noted that this is the first year that more than ten percent of respondents were dissatisfied with this aspect of governance and leadership.





There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council’s performance communicating its programs and services observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin. Attention is however drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Preston East and Thornbury** – respondents were marginally, albeit not measurably less satisfied and rated satisfaction at levels categorised as “solid”.





There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council's performance communicating its programs and services observed by respondent profile.

This is a very positive result as it suggests that Council is almost equally effective at communicating with the various groups that make up the diverse Darebin community.

Attention is however drawn to the following:

- ⊗ *Adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years)* – respondents were somewhat, albeit not measurably more satisfied than average.
- ⊗ *Senior citizens (aged 75 years and over)* – respondents were somewhat, albeit not measurably more satisfied than average.
- ⊗ *Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)* – respondents were somewhat, albeit not measurably less satisfied than average.
- ⊗ *Public rental household* – respondents were somewhat, albeit not measurably more satisfied than average.

There was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council's performance communicating its programs and services observed by ATSI status, language spoken at home, gender, or household disability status.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership does not follow the basic pattern of respondent satisfaction as discussed in relation to overall satisfaction. It is noted that satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership was more consistent across the various demographic groups of respondents.

When examined at the precinct level over time, it is observed that:

- ⊗ *Increased satisfaction* – satisfaction increased marginally but not measurably in Northcote.
- ⊗ *Decreased satisfaction* – satisfaction decreased somewhat, albeit not measurably in Reservoir East, Reservoir West, Preston East, Preston West, Fairfield-Alphington, Kingsbury-Bundoora, and Thornbury.



**Satisfaction with Council's performance communicating programs and services****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Variable	Number	2016-2017		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
15 - 19 yrs	19	6.52	<b>7.32</b>	8.13
20 - 35 yrs	198	6.54	<b>6.83</b>	7.12
36 - 45 yrs	223	6.40	<b>6.64</b>	6.88
46 - 60 yrs	227	6.20	<b>6.46</b>	6.71
61 - 75 yrs	131	6.71	<b>7.08</b>	7.46
76 yrs and over	53	6.71	<b>7.24</b>	7.76
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	380	6.63	<b>6.83</b>	7.03
Mortgage	208	6.38	<b>6.64</b>	6.91
Renting this home	212	6.41	<b>6.69</b>	6.96
Renting from Office of Housing	33	6.37	<b>7.22</b>	8.08
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	73	6.29	<b>6.81</b>	7.33
One to less than five years	190	6.39	<b>6.69</b>	6.99
Five to less than ten years	127	6.51	<b>6.85</b>	7.20
Ten years or more	461	6.58	<b>6.75</b>	6.93
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	9	5.06	<b>7.02</b>	8.99
No	835	6.62	<b>6.75</b>	6.89
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	550	6.63	<b>6.79</b>	6.95
Multi-lingual	300	6.46	<b>6.70</b>	6.94
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	110	6.34	<b>6.78</b>	7.22
No	735	6.61	<b>6.75</b>	6.89
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	388	6.53	<b>6.73</b>	6.94
Female	460	6.61	<b>6.79</b>	6.96
<b>City of Darebin</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>6.62</b>	<b>6.76</b>	<b>6.89</b>

**Satisfaction with Council's performance communicating programs and services****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	86	6.72	<b>7.14</b>	7.56
	2014	82	6.58	<b>6.90</b>	7.22
	2014-15	91	6.71	<b>6.98</b>	7.25
	2015-16	111	6.80	<b>7.13</b>	7.45
	2016-17	100	6.68	<b>7.08</b>	7.48
Northcote	2013	87	6.33	<b>6.71</b>	7.10
	2014	82	6.47	<b>6.82</b>	7.16
	2014-15	92	6.90	<b>7.22</b>	7.53
	2015-16	108	6.45	<b>6.80</b>	7.15
	2016-17	111	6.65	<b>7.00</b>	7.35
Reservoir West	2013	90	6.31	<b>6.74</b>	7.18
	2014	86	6.72	<b>7.08</b>	7.44
	2014-15	87	6.78	<b>7.10</b>	7.43
	2015-16	87	6.78	<b>7.10</b>	7.43
	2016-17	120	6.48	<b>6.83</b>	7.17
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	96	6.68	<b>7.14</b>	7.59
	2014	87	6.37	<b>6.74</b>	7.10
	2014-15	85	6.80	<b>7.13</b>	7.46
	2015-16	108	6.53	<b>6.92</b>	7.30
	2016-17	93	6.31	<b>6.74</b>	7.17
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	92	6.10	<b>6.48</b>	6.85
	2014	92	6.30	<b>6.66</b>	7.03
	2014-15	95	6.52	<b>6.91</b>	7.29
	2015-16	120	6.87	<b>7.13</b>	7.38
	2016-17	114	6.34	<b>6.70</b>	7.06
Preston West	2013	93	6.76	<b>7.11</b>	7.45
	2014	91	6.26	<b>6.58</b>	6.91
	2014-15	89	6.65	<b>6.97</b>	7.28
	2015-16	108	6.73	<b>7.07</b>	7.42
	2016-17	104	6.25	<b>6.64</b>	7.03
Preston East	2013	86	6.94	<b>7.23</b>	7.52
	2014	79	6.51	<b>6.91</b>	7.31
	2014-15	85	6.69	<b>7.00</b>	7.31
	2015-16	85	6.69	<b>7.00</b>	7.31
	2016-17	106	6.01	<b>6.40</b>	6.79
Thornbury	2013	89	6.76	<b>7.07</b>	7.37
	2014	77	6.25	<b>6.61</b>	6.97
	2014-15	85	6.34	<b>6.69</b>	7.05
	2015-16	112	6.56	<b>6.88</b>	7.19
	2016-17	103	5.99	<b>6.39</b>	6.79



**Community consultation and engagement**

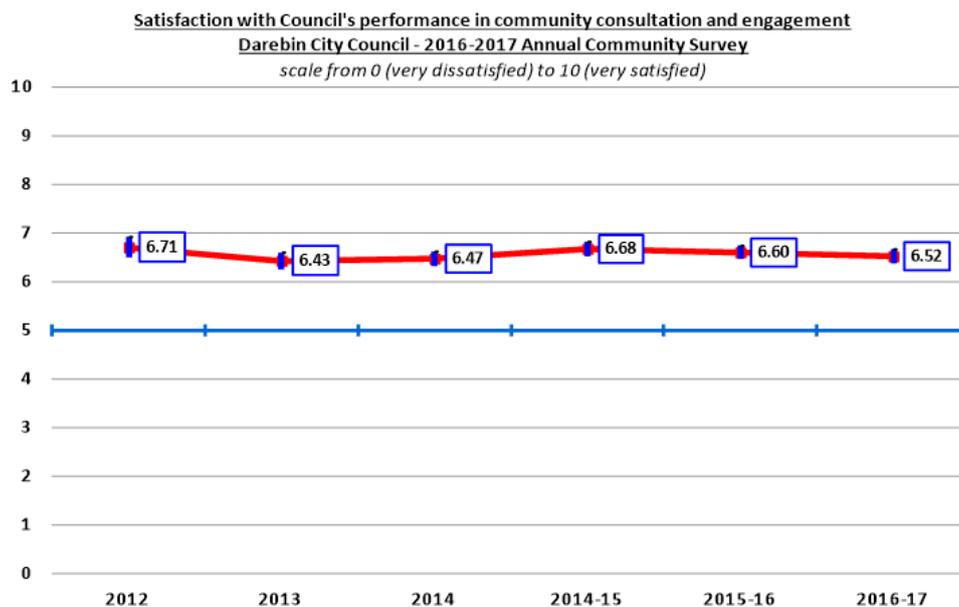
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in community consultation and engagement?”*

Satisfaction with Council’s community consultation and engagement decreased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 1.2% from 6.60 to 6.52. Despite this decline satisfaction remains at a level categorised as “good”.

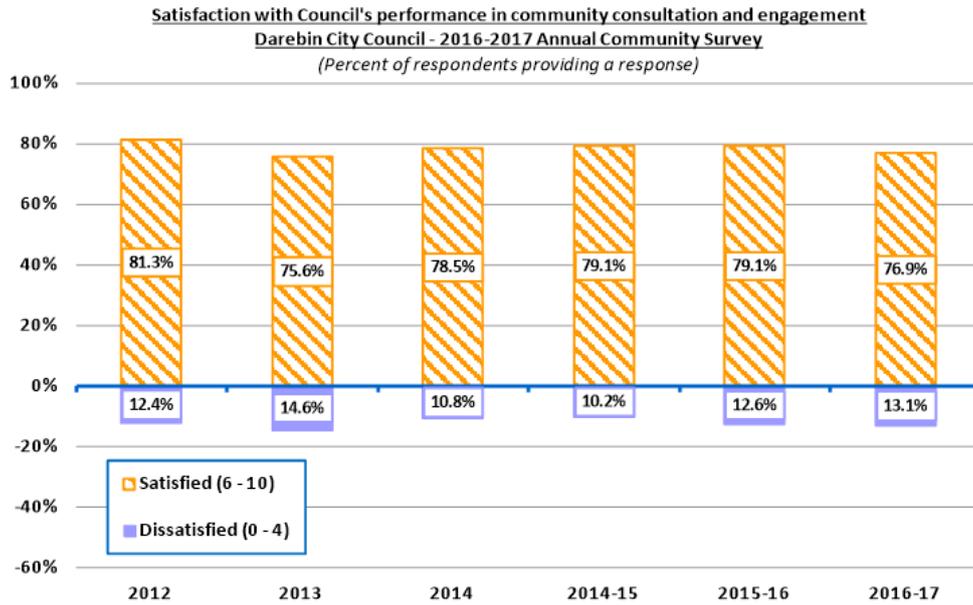
Satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership has been categorised as “good” in four of the last six years, and was rated “solid” in 2013 and 2014.

This result is marginally (2.5%), albeit not measurably higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.36.



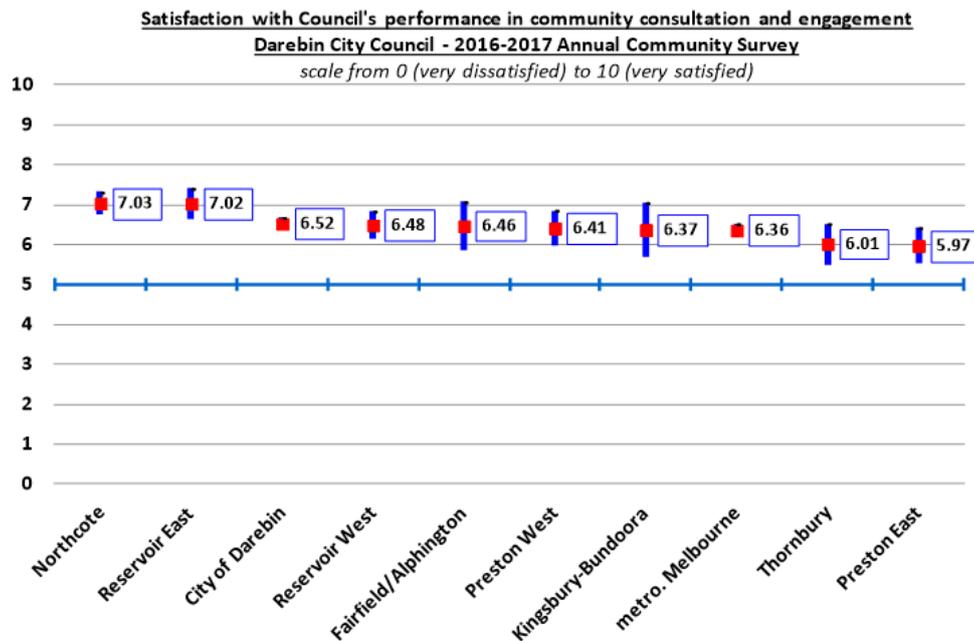
Consistent with this good level of satisfaction, more than three-quarters (76.9%) of respondents were satisfied with Council’s performance and less than one-sixth (13.1%) were dissatisfied.

It is noted that there was a small decrease in the proportion of satisfied respondents in 2016-17, and a very small increase in the proportion dissatisfied. These variations from the previous year’s results were not statistically significant.



There was some measurable variation in satisfaction with Council's performance in community consultation and engagement observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Northcote and Reservoir East** – respondents were measurably more satisfied than average.
- ⊗ **Thornbury and Preston East** – respondents were measurably less satisfied than average and rated satisfaction at levels categorised as “solid”.





There was measurable variation in satisfaction with Council's consultation and engagement observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years)** – respondents were somewhat, albeit not measurably more satisfied than average.
- ⊗ **Adults and middle-aged adults (36 to 60 years)** – respondents were somewhat, albeit not measurably less satisfied than average.
- ⊗ **Long-term residents (ten years or more in Darebin)** – respondents were somewhat, albeit not measurably less satisfied than average.
- ⊗ **ATSI status** – the nine Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander respondents were significantly less satisfied with this aspect of governance and leadership than other respondents.

There was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council's performance communicating its programs and services observed by language spoken at home, gender, or household disability status.

When examined at the precinct level over time, it is observed that:

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally but not measurably in Northcote and Reservoir East.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased somewhat, albeit not measurably in Reservoir West, Preston East, Preston West, Fairfield-Alphington, Kingsbury-Bundoora, and Thornbury.

None of these increases or decreases were statistically significant.

**Satisfaction with Council's performance in community consultation and engagement****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Variable	Number	2016-2017		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
15 - 19 yrs	15	5.71	<b>6.76</b>	7.82
20 - 35 yrs	163	6.46	<b>6.78</b>	7.10
36 - 45 yrs	201	6.07	<b>6.35</b>	6.63
46 - 60 yrs	202	6.07	<b>6.37</b>	6.68
61 - 75 yrs	116	6.29	<b>6.67</b>	7.05
76 yrs and over	36	5.75	<b>6.61</b>	7.46
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	322	6.21	<b>6.45</b>	6.69
Mortgage	191	6.22	<b>6.50</b>	6.78
Renting this home	177	6.28	<b>6.60</b>	6.92
Renting from Office of Housing	25	6.59	<b>7.48</b>	8.37
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	55	6.31	<b>6.86</b>	7.41
One to less than five years	172	6.34	<b>6.67</b>	6.99
Five to less than ten years	112	6.38	<b>6.74</b>	7.10
Ten years or more	392	6.14	<b>6.35</b>	6.56
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	9	3.96	<b>5.66</b>	7.36
No	717	6.37	<b>6.53</b>	6.68
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	483	6.32	<b>6.51</b>	6.69
Multi-lingual	249	6.29	<b>6.56</b>	6.82
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	92	5.96	<b>6.48</b>	6.99
No	634	6.37	<b>6.53</b>	6.69
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	342	6.25	<b>6.48</b>	6.71
Female	387	6.36	<b>6.57</b>	6.78
<b>City of Darebin</b>	<b>734</b>	<b>6.37</b>	<b>6.52</b>	<b>6.68</b>



**Satisfaction with Council's performance in community consultation and engagement**

**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**

(Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Northcote	2013	79	5.34	<b>5.89</b>	6.44
	2014	67	6.54	<b>6.90</b>	7.25
	2014-15	77	6.38	<b>6.78</b>	7.18
	2015-16	103	5.98	<b>6.41</b>	6.83
	2016-17	95	6.75	<b>7.03</b>	7.31
Reservoir East	2013	75	6.14	<b>6.67</b>	7.19
	2014	73	6.02	<b>6.48</b>	6.94
	2014-15	86	6.73	<b>7.09</b>	7.45
	2015-16	103	6.47	<b>6.83</b>	7.20
	2016-17	85	6.64	<b>7.02</b>	7.40
Reservoir West	2013	76	5.88	<b>6.38</b>	6.89
	2014	78	6.01	<b>6.42</b>	6.84
	2014-15	81	6.23	<b>6.64</b>	7.05
	2015-16	105	6.27	<b>6.68</b>	7.08
	2016-17	98	6.13	<b>6.48</b>	6.83
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	87	5.57	<b>6.01</b>	6.45
	2014	81	5.74	<b>6.16</b>	6.58
	2014-15	87	6.01	<b>6.45</b>	6.88
	2015-16	109	6.28	<b>6.67</b>	7.06
	2016-17	106	5.86	<b>6.46</b>	7.06
Preston West	2013	81	5.95	<b>6.41</b>	6.87
	2014	76	5.65	<b>6.12</b>	6.59
	2014-15	75	5.91	<b>6.40</b>	6.89
	2015-16	100	6.53	<b>6.89</b>	7.25
	2016-17	93	5.96	<b>6.41</b>	6.86
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	83	6.32	<b>6.83</b>	7.34
	2014	77	6.03	<b>6.52</b>	7.01
	2014-15	76	6.49	<b>6.95</b>	7.41
	2015-16	85	6.37	<b>6.80</b>	7.23
	2016-17	79	5.69	<b>6.37</b>	7.05
Thornbury	2013	89	6.15	<b>6.62</b>	7.08
	2014	70	5.96	<b>6.43</b>	6.89
	2014-15	78	5.67	<b>6.15</b>	6.64
	2015-16	98	5.72	<b>6.13</b>	6.54
	2016-17	89	5.50	<b>6.01</b>	6.52
Preston East	2013	84	6.28	<b>6.70</b>	7.12
	2014	70	6.10	<b>6.53</b>	6.96
	2014-15	77	6.50	<b>6.92</b>	7.34
	2015-16	99	6.09	<b>6.53</b>	6.96
	2016-17	94	5.51	<b>5.97</b>	6.42



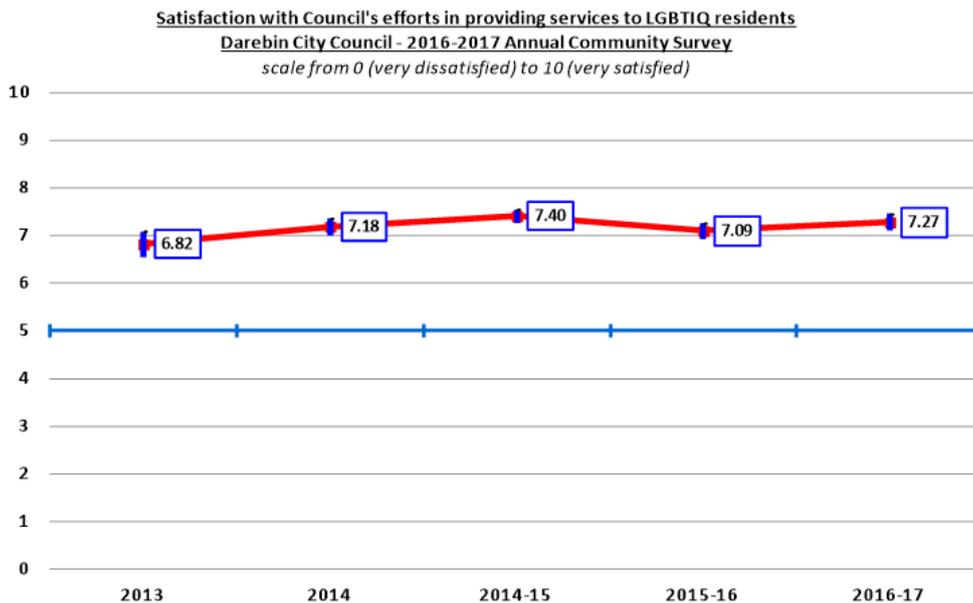
**Providing services that are inclusive of LGBTIQ residents**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s efforts to provide services that are inclusive of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) residents?”*

Satisfaction with Council’s efforts in providing services that are inclusive of LGBTIQ residents increased somewhat in 2016-17, up 2.5% from 7.09 to 7.27. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “very good”, up on the previous “good”.

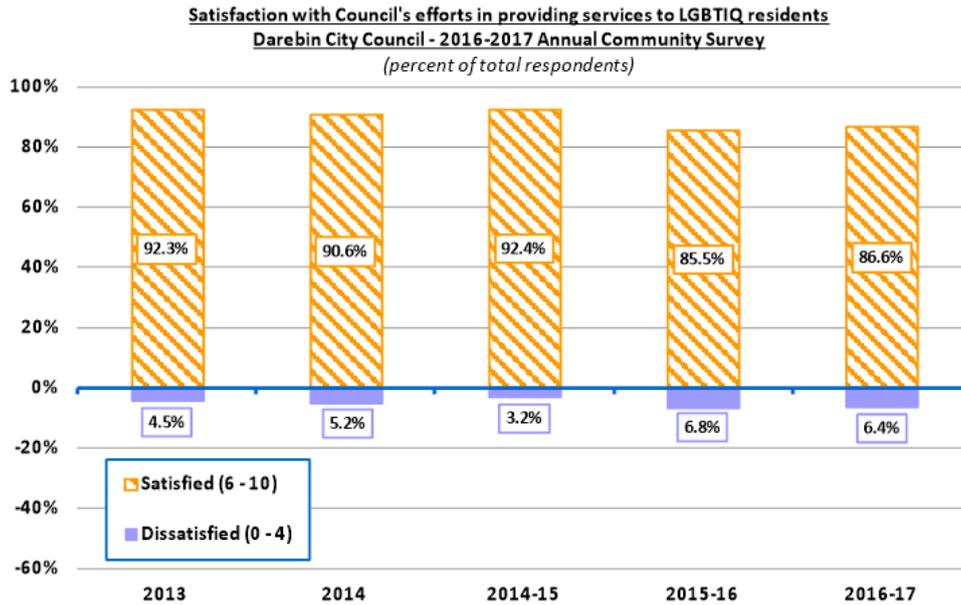
Metropolis Research notes that in 2016-17, less than half (44.1%) of the one thousand respondents over the course of the year were able to provide a satisfaction score for this aspect of governance and leadership. Clearly many in the community do not feel that they have sufficient information about the interaction between Council and the LGBTIQ community to make a judgement about the quality of the interaction or the inclusiveness of the services provided by Council. A number of comments to this effect were received from respondents over the course of the year.



Consistent with this very good level of satisfaction, more than four-fifths of respondents (86.6%) were satisfied with this aspect of governance and leadership, and less than ten percent (6.4%) were dissatisfied.

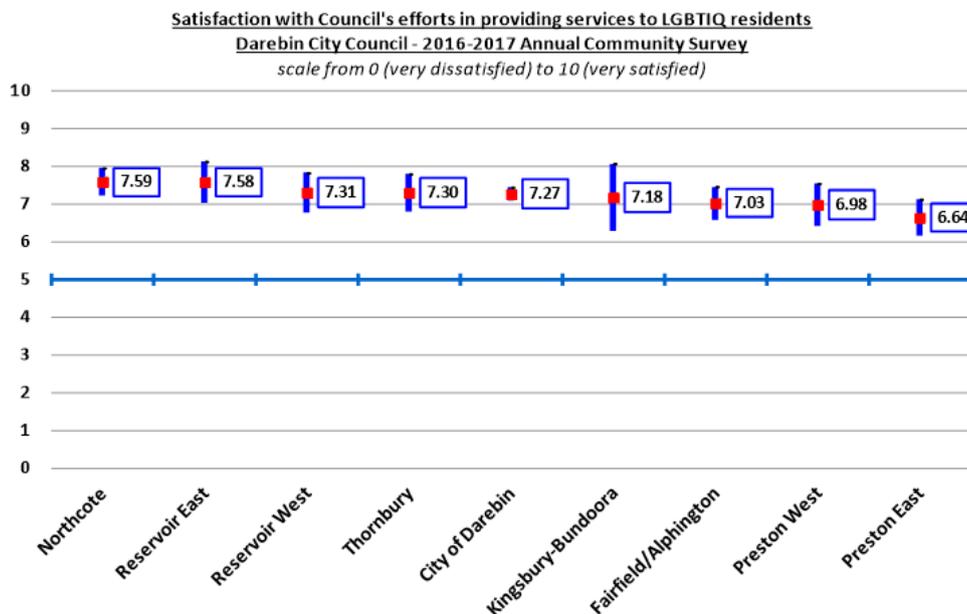
These results are both very similar to the results recorded in 2015-16, albeit a little lower than the results recorded in 2014-15 which was the year with the highest level of satisfaction.





There was some measurable variation in satisfaction with Council’s efforts in providing services that are inclusive of LGBTIQ residents observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Preston East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.





There was some statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council's efforts to provide services that are inclusive of the LGBTIQ residents observed by respondent profile, with attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ *Middle-aged and older adults (aged 46 to 75 years)* – respondents were marginally, albeit not measurably less satisfied than average.
- ⊗ *Language spoken at home* – respondents from multi-lingual households were measurably and significantly more satisfied than respondents from English speaking households.

When examined at the precinct level over time, it is observed that:

- ⊗ *Increased satisfaction* – satisfaction increased marginally, but not measurably in Northcote, Reservoir East, and Reservoir West.
- ⊗ *Decreased satisfaction* – satisfaction decreased somewhat, albeit not measurably in Preston East, Preston West, Fairfield-Alphington, Kingsbury-Bundoora, and Thornbury.

None of these changes were statistically significant.



**Satisfaction with Council's efforts in providing services to LGBTIQ residents****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Variable	Number	2016-2017		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
15 - 19 yrs	13	6.33	<b>7.33</b>	8.33
20 - 35 yrs	114	7.12	<b>7.50</b>	7.87
36 - 45 yrs	113	6.92	<b>7.24</b>	7.55
46 - 60 yrs	116	6.76	<b>7.10</b>	7.44
61 - 75 yrs	63	6.56	<b>7.13</b>	7.69
76 yrs and over	21	6.76	<b>7.64</b>	8.52
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	181	6.88	<b>7.16</b>	7.44
Mortgage	110	7.09	<b>7.38</b>	7.67
Renting this home	128	6.96	<b>7.34</b>	7.71
Renting from Office of Housing	15	6.49	<b>7.67</b>	8.86
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	37	6.56	<b>7.38</b>	8.21
One to less than five years	114	7.17	<b>7.53</b>	7.88
Five to less than ten years	69	7.21	<b>7.52</b>	7.84
Ten years or more	220	6.79	<b>7.04</b>	7.30
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	4	0.83	<b>6.16</b>	10.00
No	433	7.10	<b>7.28</b>	7.46
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	290	6.86	<b>7.09</b>	7.32
Multi-lingual	152	7.34	<b>7.62</b>	7.89
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	55	6.65	<b>7.31</b>	7.97
No	381	7.09	<b>7.27</b>	7.46
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	202	6.99	<b>7.27</b>	7.55
Female	237	7.05	<b>7.28</b>	7.51
<b>City of Darebin</b>	441	7.09	<b>7.27</b>	7.45

**Satisfaction with Council's efforts in providing services to LGBTIQ residents**

**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**

(Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Northcote	2013	11	5.82	<b>6.73</b>	7.63
	2014	35	7.05	<b>7.46</b>	7.86
	2014-15	45	7.03	<b>7.42</b>	7.81
	2015-16	59	6.77	<b>7.20</b>	7.64
	2016-17	64	7.23	<b>7.59</b>	7.96
Reservoir East	2013	5	6.92	<b>7.60</b>	8.28
	2014	42	6.49	<b>7.02</b>	7.56
	2014-15	59	6.94	<b>7.31</b>	7.67
	2015-16	60	6.19	<b>6.70</b>	7.21
	2016-17	53	7.04	<b>7.58</b>	8.13
Reservoir West	2013	9	5.46	<b>6.00</b>	6.54
	2014	42	6.67	<b>7.38</b>	8.09
	2014-15	53	7.38	<b>7.81</b>	8.24
	2015-16	58	6.74	<b>7.17</b>	7.60
	2016-17	68	6.79	<b>7.31</b>	7.83
Thornbury	2013	14	6.45	<b>6.93</b>	7.41
	2014	58	6.72	<b>7.05</b>	7.38
	2014-15	60	6.89	<b>7.23</b>	7.57
	2015-16	54	6.66	<b>7.13</b>	7.60
	2016-17	46	6.80	<b>7.30</b>	7.81
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	12	6.64	<b>7.25</b>	7.86
	2014	34	6.25	<b>6.79</b>	7.34
	2014-15	40	6.43	<b>7.10</b>	7.77
	2015-16	51	6.90	<b>7.35</b>	7.81
	2016-17	28	6.28	<b>7.18</b>	8.08
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	12	5.86	<b>6.83</b>	7.80
	2014	48	7.16	<b>7.54</b>	7.92
	2014-15	56	7.12	<b>7.50</b>	7.88
	2015-16	57	6.63	<b>7.16</b>	7.69
	2016-17	62	6.60	<b>7.03</b>	7.47
Preston West	2013	11	4.35	<b>6.09</b>	7.83
	2014	50	5.95	<b>6.60</b>	7.25
	2014-15	43	6.30	<b>6.91</b>	7.51
	2015-16	58	6.92	<b>7.33</b>	7.73
	2016-17	56	6.41	<b>6.98</b>	7.55
Preston East	2013	18	6.95	<b>7.28</b>	7.61
	2014	46	7.14	<b>7.57</b>	7.99
	2014-15	58	7.16	<b>7.57</b>	7.98
	2015-16	46	6.29	<b>6.96</b>	7.62
	2016-17	53	6.15	<b>6.64</b>	7.13



**Making decisions in the interests of the community**

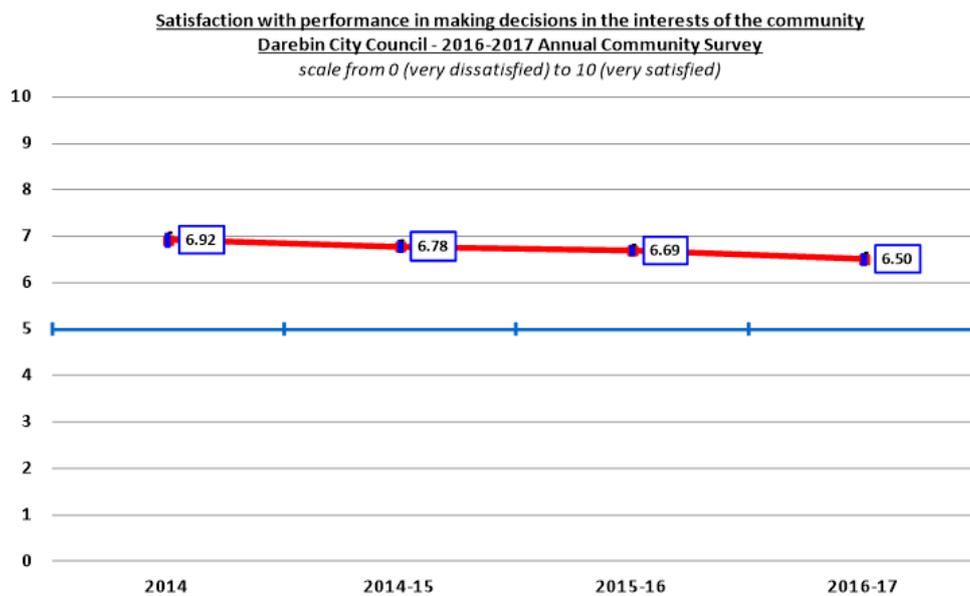
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in making decisions in the interests of the community?”*

Satisfaction with Council’s performance in making decisions in the interests of the community declined for the third consecutive year, down 2.8% from the 2015-16 result of 6.69, and down 6.1% from the 2014 result of 6.92.

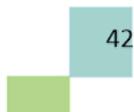
Despite this decline, satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership remains categorised as “good”.

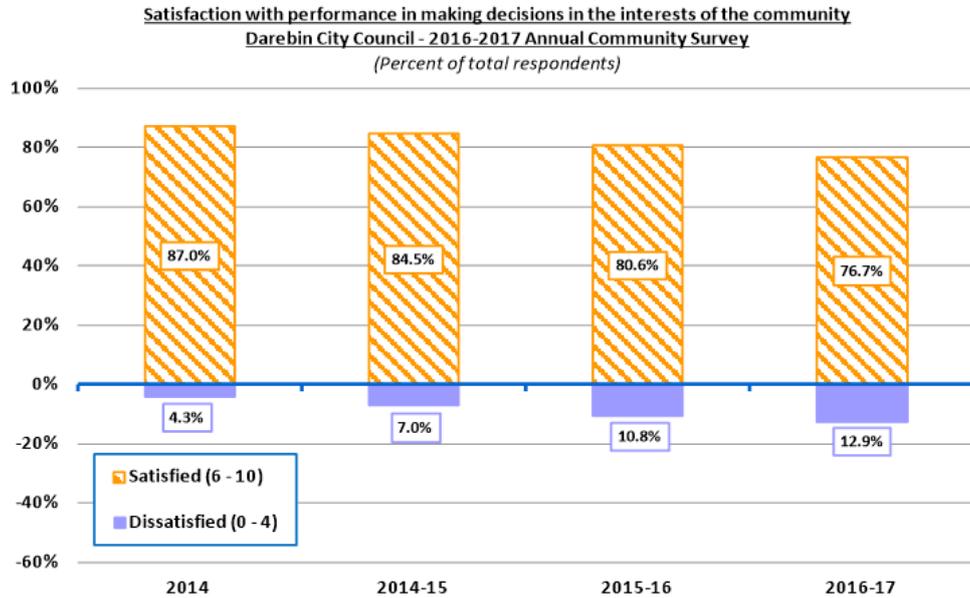
This result is measurably (4.6%) higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.21.



Consistent with the decline in average satisfaction with Council’s performance making decisions in the interests of the community, it is observed that the proportion of respondents satisfied with this aspect has declined in each of the last four years from a high of 87.0% in 2014 to 76.7% in 2016-17.

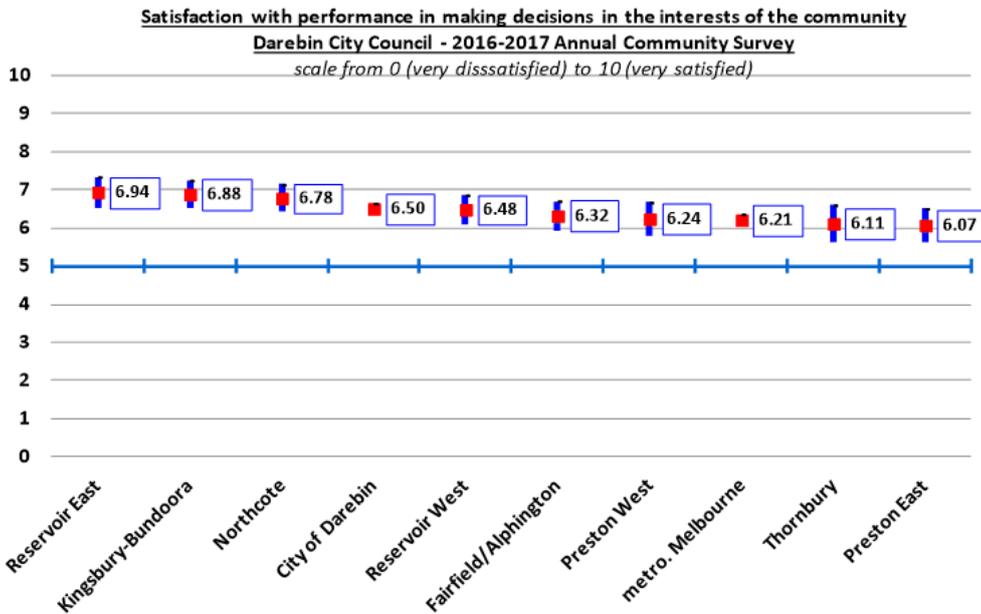
The proportion of respondents dissatisfied with this aspect of governance and leadership has correspondingly increased in each of the last three years, from a low of 4.3% in 2014 to 12.9% in 2016-17.





There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council’s performance making decisions in the interests of the community observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin. Attention is however drawn to:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East, Kingsbury-Bundoora, and Northcote** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average.
- ⊗ **Thornbury and Preston East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.





There was some measurable variation in satisfaction with Council's performance in making decisions in the interests of the community observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Young adults (aged 20 to 35 years)** – respondents were measurably and significantly more satisfied than average and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** – respondents were measurably and significantly less satisfied than average and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “poor”.
- ⊗ **Housing situation** – rental household respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than respondents that were either home owners or mortgagees.
- ⊗ **Period of residence** – satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership declined with the respondents' period of residence in the City of Darebin, from a high of 7.69 (rated “very good”) for respondents living in Darebin for less than one year to a low of 6.07 (rated “solid”) for respondents who have lived in Darebin for ten year or more.
- ⊗ **ATSI status** – it is noted that the nine Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander respondents rated satisfaction significantly lower than other respondents at just 5.73, a level categorised as “poor”. This result is not statistically significant due to the very small sample size.

There was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council's performance making decisions in the interests of the community observed by respondents' gender, language spoken at home, or household disability status.

When examined at the precinct level over time, it is observed that:

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased somewhat, albeit not measurably in Reservoir East and Northcote.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased somewhat, albeit not measurably in Fairfield-Alphington, Kingsbury-Bundoora, Reservoir West, and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased measurably and significantly in Preston West (down 10.5%) and Preston East (11.9%).

**Satisfaction with performance in making decisions in the interests of the community****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Variable	Number	2016-2017		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
15 - 19 yrs	17	6.42	<b>7.05</b>	7.67
20 - 35 yrs	175	6.99	<b>7.26</b>	7.53
36 - 45 yrs	205	6.18	<b>6.43</b>	6.68
46 - 60 yrs	210	5.57	<b>5.88</b>	6.19
61 - 75 yrs	121	6.30	<b>6.67</b>	7.04
76 yrs and over	45	5.51	<b>6.20</b>	6.89
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	340	6.05	<b>6.28</b>	6.50
Mortgage	191	5.93	<b>6.25</b>	6.57
Renting this home	195	6.80	<b>7.05</b>	7.30
Renting from Office of Housing	29	6.88	<b>7.60</b>	8.33
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	62	7.32	<b>7.69</b>	8.05
One to less than five years	172	6.66	<b>6.94</b>	7.22
Five to less than ten years	120	6.43	<b>6.76</b>	7.09
Ten years or more	418	5.86	<b>6.07</b>	6.28
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	9	3.77	<b>5.73</b>	7.70
No	758	6.36	<b>6.51</b>	6.66
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	498	6.26	<b>6.43</b>	6.60
Multi-lingual	275	6.37	<b>6.63</b>	6.90
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	101	5.95	<b>6.42</b>	6.90
No	665	6.37	<b>6.52</b>	6.67
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	355	6.28	<b>6.50</b>	6.71
Female	415	6.32	<b>6.52</b>	6.72
<b>City of Darebin</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>6.36</b>	<b>6.50</b>	<b>6.65</b>



**Satisfaction with performance in making decisions in the interests of the community****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2014	46	6.63	<b>7.00</b>	7.37
	2014-15	91	6.56	<b>6.88</b>	7.20
	2015-16	104	6.21	<b>6.60</b>	6.98
	2016-17	96	6.53	<b>6.94</b>	7.34
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2014	35	6.16	<b>6.74</b>	7.32
	2014-15	73	6.17	<b>6.63</b>	7.09
	2015-16	94	6.90	<b>7.27</b>	7.63
	2016-17	86	6.52	<b>6.88</b>	7.25
Northcote	2014	34	6.59	<b>6.91</b>	7.24
	2014-15	78	6.52	<b>6.85</b>	7.17
	2015-16	108	5.91	<b>6.29</b>	6.67
	2016-17	96	6.42	<b>6.78</b>	7.14
Reservoir West	2014	37	6.54	<b>7.14</b>	7.73
	2014-15	80	6.51	<b>6.95</b>	7.39
	2015-16	103	6.56	<b>6.94</b>	7.32
	2016-17	108	6.09	<b>6.48</b>	6.87
Fairfield-Alphington	2014	42	6.23	<b>6.67</b>	7.11
	2014-15	81	6.04	<b>6.43</b>	6.83
	2015-16	107	6.18	<b>6.52</b>	6.87
	2016-17	98	5.92	<b>6.32</b>	6.71
Preston West	2014	36	5.37	<b>6.14</b>	6.91
	2014-15	66	6.16	<b>6.68</b>	7.20
	2015-16	95	6.64	<b>6.97</b>	7.30
	2016-17	92	5.80	<b>6.24</b>	6.67
Thornbury	2014	38	6.93	<b>7.29</b>	7.65
	2014-15	72	6.46	<b>6.79</b>	7.12
	2015-16	104	6.15	<b>6.48</b>	6.81
	2016-17	98	5.62	<b>6.11</b>	6.60
Preston East	2014	35	6.23	<b>6.86</b>	7.49
	2014-15	78	6.41	<b>6.82</b>	7.23
	2015-16	91	6.52	<b>6.89</b>	7.26
	2016-17	96	5.63	<b>6.07</b>	6.51



**Lobbying and making representations on key issues**

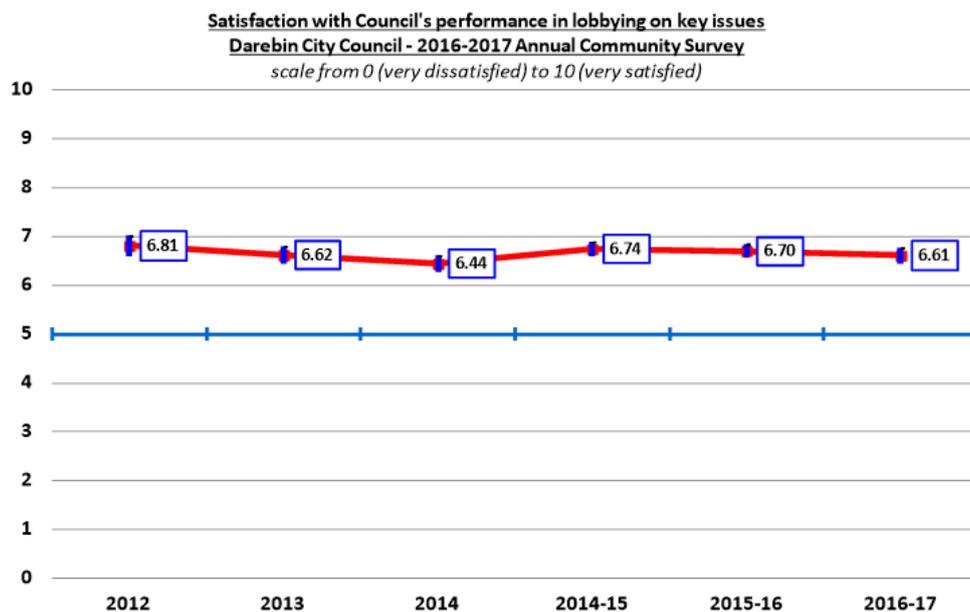
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in lobbying and making representations on key issues that affect the local community?”*

Satisfaction with Council’s performance in lobbying and making representations on key issues that affect the local community declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 1.3% from 6.70 to 6.61. Despite this decline satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership remains at a level categorised as “good”.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with Council’s performance in lobbying and making representations has been recorded at levels categorised as “good” in five of the last six years.

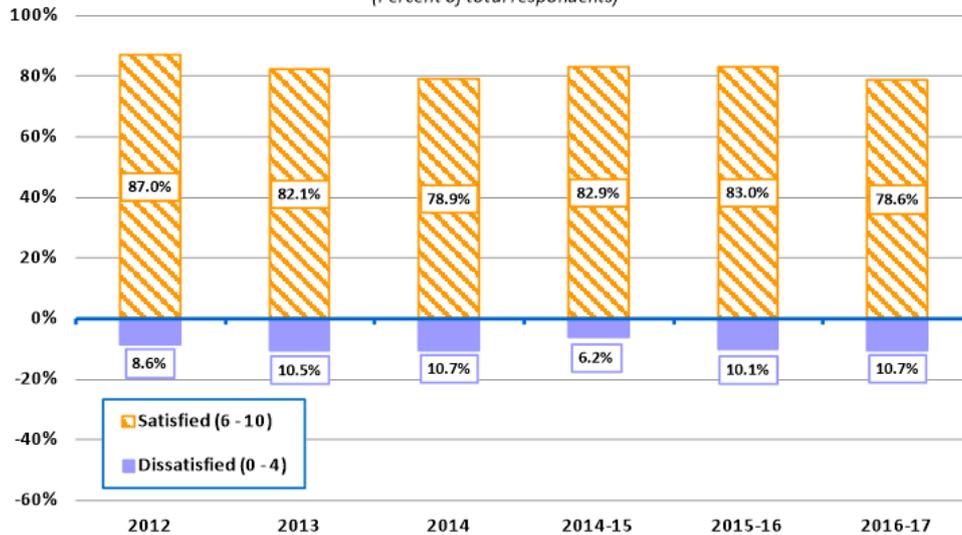
This result is measurably (7.5%) higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.15.



Consistent with the small decline in satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership, the proportion of respondents satisfied declined marginally in 2016-17 (78.6% down from 83.0%), whilst the proportion dissatisfied increased marginally (10.7% up from 10.1%).



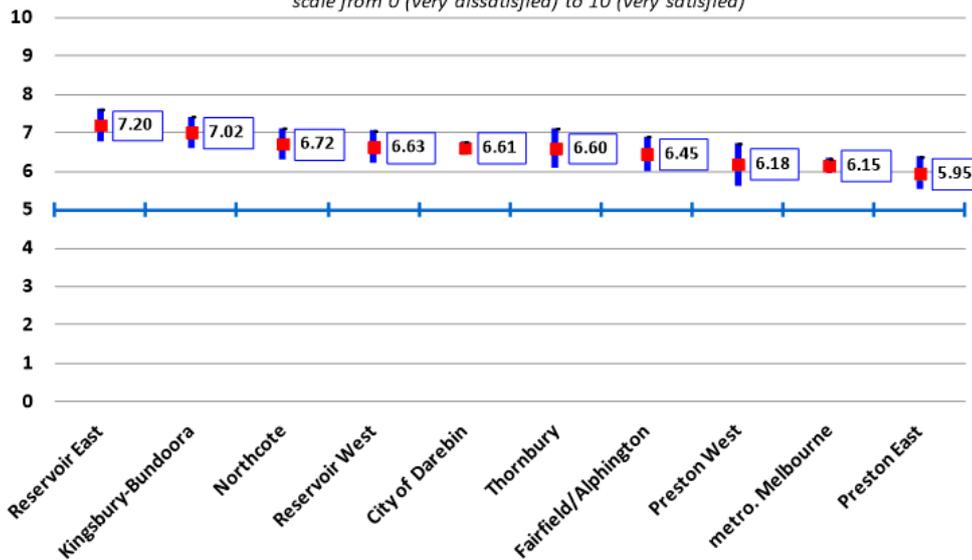
**Satisfaction with Council's lobbying and making representations on key issues**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
 (Percent of total respondents)



There was some measurable variation in satisfaction with Council’s performance in lobbying and making representations observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average.
- ⊗ **Preston East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “poor”.

**Satisfaction with Council's performance in lobbying on key issues by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)





There was some measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with Council's performance in lobbying and making representations observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Young adults (aged 20 to 35 years)** – respondents were measurably and significantly more satisfied than average, and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Housing situation** – rental household respondents (both public and private) rated satisfaction significantly higher than mortgagee and home owner respondents.
- ⊗ **Period of residence** – satisfaction with this aspect of governance and leadership declined with the respondents' period of residence in the City of Darebin, from a high of 7.42 for new residents less than one year in Darebin to a low of 6.32 for respondents who have lived in the City of Darebin for ten years or more.
- ⊗ **ATSI status** – the nine Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander respondents answering this question rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than other respondents. This result is not statistically significant due to the very small sample size.
- ⊗ **Disability** – respondents from households with a member with a disability rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than other respondents.

There was no meaningful variation in satisfaction with Council's performance in lobbying and making representations observed by the respondents' gender or language spoken at home.

When examined at the precinct level over time, it is observed that:

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased somewhat, albeit not measurably in Reservoir East, Northcote, Fairfield-Alphington, and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased somewhat, albeit not measurably in Kingsbury-Bundoora and Reservoir West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased measurably and significantly in Preston West (down 12.5%) and Preston East (15.1%).



**Satisfaction with Council's performance in lobbying and making representation****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Variable	Number	2016-2017		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
15 - 19 yrs	14	6.34	<b>7.15</b>	7.95
20 - 35 yrs	135	6.97	<b>7.27</b>	7.57
36 - 45 yrs	155	6.13	<b>6.43</b>	6.73
46 - 60 yrs	154	5.90	<b>6.23</b>	6.55
61 - 75 yrs	78	5.97	<b>6.41</b>	6.85
76 yrs and over	34	5.97	<b>6.75</b>	7.54
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	251	6.19	<b>6.43</b>	6.67
Mortgage	140	5.99	<b>6.35</b>	6.71
Renting this home	150	6.78	<b>7.07</b>	7.36
Renting from Office of Housing	19	6.40	<b>7.34</b>	8.29
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	50	6.88	<b>7.42</b>	7.97
One to less than five years	132	6.65	<b>6.96</b>	7.27
Five to less than ten years	87	6.22	<b>6.60</b>	6.99
Ten years or more	301	6.09	<b>6.32</b>	6.55
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	9	4.69	<b>6.29</b>	7.89
No	558	6.45	<b>6.61</b>	6.77
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	377	6.41	<b>6.60</b>	6.79
Multi-lingual	194	6.32	<b>6.63</b>	6.94
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	74	5.75	<b>6.28</b>	6.82
No	492	6.50	<b>6.67</b>	6.84
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	271	6.41	<b>6.66</b>	6.90
Female	299	6.35	<b>6.57</b>	6.79
City of Darebin	572	6.45	<b>6.61</b>	6.77

**Satisfaction with Council's lobbying & making representations on key issues****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	55	6.37	<b>6.93</b>	7.49
	2014	70	5.79	<b>6.27</b>	6.75
	2014-15	83	6.28	<b>6.68</b>	7.07
	2015-16	93	6.46	<b>6.83</b>	7.19
	2016-17	69	6.79	<b>7.20</b>	7.62
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	72	6.33	<b>6.82</b>	7.31
	2014	65	6.23	<b>6.65</b>	7.06
	2014-15	61	6.32	<b>6.79</b>	7.25
	2015-16	82	6.87	<b>7.21</b>	7.54
	2016-17	60	6.61	<b>7.02</b>	7.43
Northcote	2013	54	5.57	<b>6.17</b>	6.77
	2014	48	6.32	<b>6.77</b>	7.22
	2014-15	69	6.64	<b>6.93</b>	7.21
	2015-16	85	5.81	<b>6.25</b>	6.68
	2016-17	60	6.30	<b>6.72</b>	7.13
Reservoir West	2013	67	5.75	<b>6.33</b>	6.90
	2014	67	6.12	<b>6.60</b>	7.07
	2014-15	74	6.67	<b>7.08</b>	7.49
	2015-16	86	6.44	<b>6.84</b>	7.24
	2016-17	90	6.21	<b>6.63</b>	7.06
Thornbury	2013	67	6.18	<b>6.66</b>	7.14
	2014	65	5.81	<b>6.26</b>	6.72
	2014-15	65	5.90	<b>6.40</b>	6.90
	2015-16	83	5.79	<b>6.27</b>	6.74
	2016-17	67	6.07	<b>6.60</b>	7.12
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	68	5.62	<b>6.13</b>	6.64
	2014	61	5.45	<b>5.93</b>	6.42
	2014-15	69	5.63	<b>6.13</b>	6.63
	2015-16	94	6.03	<b>6.43</b>	6.82
	2016-17	82	6.00	<b>6.45</b>	6.91
Preston West	2013	70	6.56	<b>6.89</b>	7.21
	2014	69	5.83	<b>6.33</b>	6.84
	2014-15	62	6.22	<b>6.73</b>	7.23
	2015-16	78	6.74	<b>7.06</b>	7.38
	2016-17	71	5.64	<b>6.18</b>	6.73
Preston East	2013	54	6.80	<b>7.07</b>	7.34
	2014	61	6.23	<b>6.64</b>	7.04
	2014-15	73	6.65	<b>7.01</b>	7.37
	2015-16	72	6.58	<b>7.01</b>	7.45
	2016-17	76	5.52	<b>5.95</b>	6.38



## Council services and facilities

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied), with five being neutral, please rate your satisfaction with the following”*

There were eighteen services and facilities included in the 2016-17 survey program. Nine of these services and facilities were included in every quarterly survey, and nine were included in only two of the four quarterly surveys.

The services and facilities included in only two quarters in 2016-17 were regular recycling, green waste collection, the transfer station – Tip in Reservoir, the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips, drains maintenance and repairs, the level of street lighting, litter collection in public areas, street sweeping, and the level of dumped rubbish.

The average satisfaction with these eighteen services and facilities in 2016-17 was 7.26 out of a potential ten, a decline of less than one percent on the 2015-16 average of 7.32, although it remains at a level of satisfaction categorised as “very good”.

Metropolis Research notes that this average satisfaction with Council services and facilities was measurably and significantly higher than satisfaction with Council’s overall performance (6.69). This is a very important finding, as it makes clear that on average the included Council services and facilities are not a negative influence on respondents’ overall satisfaction with the performance of Council.

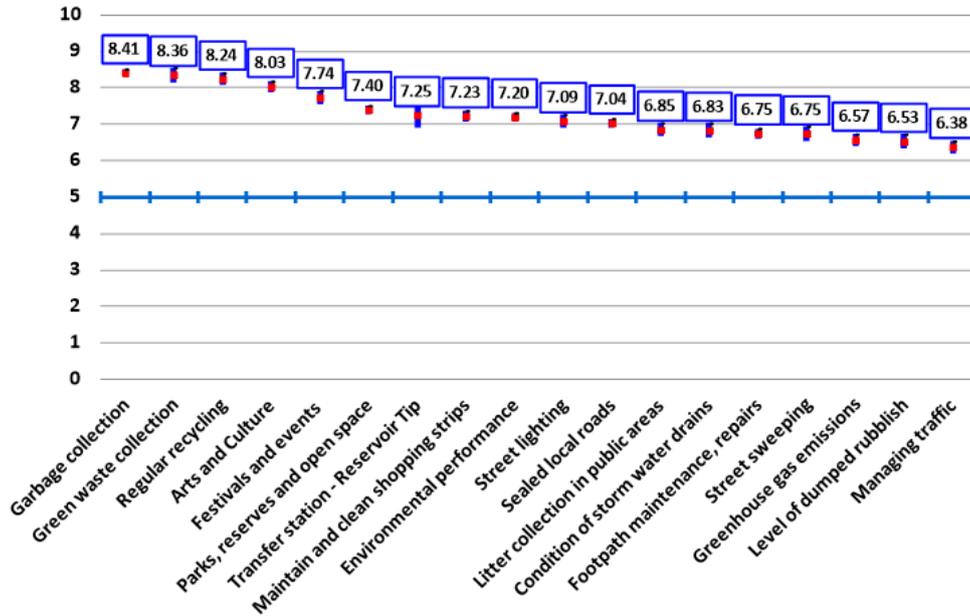
It is noted that satisfaction with Council performance assisting the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (6.57), the level of dumped rubbish (6.53), and the performance of Council managing traffic (6.38) were the only three services and facilities to record average satisfaction scores lower than satisfaction with Council’s overall performance. Metropolis Research suggests that the issue of traffic management is a negative influence on respondents’ satisfaction with the overall performance of Council and that this is reflected in the lower score.

Satisfaction with the eighteen Council services and facilities can be summarised as:

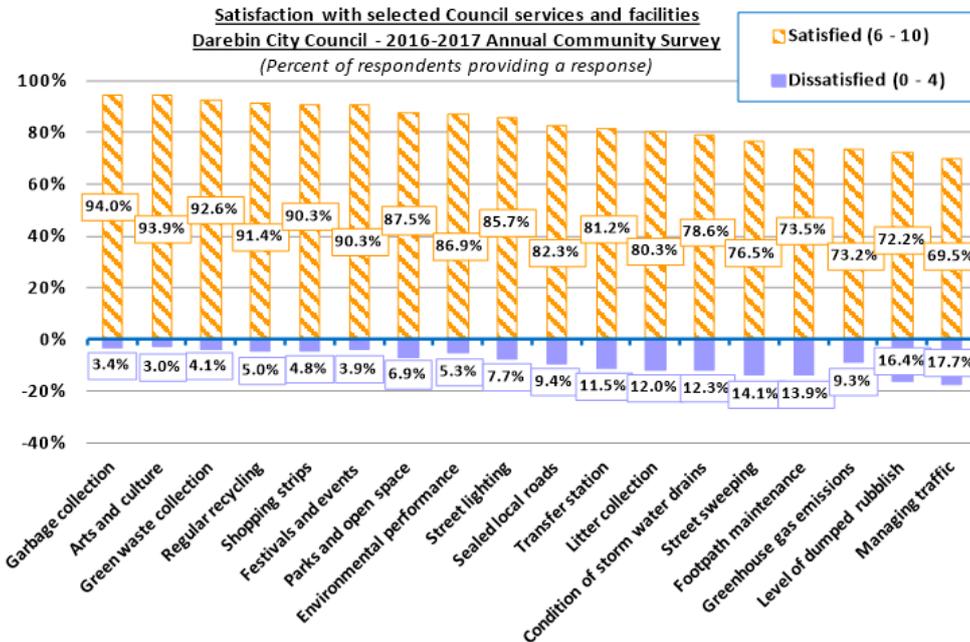
- ⊗ **Excellent** – for the weekly garbage collection, green waste collection, regular recycling, and arts and culture (including libraries, Bundoora Homestead, and the Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre).
- ⊗ **Very Good** – for Council’s festivals and events the maintenance of parks, reserves and open spaces, and the transfer station – Tip in Reservoir.
- ⊗ **Good** – for the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips, Council’s overall environmental performance, the level of street lighting, the condition of sealed local roads, litter collection in public areas, drains maintenance and repairs, footpath maintenance and repairs, street sweeping, Council performance assisting the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and the level of dumped rubbish.
- ⊗ **Solid** – for the performance of Council managing traffic.



**Satisfaction with selected Council services and facilities**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



**Satisfaction with selected Council services and facilities**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Percent of respondents providing a response)*



**Satisfaction with selected Council services and facilities****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of total respondents)*

<i>Service / facility</i>	<i>Dissatisfied (0 - 4)</i>	<i>Neutral (5)</i>	<i>Satisfied (6 - 10)</i>	<i>Can't say</i>
Condition of sealed local roads	9.4%	8.3%	82.3%	21
Parks, reserves and the open space maintenance	6.9%	5.7%	87.5%	46
Weekly garbage collection	3.4%	2.7%	94.0%	7
Regular recycling	5.0%	3.6%	91.4%	7
Footpath maintenance and repairs	13.9%	12.6%	73.5%	32
Litter collection in public areas	12.0%	7.7%	80.3%	42
Street sweeping	14.1%	9.5%	76.5%	33
Condition of storm water drains	12.3%	9.1%	78.6%	75
Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips	4.8%	4.9%	90.3%	30
The level of street lighting	7.7%	6.6%	85.7%	13
The level of dumped rubbish	16.4%	11.3%	72.2%	17
Council's overall environmental performance	5.3%	7.8%	86.9%	171
Council's performance in assisting the community reduce greenhouse gas emissions	9.3%	17.5%	73.2%	470
The performance of Council managing traffic	17.7%	12.8%	69.5%	109
Green waste collection service	4.1%	3.3%	92.6%	57
Transfer station - tip in Reservoir	11.5%	7.3%	81.2%	23
Arts and Culture	3.0%	3.1%	93.9%	41
Council's festivals and events	3.9%	5.9%	90.3%	38



**Condition of sealed local roads**

Respondents were asked:

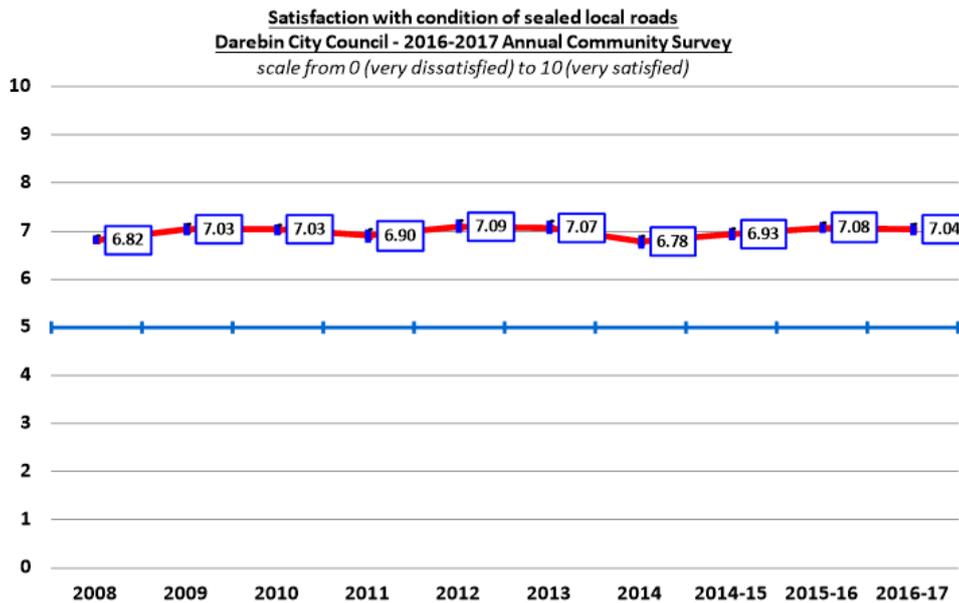
*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads?”*

Satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads was essentially stable in 2016-17, declining by less than one percent from 7.08 to 7.04.

This level of satisfaction is categorised as “good”, the same categorisation this service has obtained in each of the last ten years.

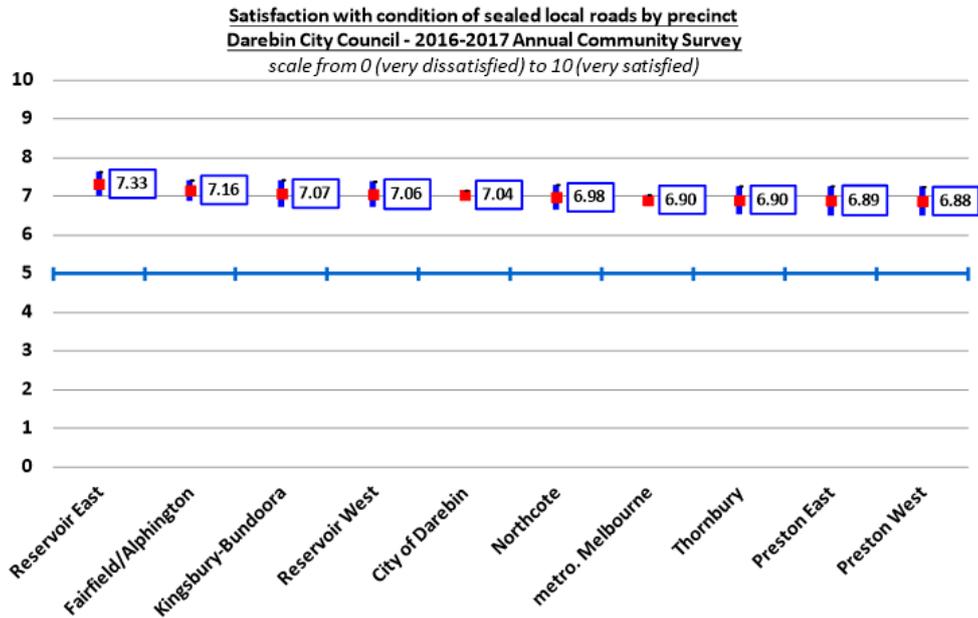
Metropolis Research draws particular attention to the very stable level of satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads in the City of Darebin over an extended period of time.

This result is marginally, albeit not measurably higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.90.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.





When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with the condition of sealed local roads increased in four precincts and declined in four precincts. None of these changes were statistically significant.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir East, Fairfield-Alphington, Reservoir West, and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Northcote, Preston East and Preston West.



**Satisfaction with condition of sealed local roads**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	100	7.05	<b>7.43</b>	7.81
	2014	98	5.98	<b>6.40</b>	6.82
	2014-15	97	6.35	<b>6.79</b>	7.23
	2015-16	123	6.67	<b>6.99</b>	7.32
	2016-17	123	7.01	<b>7.33</b>	7.64
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	99	6.19	<b>6.61</b>	7.02
	2014	100	6.26	6.64	7.02
	2014-15	99	6.34	6.71	7.08
	2015-16	124	6.78	<b>7.07</b>	7.37
	2016-17	122	6.89	<b>7.16</b>	7.42
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	99	6.85	<b>7.28</b>	7.72
	2014	99	6.41	<b>6.78</b>	7.14
	2014-15	100	6.60	<b>6.99</b>	7.38
	2015-16	121	7.34	<b>7.63</b>	7.92
	2016-17	123	6.72	<b>7.07</b>	7.43
Reservoir West	2013	100	7.15	<b>7.52</b>	7.89
	2014	98	6.40	<b>6.79</b>	7.17
	2014-15	97	6.78	<b>7.10</b>	7.43
	2015-16	122	6.57	<b>6.89</b>	7.22
	2016-17	127	6.72	<b>7.06</b>	7.39
Northcote	2013	98	6.00	<b>6.45</b>	6.90
	2014	99	6.49	<b>6.86</b>	7.23
	2014-15	100	6.78	<b>7.08</b>	7.38
	2015-16	122	6.80	<b>7.11</b>	7.42
	2016-17	122	6.66	<b>6.98</b>	7.31
Thornbury	2013	98	6.82	<b>7.24</b>	7.65
	2014	99	6.54	<b>6.90</b>	7.26
	2014-15	98	6.08	<b>6.49</b>	6.90
	2015-16	124	6.31	<b>6.66</b>	7.02
	2016-17	121	6.53	<b>6.90</b>	7.27
Preston East	2013	97	6.66	<b>7.03</b>	7.40
	2014	100	6.58	<b>6.94</b>	7.30
	2014-15	100	6.73	<b>7.07</b>	7.41
	2015-16	119	7.21	<b>7.52</b>	7.83
	2016-17	120	6.51	<b>6.89</b>	7.27
Preston West	2013	100	6.16	<b>6.59</b>	7.02
	2014	100	6.71	<b>7.08</b>	7.45
	2014-15	97	6.77	<b>7.18</b>	7.58
	2015-16	122	6.73	<b>7.06</b>	7.38
	2016-17	123	6.50	<b>6.88</b>	7.26



**Maintenance of parks, reserves and open space areas**

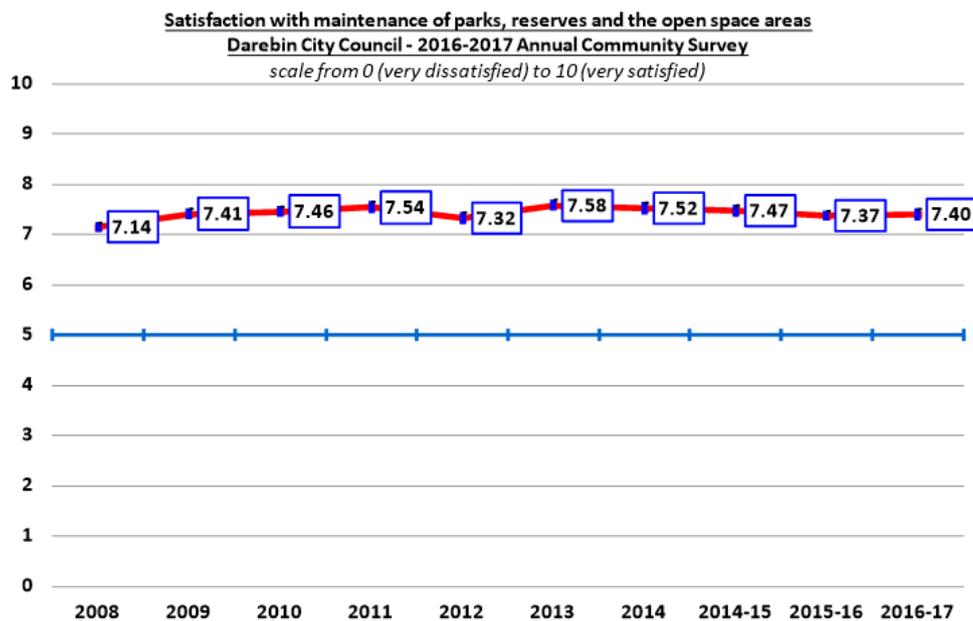
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the maintenance of parks, reserves and open space areas?”*

Satisfaction with the maintenance of parks, reserves and open space areas increased by less than one percent in 2016-17, up from 7.37 to 7.40, although it remains at a level categorised as “very good”.

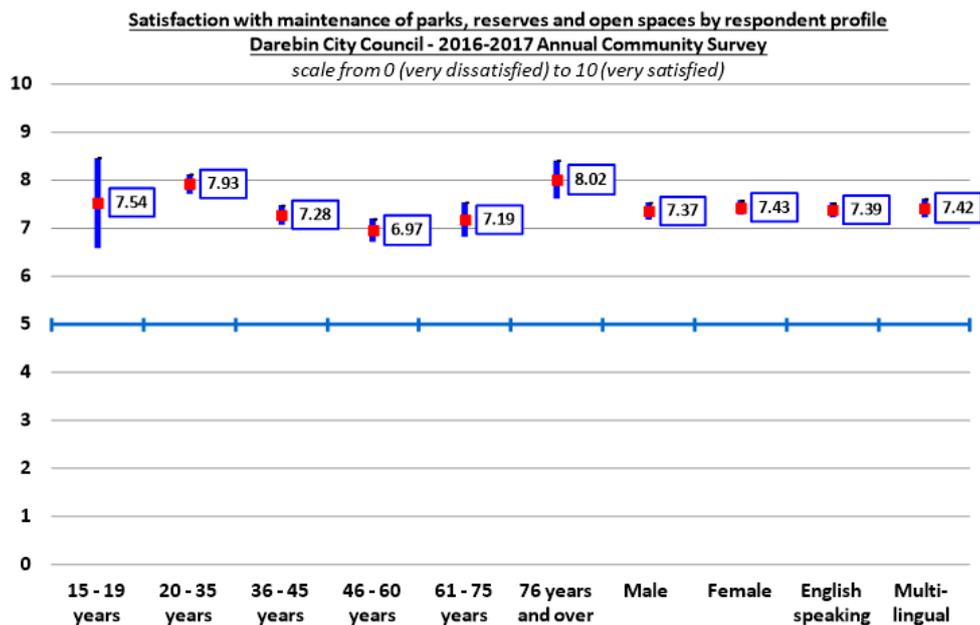
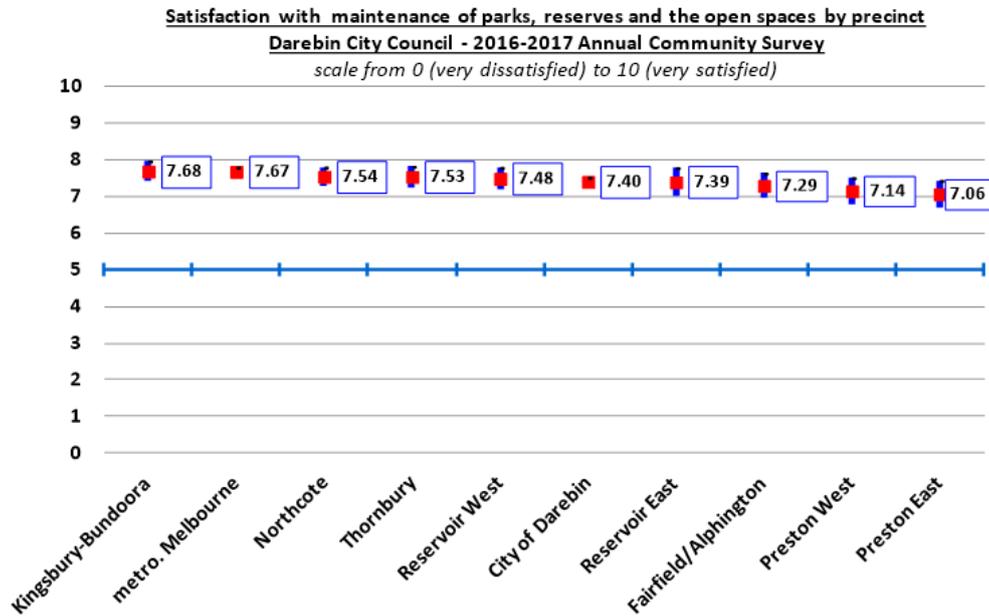
Metropolis Research draws particular attention to the fact that satisfaction with the maintenance of parks, reserves and open space areas has been categorised as “very good” in nine of the last ten years.

This result is measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction with the “provision and maintenance of parks, gardens, and open spaces” of 7.67.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the maintenance of parks, reserves, and open space areas observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin. When examined by respondent profile, some variation was observed, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents and young persons (aged 15 to 35 years)** – respondents were significantly more satisfied than average.
- ⊗ **Senior citizens (aged 76 years and over)** – respondents were significantly more satisfied than average.



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with the maintenance of parks, reserves, and open space areas increased in four precincts and declined in four precincts. None of these changes were statistically significant.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Northcote, Thornbury, and Reservoir West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Reservoir East, Fairfield-Alphington, Preston West, and Preston East.



**Satisfaction with maintenance of parks, reserves and open spaces****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	97	7.21	<b>7.64</b>	8.07
	2014	98	7.45	<b>7.77</b>	8.08
	2014-15	99	6.94	<b>7.35</b>	7.77
	2015-16	122	7.33	<b>7.61</b>	7.90
	2016-17	120	7.41	<b>7.68</b>	7.96
Northcote	2013	96	7.53	<b>7.83</b>	8.14
	2014	99	7.37	<b>7.69</b>	8.01
	2014-15	99	7.40	<b>7.73</b>	8.06
	2015-16	122	7.01	<b>7.29</b>	7.56
	2016-17	122	7.28	<b>7.54</b>	7.80
Thornbury	2013	98	7.16	<b>7.44</b>	7.72
	2014	98	6.91	<b>7.22</b>	7.54
	2014-15	93	6.65	<b>7.02</b>	7.39
	2015-16	122	6.89	<b>7.16</b>	7.42
	2016-17	118	7.25	<b>7.53</b>	7.82
Reservoir West	2013	96	7.29	<b>7.65</b>	8.01
	2014	89	7.27	<b>7.70</b>	8.12
	2014-15	91	7.41	<b>7.75</b>	8.09
	2015-16	114	6.80	<b>7.16</b>	7.52
	2016-17	126	7.18	<b>7.48</b>	7.79
Reservoir East	2013	93	7.28	<b>7.57</b>	7.86
	2014	94	7.03	<b>7.39</b>	7.75
	2014-15	93	7.09	<b>7.42</b>	7.75
	2015-16	120	7.09	<b>7.41</b>	7.72
	2016-17	116	7.00	<b>7.39</b>	7.78
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	92	7.02	<b>7.37</b>	7.72
	2014	98	7.42	<b>7.72</b>	8.03
	2014-15	98	7.35	<b>7.64</b>	7.93
	2015-16	123	7.22	<b>7.47</b>	7.72
	2016-17	118	6.95	<b>7.29</b>	7.63
Preston West	2013	96	7.14	<b>7.52</b>	7.91
	2014	95	7.00	<b>7.38</b>	7.76
	2014-15	95	7.14	<b>7.50</b>	7.85
	2015-16	120	7.15	<b>7.44</b>	7.74
	2016-17	119	6.78	<b>7.14</b>	7.51
Preston East	2013	92	7.17	<b>7.46</b>	7.75
	2014	91	7.12	<b>7.47</b>	7.83
	2014-15	96	6.98	<b>7.27</b>	7.56
	2015-16	116	7.39	<b>7.68</b>	7.97
	2016-17	116	6.69	<b>7.06</b>	7.44



**Weekly garbage collection**

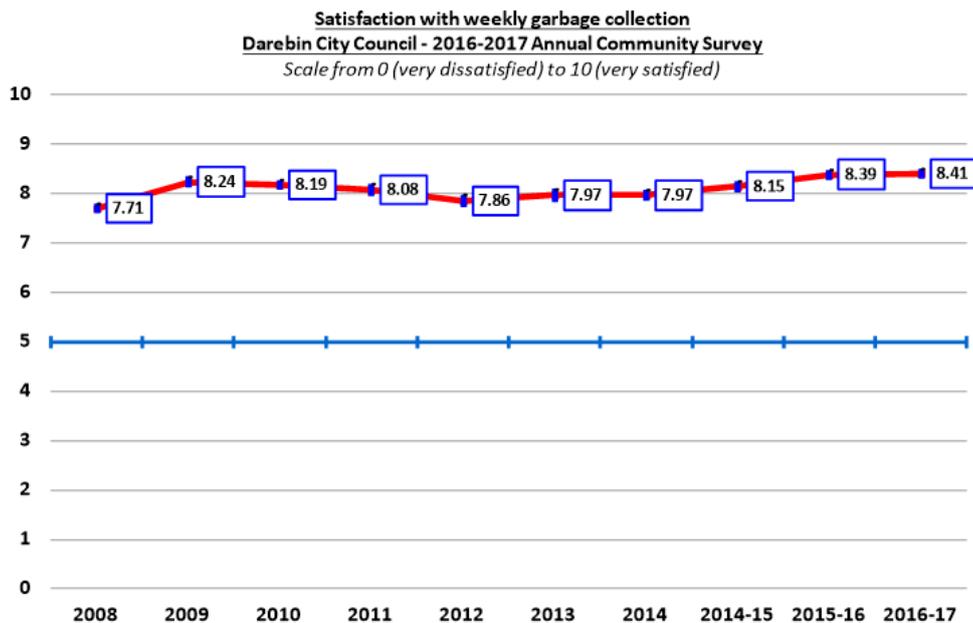
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection?”*

Satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection service increased by less than one percent in 2016-17, up from 8.39 to 8.41. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “excellent”, the same categorisation that this service has obtained in nine of the last ten years.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction scores of more than eight out of ten are relatively rare and reflect well on the performance of Council providing that service.

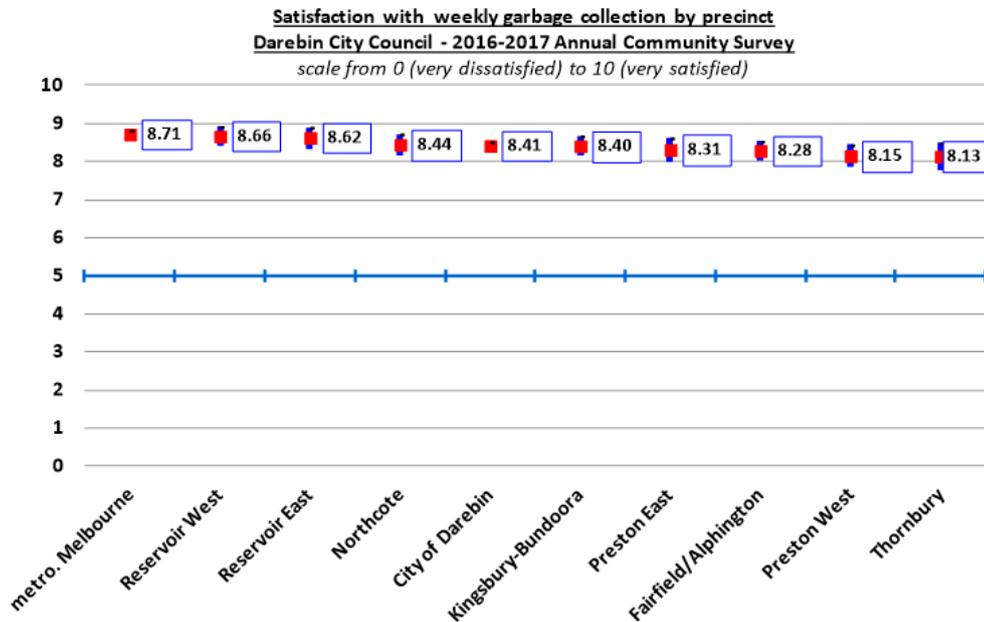
This result is measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 8.71.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection service observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.

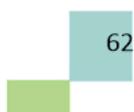
Metropolis Research draws particular attention to the fact that respondents in each of the eight precincts rated satisfaction at an average of eight or more out of ten.

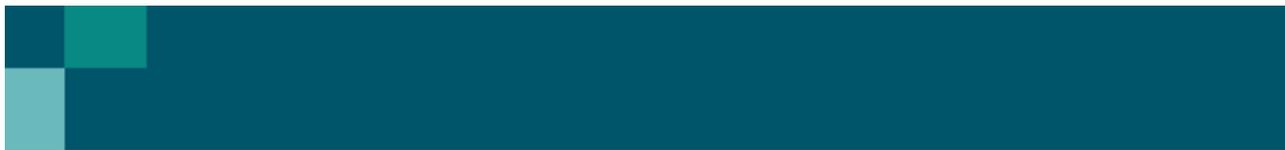




When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with the weekly garbage collection service increased in four precincts, remained stable in one precinct, and declined in three precincts. None of these changes were statistically significant.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir West, Northcote, and Kingsbury-Bundoora.
- ⊗ **Stable satisfaction** – satisfaction remained stable in Reservoir East.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Preston East, Preston West, Fairfield-Alphington, and Thornbury.





**Satisfaction with weekly garbage collection**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
 (Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir West	2013	99	8.12	<b>8.46</b>	8.78
	2014	99	7.86	<b>8.22</b>	8.59
	2014-15	100	8.20	<b>8.53</b>	8.86
	2015-16	127	7.99	<b>8.28</b>	8.58
	2016-17	128	8.41	<b>8.66</b>	8.92
Reservoir East	2013	100	7.19	<b>7.58</b>	7.97
	2014	100	7.15	<b>7.55</b>	7.95
	2014-15	99	7.63	<b>8.02</b>	8.41
	2015-16	126	8.35	<b>8.62</b>	8.89
	2016-17	127	8.35	<b>8.62</b>	8.90
Northcote	2013	100	7.89	<b>8.23</b>	8.57
	2014	100	7.58	<b>7.93</b>	8.28
	2014-15	100	7.78	<b>8.10</b>	8.42
	2015-16	123	7.84	<b>8.14</b>	8.44
	2016-17	124	8.17	<b>8.44</b>	8.72
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	100	7.75	<b>8.12</b>	8.49
	2014	100	7.71	<b>8.03</b>	8.35
	2014-15	99	7.91	<b>8.22</b>	8.54
	2015-16	122	8.09	<b>8.38</b>	8.67
	2016-17	124	8.14	<b>8.40</b>	8.67
Preston East	2013	100	7.69	<b>8.07</b>	8.45
	2014	99	8.02	<b>8.29</b>	8.57
	2014-15	100	8.10	<b>8.35</b>	8.60
	2015-16	123	8.29	<b>8.59</b>	8.88
	2016-17	122	8.00	<b>8.31</b>	8.62
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	100	7.39	<b>7.74</b>	8.09
	2014	100	8.08	<b>8.38</b>	8.68
	2014-15	100	7.72	<b>8.04</b>	8.36
	2015-16	125	8.08	<b>8.34</b>	8.59
	2016-17	122	8.03	<b>8.28</b>	8.53
Preston West	2013	99	7.78	<b>8.13</b>	8.48
	2014	99	7.38	<b>7.75</b>	8.12
	2014-15	100	7.87	<b>8.21</b>	8.55
	2015-16	123	8.35	<b>8.62</b>	8.88
	2016-17	123	7.86	<b>8.15</b>	8.44
Thornbury	2013	99	7.08	<b>7.46</b>	7.83
	2014	100	7.74	<b>8.01</b>	8.28
	2014-15	100	7.54	<b>7.87</b>	8.20
	2015-16	100	7.54	<b>7.87</b>	8.20
	2016-17	123	7.78	<b>8.13</b>	8.48



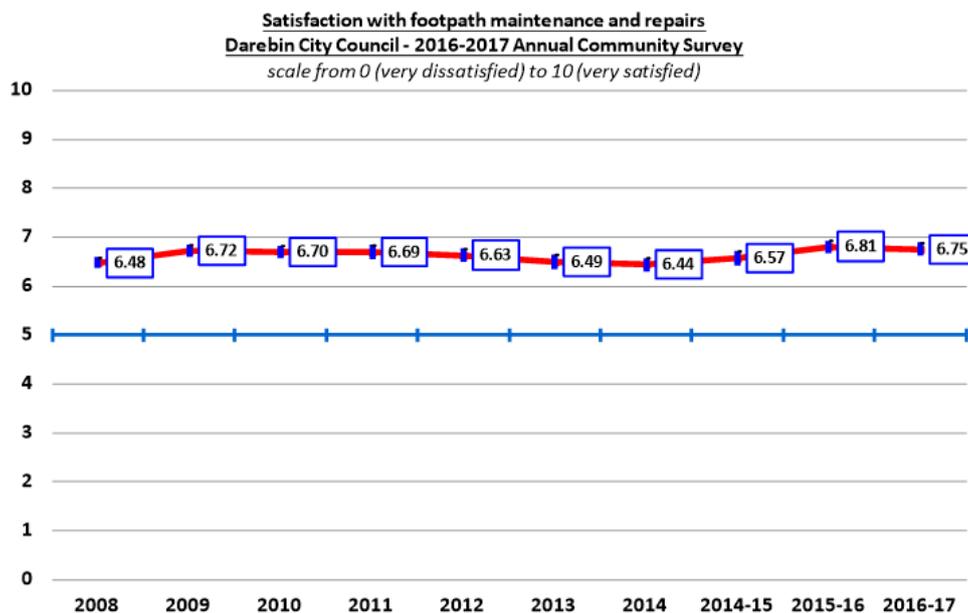
**Footpath maintenance and repairs**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repairs?”*

Satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repairs declined by less than one percent in 2016-17, down from 6.81 to 6.75, although it remains at a level categorised as “good”.

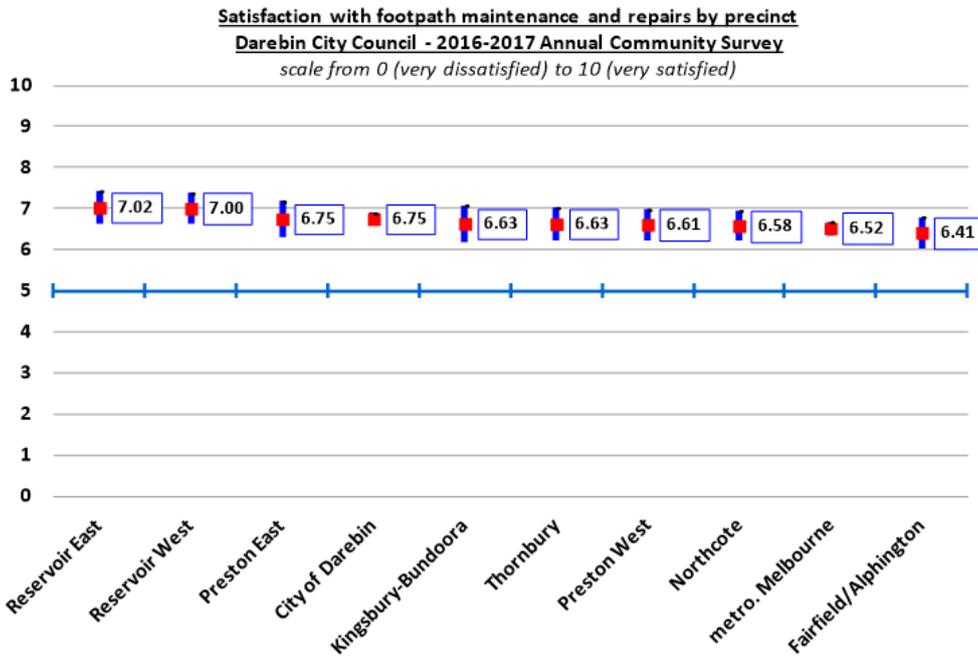
This result is measurably higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.52.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repairs observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin. Attention is however drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East and Reservoir West** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average, although still at levels categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “solid”.





When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repairs increased in two precincts, remained stable in one precinct, and declined in five precincts.

None of these changes were statistically significant.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir West and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Stable satisfaction** – satisfaction remained stable in Reservoir East.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Preston East, Preston West, Kingsbury-Bundoora, Northcote, and Fairfield-Alphington.



**Satisfaction with footpath maintenance and repair**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	98	6.34	<b>6.80</b>	7.25
	2014	98	6.20	<b>6.61</b>	7.02
	2014-15	97	6.35	<b>6.77</b>	7.19
	2015-16	122	6.64	<b>7.02</b>	7.39
	2016-17	124	6.62	<b>7.02</b>	7.43
Reservoir West	2013	99	6.27	<b>6.71</b>	7.15
	2014	99	5.80	<b>6.19</b>	6.59
	2014-15	98	6.03	<b>6.45</b>	6.87
	2015-16	125	6.24	<b>6.60</b>	6.96
	2016-17	126	6.62	<b>7.00</b>	7.38
Preston East	2013	98	6.11	<b>6.50</b>	6.88
	2014	99	6.57	<b>6.88</b>	7.19
	2014-15	97	6.57	<b>6.91</b>	7.24
	2015-16	122	6.62	<b>6.98</b>	7.33
	2016-17	114	6.32	<b>6.75</b>	7.17
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	99	6.33	<b>6.81</b>	7.29
	2014	99	6.05	<b>6.46</b>	6.86
	2014-15	97	6.49	<b>6.93</b>	7.37
	2015-16	125	6.90	<b>7.24</b>	7.58
	2016-17	120	6.19	<b>6.63</b>	7.08
Thornbury	2013	99	6.28	<b>6.70</b>	7.12
	2014	100	6.08	<b>6.51</b>	6.94
	2014-15	96	5.99	<b>6.44</b>	6.89
	2015-16	96	5.99	<b>6.44</b>	6.89
	2016-17	120	6.23	<b>6.63</b>	7.02
Preston West	2013	98	6.15	<b>6.59</b>	7.02
	2014	100	5.90	<b>6.29</b>	6.68
	2014-15	100	6.31	<b>6.74</b>	7.17
	2015-16	122	6.44	<b>6.80</b>	7.17
	2016-17	122	6.24	<b>6.61</b>	6.98
Northcote	2013	98	5.11	<b>5.62</b>	6.12
	2014	97	5.88	<b>6.32</b>	6.76
	2014-15	98	6.01	<b>6.40</b>	6.79
	2015-16	122	6.36	<b>6.73</b>	7.10
	2016-17	121	6.21	<b>6.58</b>	6.95
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	98	5.93	<b>6.34</b>	6.76
	2014	100	5.68	<b>6.11</b>	6.54
	2014-15	97	5.79	<b>6.23</b>	6.67
	2015-16	125	6.50	<b>6.83</b>	7.17
	2016-17	121	6.03	<b>6.41</b>	6.79



**Street sweeping**

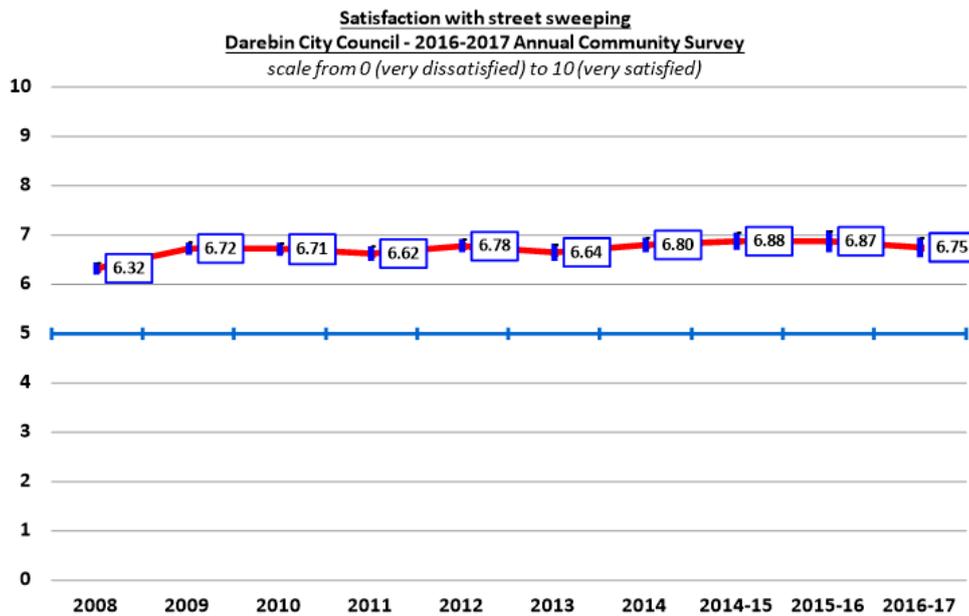
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with street sweeping?”*

Satisfaction with street sweeping declined 1.8% in 2016-17, down from 6.87 to 6.75, although it remains at a level categorised as “good”.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with street sweeping has remained very stable at or around the long-term average over the last ten years of 6.71. Satisfaction with street sweeping has been at a level categorised as “good” in each of the last nine years, and was categorised as “solid” back in 2008.

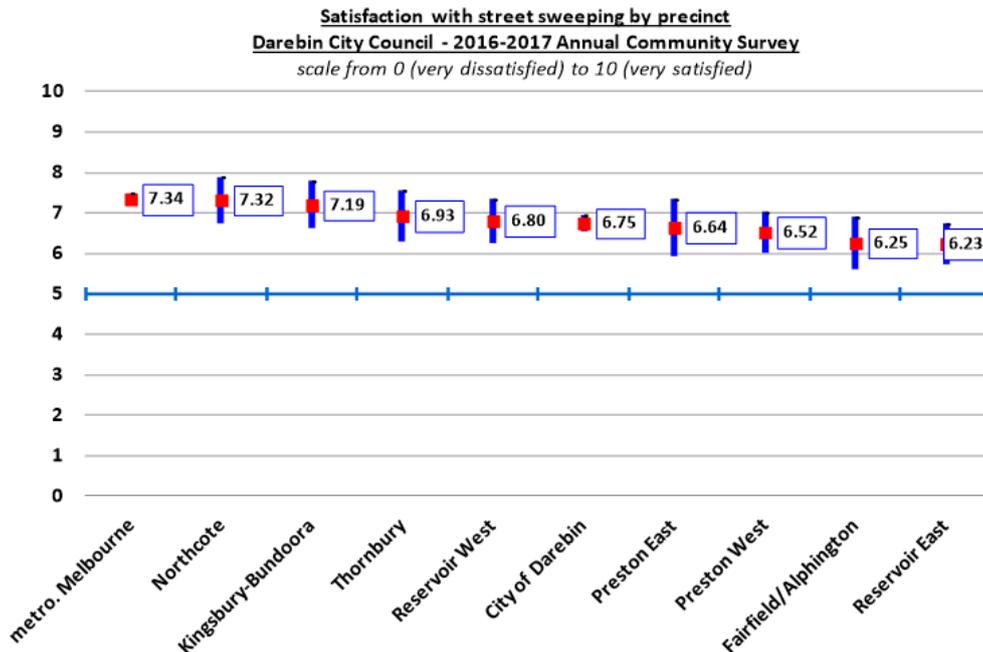
This result is measurably and significantly lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 7.34, which was rated as “very good”.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with street sweeping observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, although attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Northcote** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington and Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.





When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with street sweeping increased in three precincts and declined in five precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Northcote, Thornbury, and Preston West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Reservoir West, Preston East, and Fairfield-Alphington.
- ⊗ **Significantly decreased satisfaction** - satisfaction decreased measurably in Reservoir East (down 15.7%).

Metropolis Research notes the very significant decline in satisfaction with street sweeping recorded in Reservoir East in 2016-17.

Whilst this may well reflect a real and significant change in community sentiment in Reservoir East, it is important to bear in mind that this result is based on a sample of sixty-two respondents in 2015-16 and sixty respondents in 2016-17.



**Satisfaction with street sweeping****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Northcote	2013	98	5.60	<b>6.14</b>	6.68
	2014	100	6.23	<b>6.70</b>	7.17
	2014-15	72	6.14	<b>6.68</b>	7.22
	2015-16	56	5.93	<b>6.61</b>	7.28
	2016-17	57	6.74	<b>7.32</b>	7.89
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	99	6.53	<b>6.99</b>	7.45
	2014	98	6.18	<b>6.62</b>	7.07
	2014-15	70	6.70	<b>7.20</b>	7.70
	2015-16	62	6.81	<b>7.26</b>	7.71
	2016-17	57	6.61	<b>7.19</b>	7.78
Thornbury	2013	96	5.86	<b>6.38</b>	6.89
	2014	100	6.89	<b>7.24</b>	7.59
	2014-15	72	6.18	<b>6.71</b>	7.24
	2015-16	60	5.32	<b>6.07</b>	6.82
	2016-17	54	6.30	<b>6.93</b>	7.56
Reservoir West	2013	99	6.90	<b>7.30</b>	7.71
	2014	97	6.39	<b>6.80</b>	7.22
	2014-15	74	6.64	<b>7.14</b>	7.63
	2015-16	58	6.27	<b>6.90</b>	7.52
	2016-17	65	6.26	<b>6.80</b>	7.34
Preston East	2013	98	6.12	<b>6.56</b>	7.00
	2014	99	6.33	<b>6.72</b>	7.11
	2014-15	73	6.00	<b>6.49</b>	6.99
	2015-16	57	6.85	<b>7.39</b>	7.92
	2016-17	58	5.94	<b>6.64</b>	7.34
Preston West	2013	100	5.93	<b>6.38</b>	6.83
	2014	98	5.83	<b>6.29</b>	6.74
	2014-15	68	6.39	<b>6.91</b>	7.43
	2015-16	55	5.75	<b>6.44</b>	7.12
	2016-17	56	6.03	<b>6.52</b>	7.01
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	98	5.81	<b>6.26</b>	6.70
	2014	99	6.01	<b>6.43</b>	6.86
	2014-15	71	5.95	<b>6.41</b>	6.86
	2015-16	59	6.31	<b>6.85</b>	7.38
	2016-17	59	5.62	<b>6.25</b>	6.89
Reservoir East	2013	97	6.38	<b>6.85</b>	7.32
	2014	98	6.57	<b>7.02</b>	7.47
	2014-15	73	6.73	<b>7.23</b>	7.73
	2015-16	62	6.84	<b>7.39</b>	7.94
	2016-17	60	5.73	<b>6.23</b>	6.73

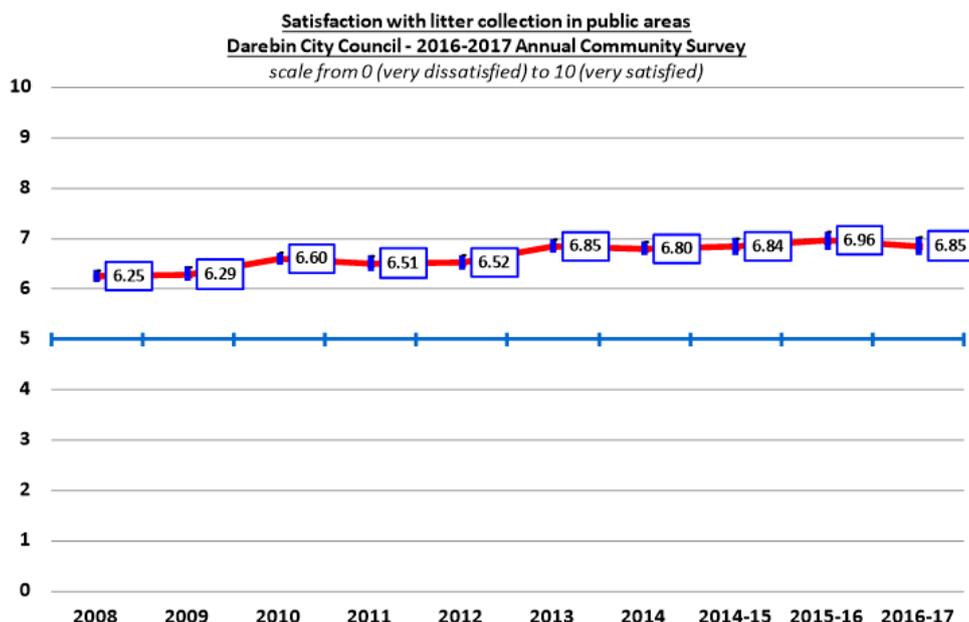


**Litter collection in public areas**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with litter collection in public areas?”*

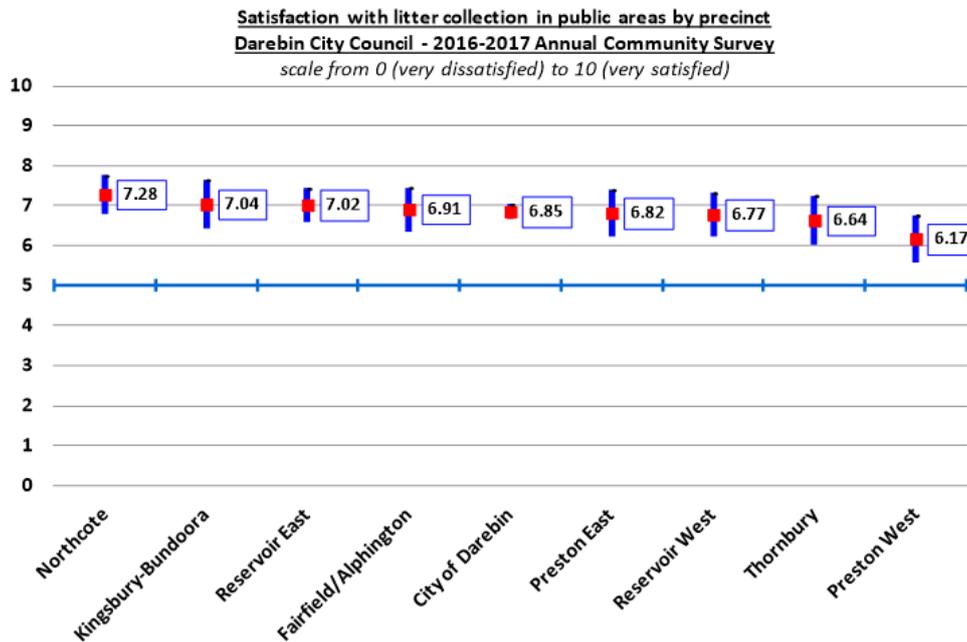
Satisfaction with litter collection in public areas declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 1.6% from 6.96 to 6.85. Despite this decline, satisfaction remains at a level categorised as “good”, which is the same categorisation that this service has obtained in eight of the last ten years. Satisfaction with litter collection in public areas was categorised as “solid” in 2008 and 2009.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with litter collection in public areas observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, although attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Northcote** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Preston West** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “solid”.





When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with litter collection in public areas increased in three precincts, and declined in five precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Northcote, Kingsbury-Bundoora, and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Reservoir East, Fairfield-Alphington, Preston East, Reservoir West, and Preston West.

None of these changes were statistically significant.



**Satisfaction with litter collection in public places****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Northcote	2013	97	5.85	<b>6.29</b>	6.73
	2014	99	6.69	<b>7.06</b>	7.43
	2014-15	74	6.73	<b>7.15</b>	7.57
	2015-16	60	6.09	<b>6.65</b>	7.21
	2016-17	58	6.80	<b>7.28</b>	7.75
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	96	6.44	<b>6.88</b>	7.31
	2014	97	6.44	<b>6.87</b>	7.29
	2014-15	71	6.75	<b>7.24</b>	7.73
	2015-16	58	6.40	<b>6.97</b>	7.53
	2016-17	56	6.43	<b>7.04</b>	7.64
Reservoir East	2013	99	6.67	<b>7.06</b>	7.45
	2014	99	6.23	<b>6.71</b>	7.18
	2014-15	73	6.55	<b>7.06</b>	7.56
	2015-16	61	6.93	<b>7.43</b>	7.92
	2016-17	57	6.61	<b>7.02</b>	7.43
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	99	6.08	<b>6.49</b>	6.89
	2014	98	6.14	<b>6.51</b>	6.88
	2014-15	71	5.81	<b>6.28</b>	6.75
	2015-16	61	6.99	<b>7.39</b>	7.80
	2016-17	55	6.37	<b>6.91</b>	7.45
Preston East	2013	92	6.33	<b>6.74</b>	7.15
	2014	98	6.22	<b>6.58</b>	6.94
	2014-15	71	5.90	<b>6.39</b>	6.89
	2015-16	58	6.67	<b>7.19</b>	7.71
	2016-17	55	6.24	<b>6.82</b>	7.40
Reservoir West	2013	96	6.94	<b>7.34</b>	7.75
	2014	93	6.55	<b>6.96</b>	7.37
	2014-15	71	6.47	<b>6.92</b>	7.36
	2015-16	62	6.76	<b>7.24</b>	7.72
	2016-17	62	6.23	<b>6.77</b>	7.32
Thornbury	2013	100	6.40	<b>6.80</b>	7.20
	2014	96	6.79	<b>7.15</b>	7.50
	2014-15	74	6.18	<b>6.68</b>	7.17
	2015-16	60	6.06	<b>6.63</b>	7.20
	2016-17	55	6.02	<b>6.64</b>	7.25
Preston West	2013	97	6.51	<b>6.90</b>	7.28
	2014	96	5.80	<b>6.21</b>	6.62
	2014-15	70	6.13	<b>6.67</b>	7.21
	2015-16	70	6.13	<b>6.67</b>	7.21
	2016-17	58	5.59	<b>6.17</b>	6.76



**Condition of storm water drains**

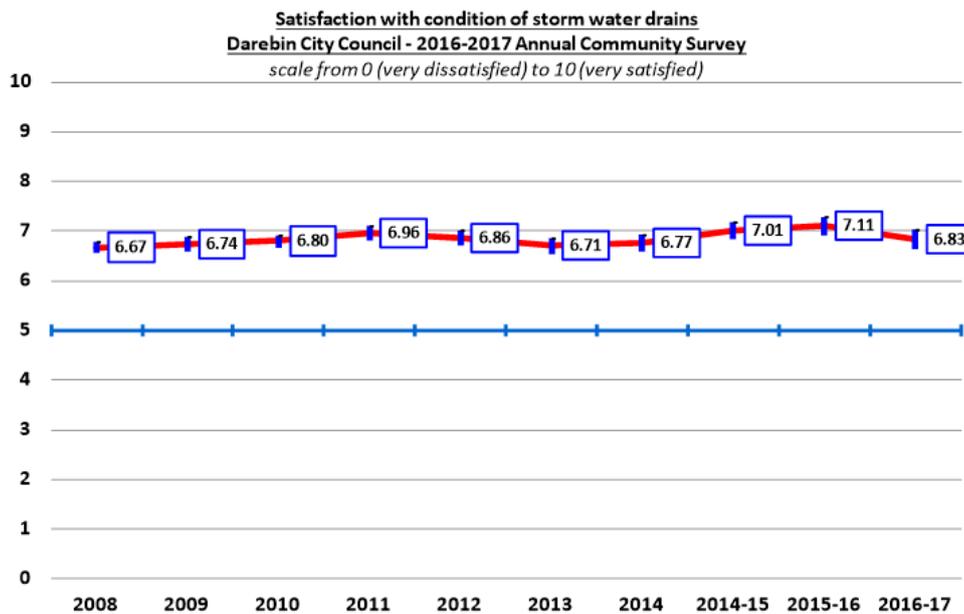
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the condition of storm water drains?”*

Satisfaction with the condition of storm water drains declined somewhat, albeit not measurably in 2016-17, down 3.9% from 7.11 to 6.83. Despite this decline, satisfaction with the condition of storm water drains remained at a level categorised as “good”.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with the condition of storm water drains has remained at or around the long-term average of the last ten years of 6.85, and has been categorised as “good” in each of the last ten years.

This result is marginally, albeit not measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 7.08.

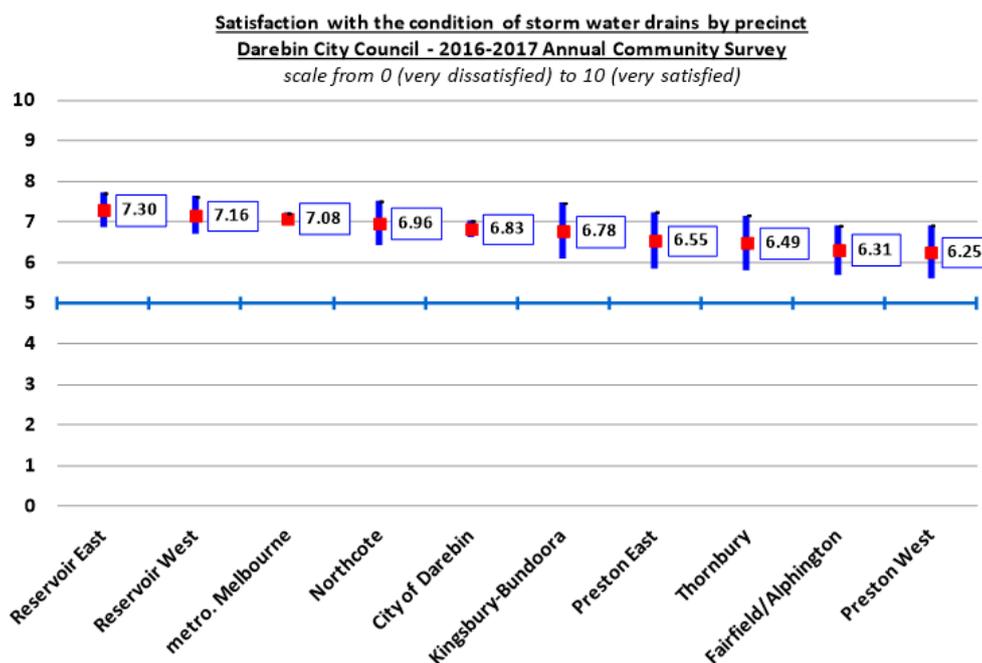




There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the condition of storm water drains observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.

Attention is however drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Thornbury, Fairfield-Alphington, and Preston West** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction the condition of storm water drains increased in two precincts, and declined in six precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Northcote and Preston West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Reservoir East, Reservoir West, Kingsbury-Bundoora, Preston East, Thornbury, and Fairfield-Alphington.

None of these changes were statistically significant.

**Satisfaction with condition of storm water drains****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	94	6.51	<b>6.87</b>	7.24
	2014	89	6.56	<b>7.03</b>	7.51
	2014-15	69	6.67	<b>7.17</b>	7.68
	2015-16	59	7.11	<b>7.58</b>	8.04
	2016-17	57	6.88	<b>7.30</b>	7.71
Reservoir West	2013	92	6.32	<b>6.77</b>	7.22
	2014	83	5.74	<b>6.29</b>	6.84
	2014-15	67	5.94	<b>6.52</b>	7.11
	2015-16	63	7.02	<b>7.49</b>	7.97
	2016-17	58	6.69	<b>7.16</b>	7.62
Northcote	2013	88	5.70	<b>6.23</b>	6.76
	2014	90	6.38	<b>6.89</b>	7.40
	2014-15	66	6.96	<b>7.36</b>	7.77
	2015-16	56	6.19	<b>6.71</b>	7.24
	2016-17	56	6.41	<b>6.96</b>	7.52
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	98	6.70	<b>7.15</b>	7.60
	2014	87	6.41	<b>6.87</b>	7.34
	2014-15	66	6.85	<b>7.35</b>	7.85
	2015-16	59	7.23	<b>7.63</b>	8.03
	2016-17	45	6.09	<b>6.78</b>	7.47
Preston East	2013	89	6.48	<b>6.87</b>	7.25
	2014	93	6.20	<b>6.65</b>	7.10
	2014-15	68	6.42	<b>6.94</b>	7.46
	2015-16	53	6.78	<b>7.34</b>	7.90
	2016-17	55	5.84	<b>6.55</b>	7.25
Thornbury	2013	88	6.13	<b>6.59</b>	7.05
	2014	91	6.54	<b>6.95</b>	7.35
	2014-15	66	6.49	<b>6.94</b>	7.39
	2015-16	55	6.01	<b>6.62</b>	7.22
	2016-17	45	5.81	<b>6.49</b>	7.17
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	92	5.93	<b>6.45</b>	6.96
	2014	85	6.37	<b>6.78</b>	7.19
	2014-15	66	6.57	<b>6.97</b>	7.37
	2015-16	53	6.70	<b>7.06</b>	7.41
	2016-17	52	5.70	<b>6.31</b>	6.91
Preston West	2013	93	6.43	<b>6.88</b>	7.33
	2014	86	6.21	<b>6.64</b>	7.07
	2014-15	62	6.34	<b>6.89</b>	7.44
	2015-16	54	5.51	<b>6.20</b>	6.90
	2016-17	51	5.59	<b>6.25</b>	6.92



**Maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips?”*

Satisfaction with the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips increased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, up one percent from 7.16 to 7.23. This is the third consecutive increase in satisfaction with this service.

Despite the increased satisfaction, this result remains at a level categorised as “good”, the same categorisation that this service has obtained in each of the last ten years.

This result is marginally, albeit not measurably higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 7.13.

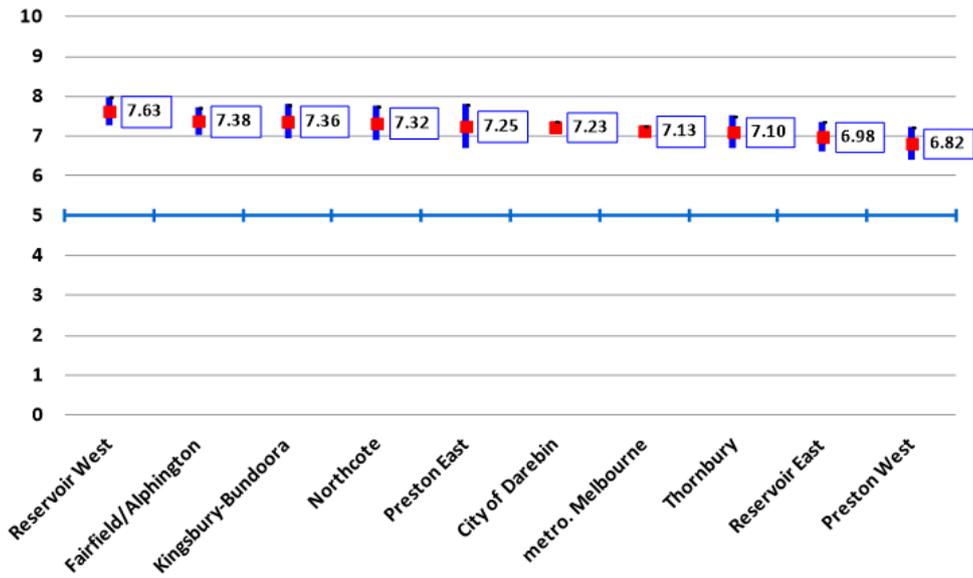


There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin. Attention is however drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir West** – respondents rated satisfaction significantly, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Preston West** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average although still at a level categorised as “good”.



**Satisfaction with maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction the maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips increased in five precincts, and declined in three precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir West, Fairfield-Alphington, Northcote, Thornbury, and Preston West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Preston East, and Reservoir East.

None of these changes were statistically significant.



**Satisfaction with maintenance and cleaning of shopping strips**

**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**

(Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir West	2013	97	6.95	<b>7.31</b>	7.67
	2014	91	6.91	<b>7.25</b>	7.59
	2014-15	70	6.82	<b>7.16</b>	7.50
	2015-16	64	6.70	<b>7.13</b>	7.55
	2016-17	59	7.27	<b>7.63</b>	7.99
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	99	6.75	<b>7.02</b>	7.29
	2014	99	6.71	<b>7.02</b>	7.33
	2014-15	74	6.70	<b>7.03</b>	7.35
	2015-16	62	6.99	<b>7.32</b>	7.66
	2016-17	58	7.04	<b>7.38</b>	7.72
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	97	7.1	<b>7.46</b>	7.83
	2014	93	7.03	<b>7.37</b>	7.70
	2014-15	71	6.84	<b>7.21</b>	7.59
	2015-16	61	7.49	<b>7.77</b>	8.05
	2016-17	55	6.94	<b>7.36</b>	7.79
Northcote	2013	99	6.95	<b>7.22</b>	7.49
	2014	97	6.83	<b>7.17</b>	7.50
	2014-15	72	6.88	<b>7.24</b>	7.59
	2015-16	61	6.33	<b>6.75</b>	7.17
	2016-17	59	6.89	<b>7.32</b>	7.75
Preston East	2013	95	6.68	<b>7.00</b>	7.32
	2014	95	6.85	<b>7.15</b>	7.44
	2014-15	71	6.62	<b>7.00</b>	7.38
	2015-16	62	7.09	<b>7.48</b>	7.87
	2016-17	60	6.71	<b>7.25</b>	7.79
Thornbury	2013	96	6.65	<b>7.00</b>	7.35
	2014	99	6.8	<b>7.12</b>	7.44
	2014-15	72	6.43	<b>6.88</b>	7.32
	2015-16	59	6.41	<b>6.92</b>	7.42
	2016-17	58	6.71	<b>7.10</b>	7.50
Reservoir East	2013	93	6.53	<b>6.90</b>	7.28
	2014	95	6.56	<b>6.92</b>	7.28
	2014-15	73	6.81	<b>7.16</b>	7.52
	2015-16	63	7.10	<b>7.49</b>	7.88
	2016-17	60	6.60	<b>6.98</b>	7.37
Preston West	2013	94	6.61	<b>6.94</b>	7.26
	2014	96	6.44	<b>6.78</b>	7.12
	2014-15	72	6.53	<b>6.96</b>	7.38
	2015-16	58	6.15	<b>6.67</b>	7.19
	2016-17	60	6.41	<b>6.82</b>	7.22



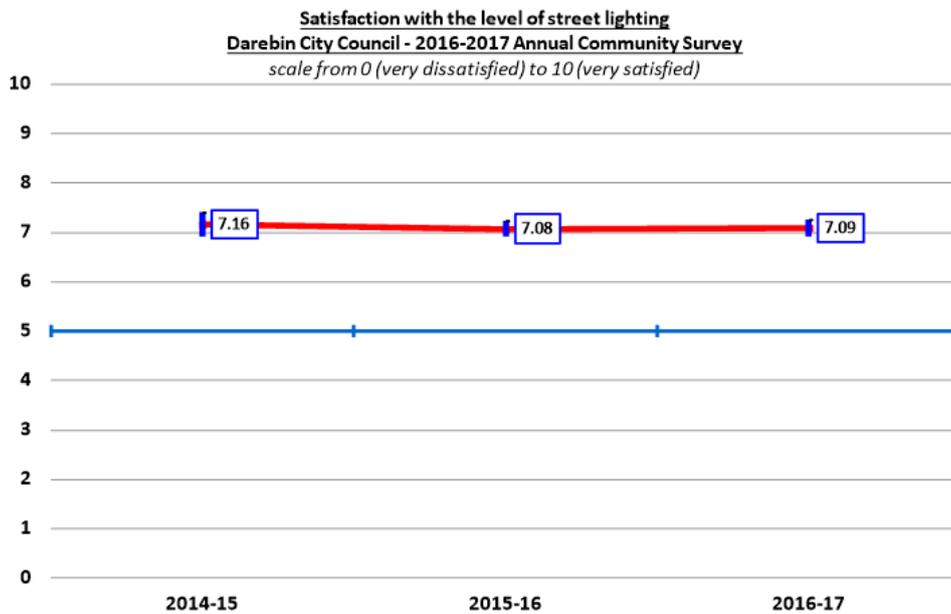
**The level of street lighting**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the level of street lighting?”*

Satisfaction with the level of street lighting remained essentially stable in 2016-17, up by less than one percent from 7.08 to 7.09. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “good”, the same categorisation that has been obtained by this service in each of the last three years.

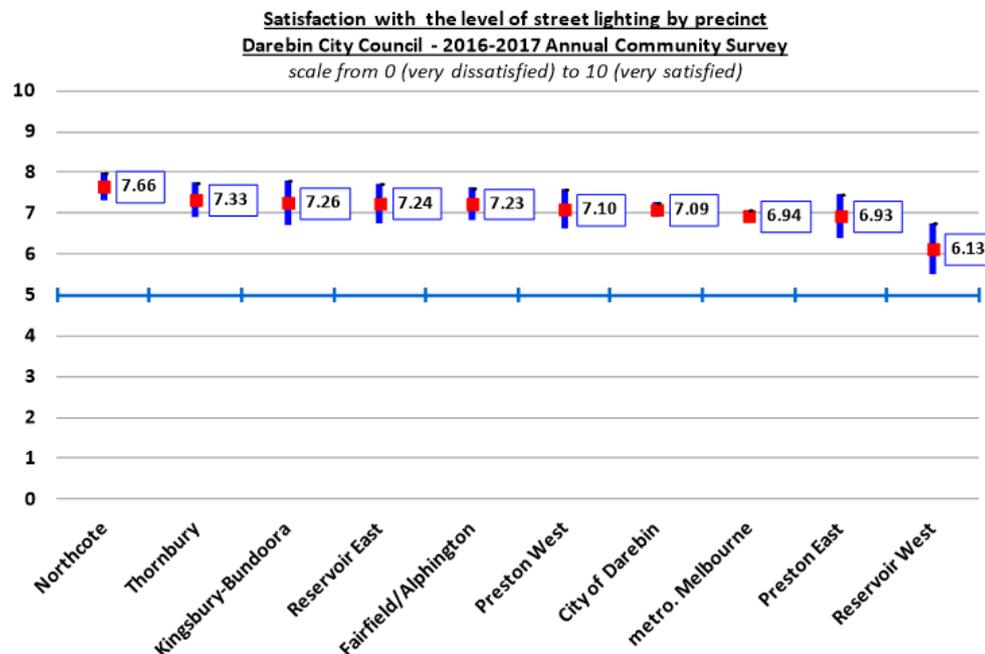
This result is marginally, albeit not measurably higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.94.



There was some statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the level of street lighting observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Northcote** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Reservoir West** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “solid”.





There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the level of street lighting observed by respondent profile, although attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average although still at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Period of residence** – respondents that had lived in the City of Darebin for less than five years rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than respondents that had lived in Darebin for five years or more.
- ⊗ **ATSI status** – the six Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander respondents rated satisfaction somewhat higher than other respondents, although not statistically significantly higher.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than respondents from English speaking households.
- ⊗ **Disability status** – respondents from households with a member with a disability rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than other respondents.
- ⊗ **Gender** – there was no measurable variation in satisfaction observed between male and female respondents.

**Satisfaction with the level of street lighting by respondent profile****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Variable	Number	2016-2017		
		Lower	Mean	Upper
<i>Age</i>				
15 - 19 yrs	11	5.51	<b>7.04</b>	8.58
20 - 35 yrs	124	6.91	<b>7.28</b>	7.64
36 - 45 yrs	130	6.85	<b>7.15</b>	7.45
46 - 60 yrs	129	6.20	<b>6.56</b>	6.92
61 - 75 yrs	74	7.04	<b>7.47</b>	7.91
76 yrs and over	17	6.77	<b>7.55</b>	8.33
<i>Housing situation</i>				
Own this home	195	7.00	<b>7.26</b>	7.51
Mortgage	124	6.37	<b>6.74</b>	7.11
Renting this home	140	6.89	<b>7.22</b>	7.56
Renting from Office of Housing	16	5.48	<b>6.88</b>	8.29
<i>Period of residence</i>				
Less than one year	52	6.64	<b>7.20</b>	7.77
One to less than five years	122	6.80	<b>7.16</b>	7.52
Five to less than ten years	75	6.61	<b>7.03</b>	7.46
Ten years or more	237	6.79	<b>7.05</b>	7.30
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</i>				
Yes	6	7.15	<b>8.34</b>	9.53
No	478	6.89	<b>7.07</b>	7.25
<i>Multi-lingual household</i>				
English speaking	284	6.75	<b>6.99</b>	7.22
Multi-lingual	201	6.97	<b>7.24</b>	7.50
<i>Household member with a disability</i>				
Yes	54	6.87	<b>7.47</b>	8.07
No	428	6.86	<b>7.04</b>	7.23
<i>Gender</i>				
Male	222	6.73	<b>7.00</b>	7.27
Female	262	6.95	<b>7.18</b>	7.41
<b>City of Darebin</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>6.92</b>	<b>7.09</b>	<b>7.27</b>



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with the level of street lighting increased in five precincts, and declined in three precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Northcote, Thornbury, Kingsbury-Bundoora, Fairfield-Alphington, and Preston West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Reservoir East, Preston East, and Reservoir West.

None of these changes were statistically significant.

**Satisfaction with the level of street lighting**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Northcote	2014-15	25	6.48	<b>7.16</b>	7.84
	2015-16	61	6.96	<b>7.30</b>	7.63
	2016-17	62	7.33	<b>7.66</b>	7.99
Thornbury	2014-15	24	5.92	<b>6.54</b>	7.16
	2015-16	62	6.37	<b>6.85</b>	7.34
	2016-17	60	6.92	<b>7.33</b>	7.74
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2014-15	23	6.76	<b>7.44</b>	8.11
	2015-16	62	6.46	<b>6.98</b>	7.51
	2016-17	61	6.72	<b>7.26</b>	7.81
Reservoir East	2014-15	25	6.11	<b>7.04</b>	7.97
	2015-16	63	6.98	<b>7.41</b>	7.84
	2016-17	62	6.75	<b>7.24</b>	7.73
Fairfield-Alphington	2014-15	24	6.30	<b>6.88</b>	7.45
	2015-16	62	6.36	<b>6.84</b>	7.32
	2016-17	60	6.85	<b>7.23</b>	7.62
Preston West	2014-15	25	6.63	<b>7.40</b>	8.17
	2015-16	57	5.65	<b>6.28</b>	6.91
	2016-17	60	6.61	<b>7.10</b>	7.59
Preston East	2014-15	25	6.75	<b>7.44</b>	8.13
	2015-16	61	6.94	<b>7.44</b>	7.94
	2016-17	60	6.40	<b>6.93</b>	7.47
Reservoir West	2014-15	25	6.80	<b>7.56</b>	8.32
	2015-16	63	6.50	<b>7.00</b>	7.50
	2016-17	62	5.49	<b>6.13</b>	6.76



**Regular recycling**

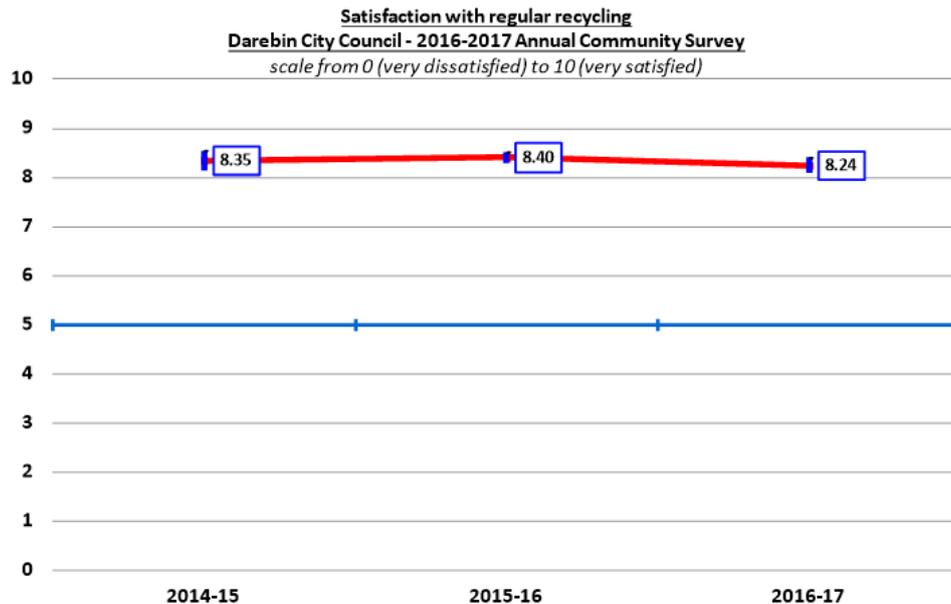
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with regular recycling?”*

Satisfaction with the regular recycling service declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 1.9% from 8.40 to 8.24. Despite this decline, satisfaction with regular recycling remains at a level categorised as “excellent”.

Metropolis Research notes that average satisfaction scores of eight or more out of ten are relatively rare and reflect very well on the performance of Council providing the service.

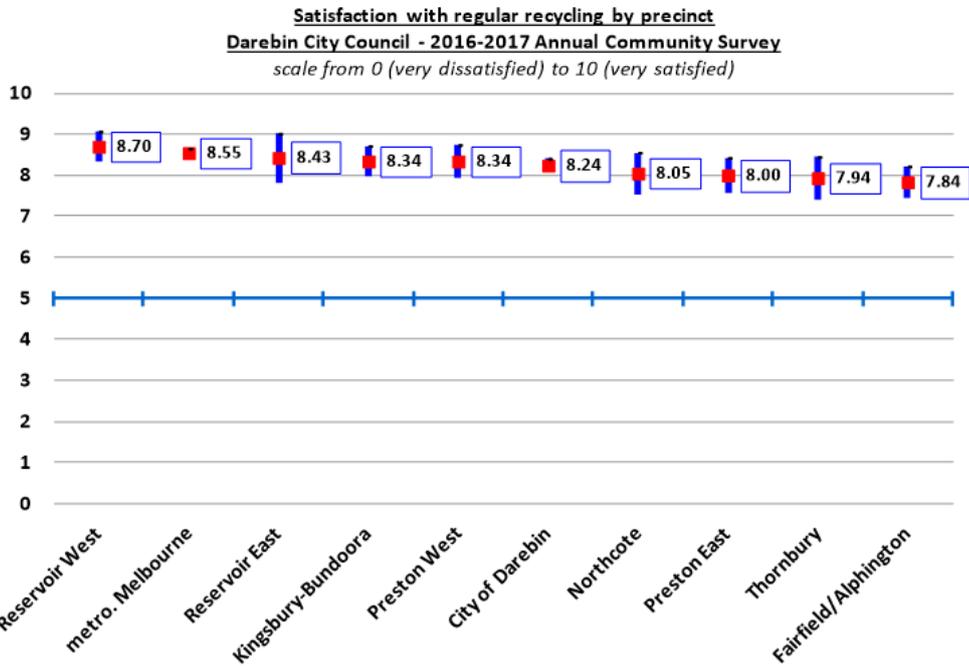
This result is measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 8.55.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the regular recycling service observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with this service was rated at or around eight out of ten by respondents in each of the eight precincts.



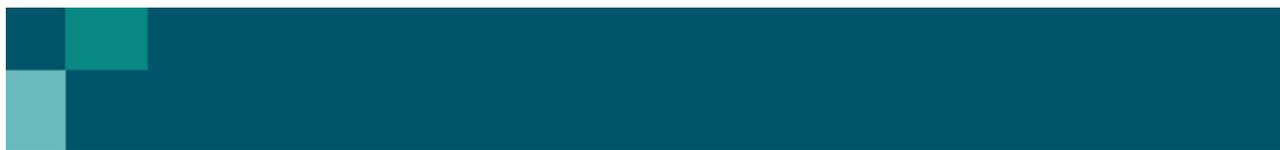


When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with regular recycling increased in two precincts, and declined in six precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir East and Reservoir West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Preston East, Preston West, Northcote, Thornbury, Fairfield-Alphington, and Kingsbury-Bundoora.

None of these changes were statistically significant.





**Satisfaction with regular recycling**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir West	2014-15	25	7.49	<b>8.04</b>	8.59
	2015-16	61	7.87	<b>8.21</b>	8.56
	2016-17	63	8.32	<b>8.70</b>	9.08
Reservoir East	2014-15	23	7.7	<b>8.48</b>	9.26
	2015-16	62	7.97	<b>8.32</b>	8.68
	2016-17	63	7.83	<b>8.43</b>	9.03
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2014-15	25	7.67	<b>8.32</b>	8.97
	2015-16	59	8.34	<b>8.64</b>	8.95
	2016-17	61	7.97	<b>8.34</b>	8.72
Preston West	2014-15	25	7.96	<b>8.56</b>	9.16
	2015-16	62	8.43	<b>8.77</b>	9.12
	2016-17	61	7.94	<b>8.34</b>	8.75
Northcote	2014-15	23	7.99	<b>8.52</b>	9.06
	2015-16	61	8.07	<b>8.36</b>	8.65
	2016-17	61	7.54	<b>8.05</b>	8.56
Preston East	2014-15	24	7.58	<b>8.25</b>	8.92
	2015-16	61	8.25	<b>8.62</b>	8.99
	2016-17	61	7.57	<b>8.00</b>	8.43
Thornbury	2014-15	25	7.87	<b>8.36</b>	8.85
	2015-16	62	7.88	<b>8.26</b>	8.63
	2016-17	62	7.42	<b>7.94</b>	8.45
Fairfield-Alphington	2014-15	195	8.14	<b>8.35</b>	8.55
	2015-16	63	7.84	<b>8.17</b>	8.51
	2016-17	61	7.45	<b>7.84</b>	8.22





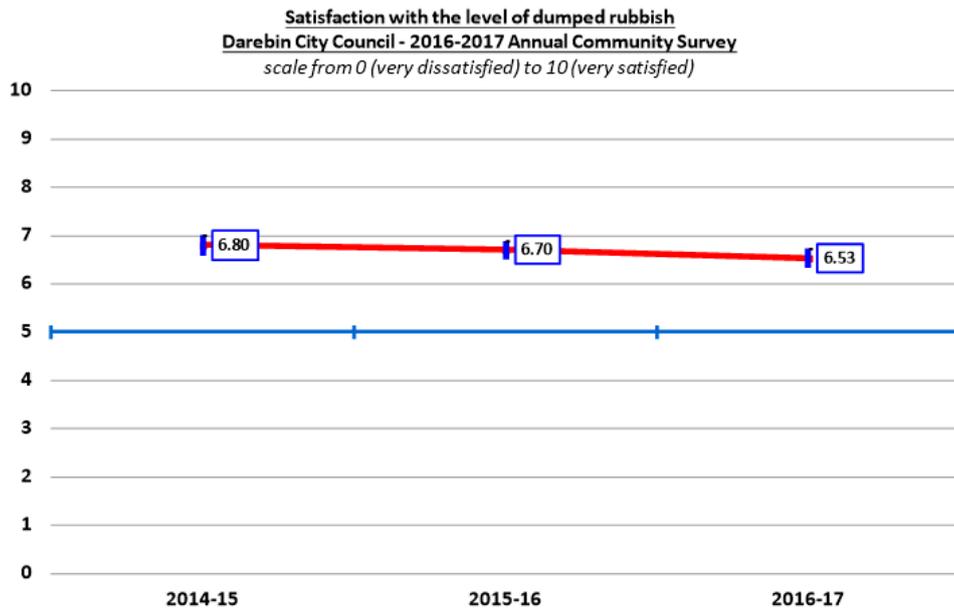
**Level of dumped rubbish**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish?”*

Satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish declined for the second consecutive year in 2016-17, down 2.5% to 6.53, although it remains at a level categorised as “good”.

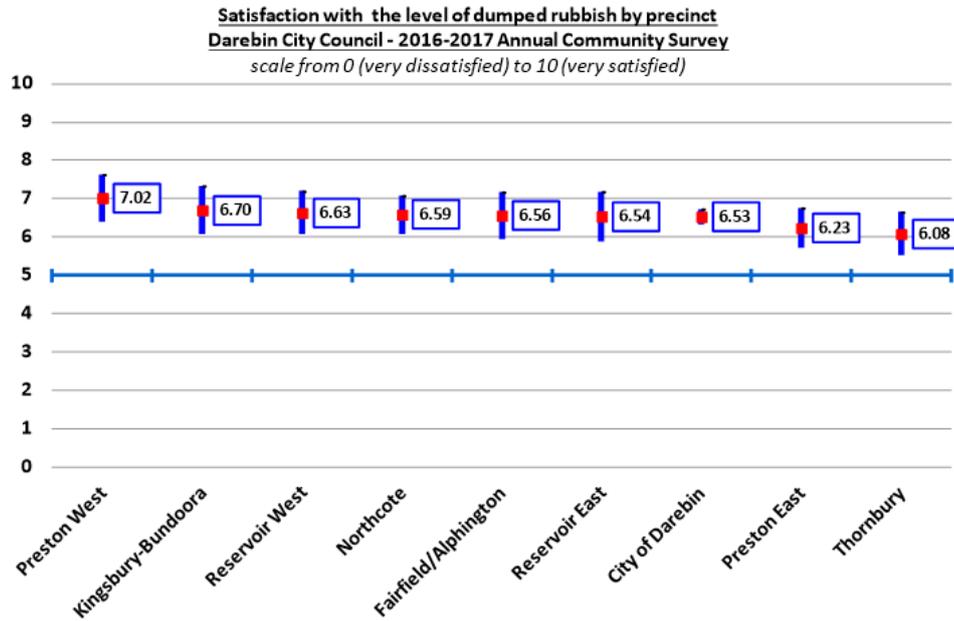
Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish is one of just three services and facilities to record a satisfaction score lower than the overall satisfaction with Council score of 6.69.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, although attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Preston West** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average although still at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Preston East and Thornbury** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.





When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish increased in two precincts, and declined in six precincts.

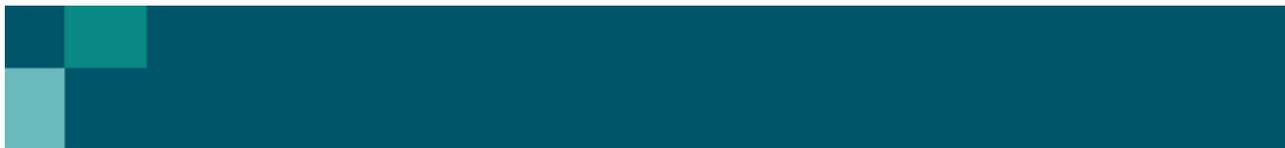
- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Preston West and Reservoir West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Preston East, Reservoir East, Northcote, Thornbury, Fairfield-Alphington, and Kingsbury-Bundoora.

None of these changes were statistically significant.



**Satisfaction with the level of dumped rubbish****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Preston West	2014-15	50	6.55	<b>7.08</b>	7.61
	2015-16	60	6.01	<b>6.53</b>	7.05
	2016-17	60	6.40	<b>7.02</b>	7.63
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2014-15	49	6.16	<b>6.80</b>	7.43
	2015-16	62	6.16	<b>6.73</b>	7.29
	2016-17	60	6.06	<b>6.70</b>	7.34
Reservoir West	2014-15	46	5.99	<b>6.63</b>	7.27
	2015-16	64	5.86	<b>6.47</b>	7.08
	2016-17	62	6.07	<b>6.63</b>	7.19
Northcote	2014-15	48	6.39	<b>6.92</b>	7.44
	2015-16	59	6.35	<b>6.83</b>	7.31
	2016-17	58	6.09	<b>6.59</b>	7.08
Fairfield-Alphington	2014-15	49	6.08	<b>6.63</b>	7.18
	2015-16	62	6.79	<b>7.19</b>	7.60
	2016-17	59	5.95	<b>6.56</b>	7.17
Reservoir East	2014-15	49	6.07	<b>6.74</b>	7.39
	2015-16	62	6.15	<b>6.71</b>	7.27
	2016-17	63	5.89	<b>6.54</b>	7.19
Preston East	2014-15	48	6.58	<b>7.13</b>	7.67
	2015-16	58	6.20	<b>6.78</b>	7.35
	2016-17	60	5.71	<b>6.23</b>	6.76
Thornbury	2014-15	48	6.08	<b>6.77</b>	7.46
	2015-16	60	6.22	<b>6.68</b>	7.15
	2016-17	61	5.52	<b>6.08</b>	6.65



***The performance of Council managing traffic***

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the performance of Council managing traffic?”*

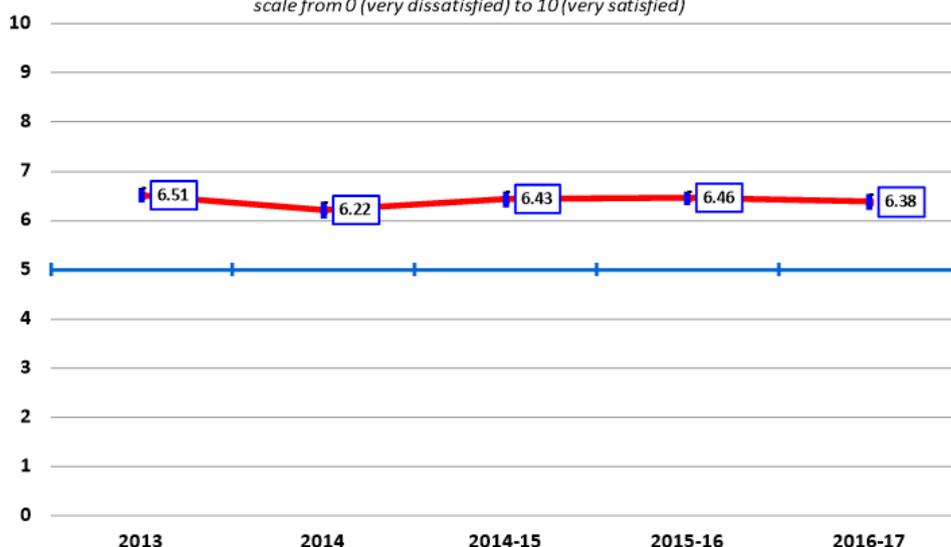
Satisfaction with the performance of Council managing traffic declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down from 6.46 to 6.38. Despite this decline satisfaction remains at a level categorised as “solid”.

It is noted that satisfaction with the performance of Council managing traffic has been categorised as “solid” in each of the last four years, and was last categorised as “good” in 2013.

Metropolis Research again notes that satisfaction with the performance of Council managing traffic was somewhat lower than average satisfaction with the overall performance of Council, and it is likely that traffic management (both on local residential streets as well as main roads) is a negative influence on respondents’ satisfaction with Council’s overall performance.

As discussed in the top issues section of this report, the issue of traffic management, mainly related to traffic congestion, is the most commonly identified issue to address in the City of Darebin in 2016-17, and has been the most commonly identified issue for a significant number of years.

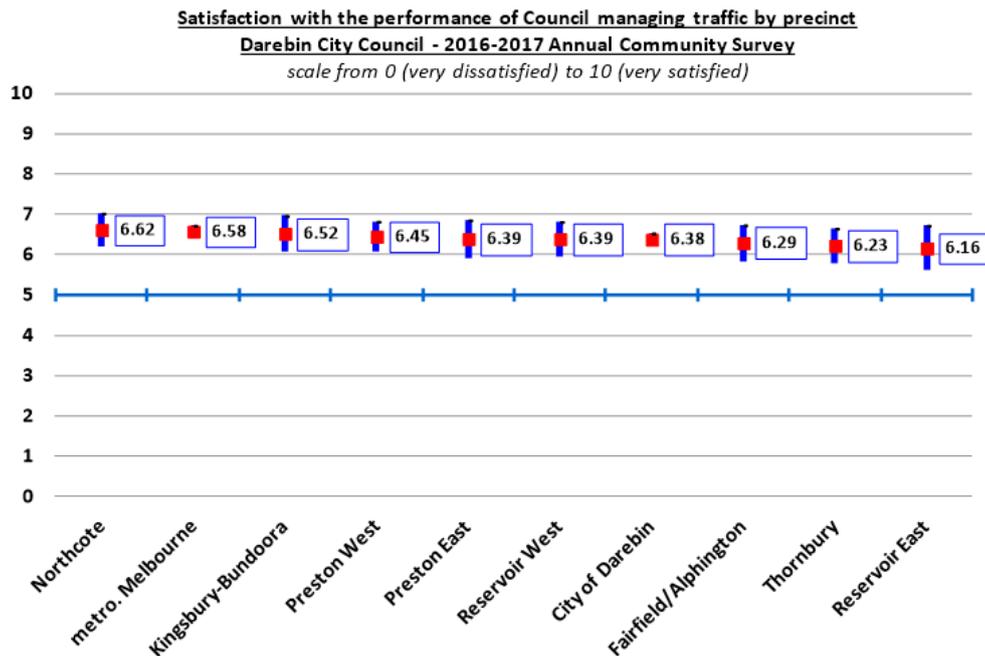
**Satisfaction with the performance of Council managing traffic**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*





This result is marginally, albeit not measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.58, which was rated as “good” compared to the City of Darebin result of “solid”.

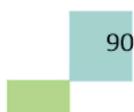
There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the performance of Council managing traffic observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with the performance of Council managing traffic increased in four precincts, and declined in four precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Northcote, Preston West, Fairfield-Alphington, and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Preston East, Reservoir West, and Reservoir East.

None of these changes were statistically significant.



**Satisfaction with the performance of Council managing traffic**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**

(Number and index score 0 - 10)

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Northcote	2013	86	5.07	<b>5.61</b>	6.14
	2014	84	<b>5.45</b>	5.89	6.33
	2014-15	85	5.90	<b>6.29</b>	6.68
	2015-16	113	5.73	<b>6.17</b>	6.60
	2016-17	110	6.20	<b>6.62</b>	7.03
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	95	5.92	<b>6.43</b>	6.94
	2014	80	5.91	<b>6.39</b>	6.87
	2014-15	83	6.16	<b>6.66</b>	7.17
	2015-16	117	6.41	<b>6.81</b>	7.22
	2016-17	111	6.08	<b>6.52</b>	6.97
Preston West	2013	95	6.15	<b>6.57</b>	6.99
	2014	90	5.61	<b>6.04</b>	6.48
	2014-15	89	5.86	<b>6.30</b>	6.75
	2015-16	111	5.92	<b>6.37</b>	6.81
	2016-17	111	6.07	<b>6.45</b>	6.83
Preston East	2013	90	6.60	<b>6.94</b>	7.29
	2014	80	6.36	<b>6.79</b>	7.22
	2014-15	87	6.68	<b>7.08</b>	7.48
	2015-16	106	6.04	<b>6.47</b>	6.90
	2016-17	112	5.92	<b>6.39</b>	6.86
Reservoir West	2013	92	6.58	<b>6.99</b>	7.40
	2014	89	5.92	<b>6.46</b>	7.00
	2014-15	85	6.37	<b>6.87</b>	7.37
	2015-16	115	6.44	<b>6.80</b>	7.16
	2016-17	118	5.96	<b>6.39</b>	6.82
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	93	5.41	<b>5.80</b>	6.18
	2014	92	5.42	<b>5.83</b>	6.23
	2014-15	88	5.67	<b>6.06</b>	6.44
	2015-16	112	5.47	<b>5.90</b>	6.34
	2016-17	110	5.84	<b>6.29</b>	6.74
Thornbury	2013	96	6.10	<b>6.52</b>	6.94
	2014	95	5.64	<b>6.05</b>	6.46
	2014-15	90	5.73	<b>6.18</b>	6.63
	2015-16	118	5.69	<b>6.10</b>	6.51
	2016-17	110	5.80	<b>6.23</b>	6.65
Reservoir East	2013	96	6.32	<b>6.73</b>	7.14
	2014	87	5.76	<b>6.23</b>	6.70
	2014-15	97	5.76	<b>6.25</b>	6.73
	2015-16	120	6.40	<b>6.73</b>	7.06
	2016-17	110	5.60	<b>6.16</b>	6.73





**Council's overall environmental performance**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s overall environmental performance?”*

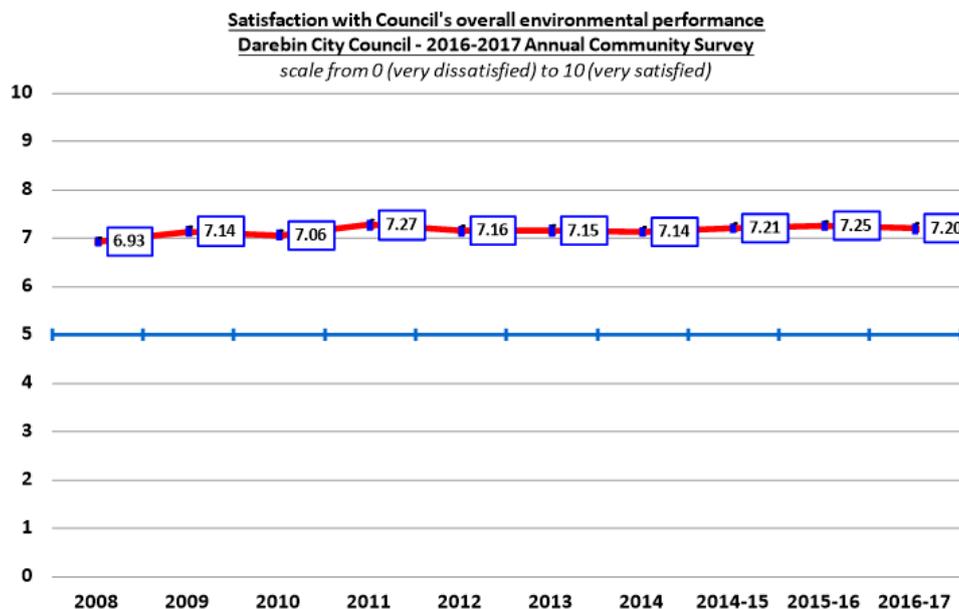
Satisfaction with Council’s overall environmental performance declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down less than one percent from 7.25 to 7.20.

This level of satisfaction is categorised as “good”, down on the “very good” recorded in 2015-16.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with Council’s overall environmental performance has remained remarkably stable over the course of the last ten years, at or around the long-term average of the of 7.15.

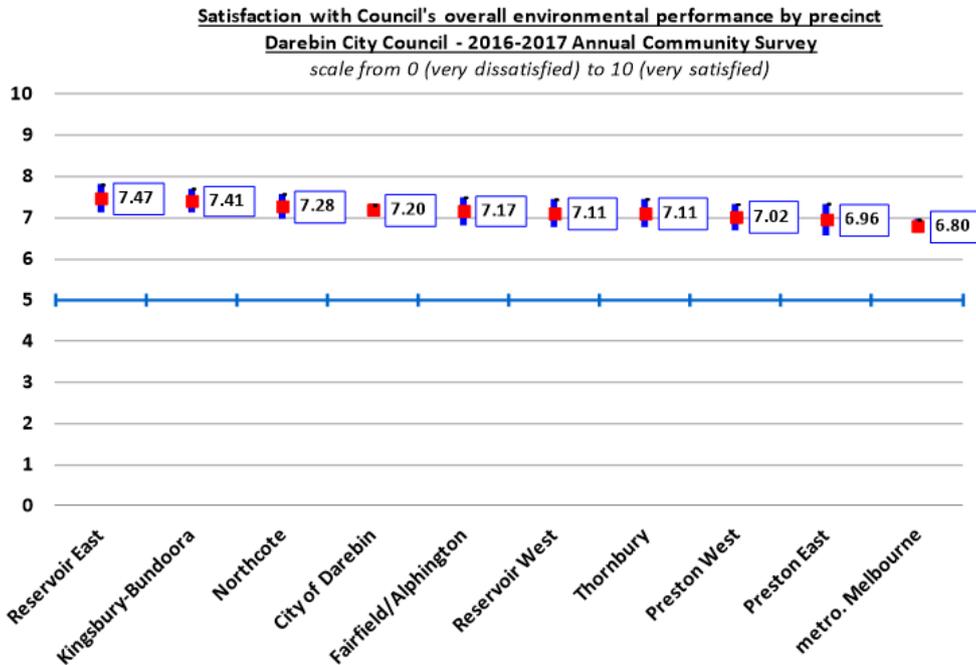
Metropolis Research does note that this question is somewhat vague and undefined as to what it is measuring. This may well be a factor underpinning the consistency of the result. It is in the opinion of Metropolis Research, likely to be reflecting a relatively generalised view of the performance of Darebin City Council in the area of environmental sustainability.

It is important to note however that this result does suggest that the community is both aware of some of Council’s environmental policies and activities and is broadly supportive of these.





There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall performance observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.

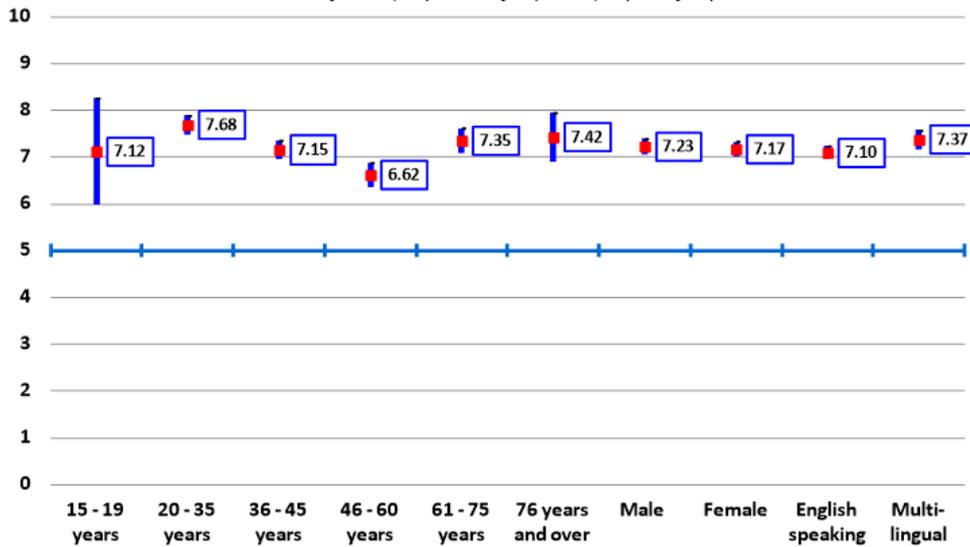


There was some variation in satisfaction with Council’s overall environmental performance observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Young adults (aged 20 to 35 years)** – respondents were measurably and significantly more satisfied than average and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “very good”.
- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 50 years)** – respondents were measurably and significantly less satisfied than other respondents.
- ⊗ **Gender** – there was no meaningful variation in satisfaction observed between male and female respondents.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households were measurably more satisfied than respondents from English speaking households and at a level categorised as “very good”.



**Satisfaction with Council's overall environmental performance by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with Council’s overall environmental performance increased in two precincts, and declined in six precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Northcote and Fairfield-Alphington.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Preston East, Reservoir West, Preston West, Thornbury, and Reservoir East.

None of these changes were statistically significant.

**Satisfaction with Council's overall environmental performance****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	76	6.83	<b>7.18</b>	7.54
	2014	87	6.89	<b>7.22</b>	7.54
	2014-15	90	6.96	<b>7.28</b>	7.59
	2015-16	106	7.27	<b>7.53</b>	7.79
	2016-17	97	7.14	<b>7.47</b>	7.81
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	93	7.21	<b>7.53</b>	7.84
	2014	82	7.02	<b>7.33</b>	7.64
	2014-15	85	7.28	<b>7.55</b>	7.83
	2015-16	113	7.17	<b>7.45</b>	7.74
	2016-17	109	7.11	<b>7.41</b>	7.71
Northcote	2013	79	6.57	<b>6.96</b>	7.35
	2014	86	6.74	<b>6.98</b>	7.22
	2014-15	81	6.77	<b>7.04</b>	7.31
	2015-16	101	6.60	<b>6.92</b>	7.24
	2016-17	109	6.98	<b>7.28</b>	7.59
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	82	6.34	<b>6.68</b>	7.02
	2014	82	6.75	<b>7.09</b>	7.42
	2014-15	85	6.96	<b>7.26</b>	7.56
	2015-16	114	6.80	<b>7.11</b>	7.41
	2016-17	96	6.83	<b>7.17</b>	7.51
Reservoir West	2013	79	7.30	<b>7.66</b>	8.02
	2014	80	7.20	<b>7.50</b>	7.80
	2014-15	84	7.22	<b>7.49</b>	7.75
	2015-16	102	6.94	<b>7.27</b>	7.61
	2016-17	111	6.76	<b>7.11</b>	7.45
Thornbury	2013	88	6.47	<b>6.90</b>	7.32
	2014	78	6.72	<b>7.00</b>	7.28
	2014-15	83	6.48	<b>6.84</b>	7.21
	2015-16	96	6.90	<b>7.18</b>	7.45
	2016-17	102	6.75	<b>7.11</b>	7.46
Preston West	2013	91	6.68	<b>7.00</b>	7.32
	2014	91	6.40	<b>6.75</b>	7.10
	2014-15	93	6.88	<b>7.22</b>	7.55
	2015-16	109	6.98	<b>7.25</b>	7.51
	2016-17	101	6.70	<b>7.02</b>	7.34
Preston East	2013	76	6.79	<b>7.11</b>	7.42
	2014	77	6.80	<b>7.16</b>	7.51
	2014-15	86	6.87	<b>7.16</b>	7.46
	2015-16	100	7.00	<b>7.30</b>	7.60
	2016-17	103	6.57	<b>6.96</b>	7.35



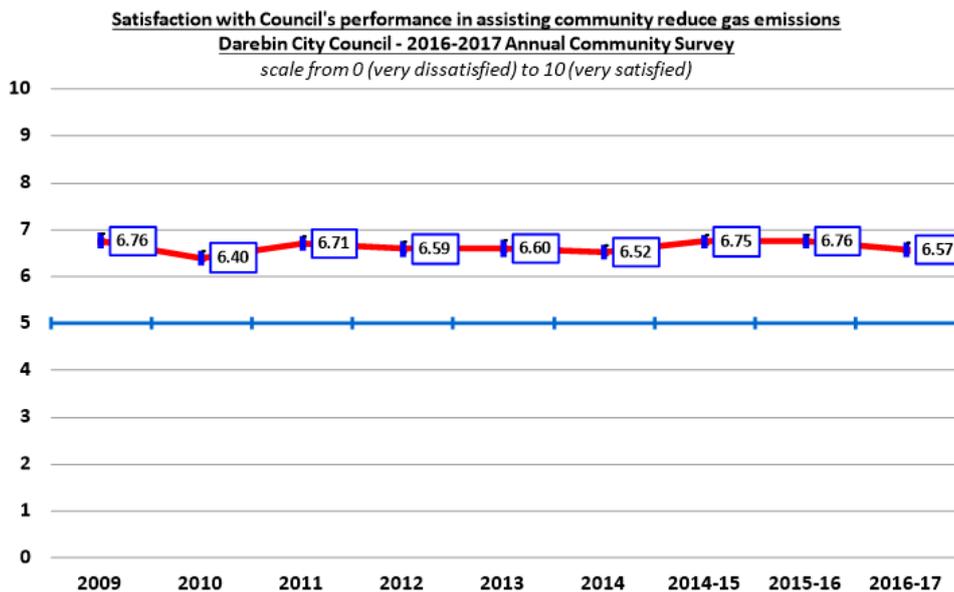
**Council's performance in assisting reducing greenhouse gas emissions**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s performance in assisting the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions?”*

Satisfaction with the performance of Council in assisting the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions declined somewhat, albeit not measurably in 2016-17, down 2.8% to 6.57. Despite this decline, satisfaction remains categorised as “good”.

Satisfaction with this service has been recorded at levels categorised as “good” in nine of the last ten years, with satisfaction categorised as “solid” in 2010.



There was no statistically significant variation in this result observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, although attention is drawn to the following:

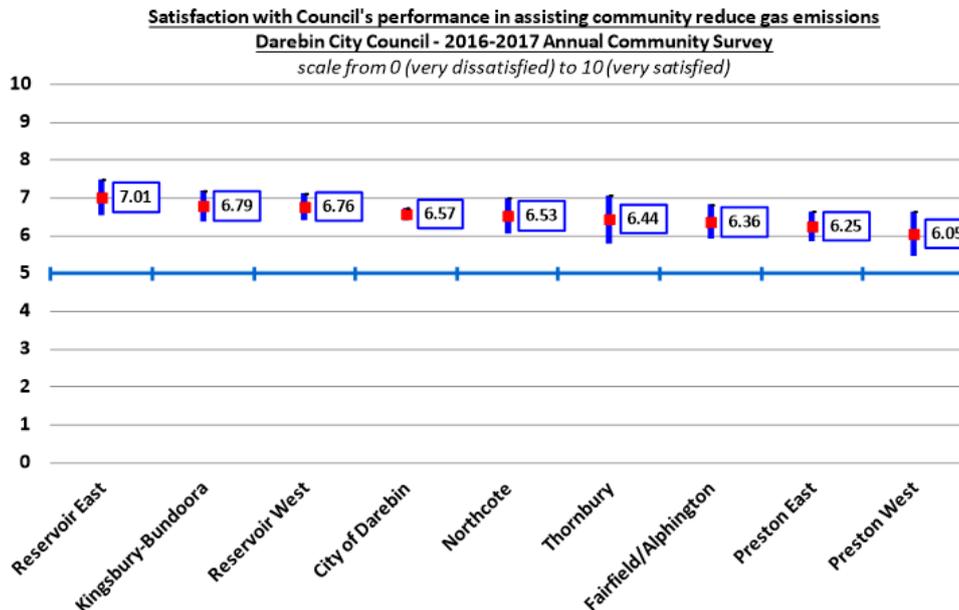
- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average, although still at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Preston East and Preston West** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.

When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with this service increased in two precincts, and declined in six precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir West and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Preston East, Preston West, Thornbury, Fairfield-Alphington, and Reservoir East.

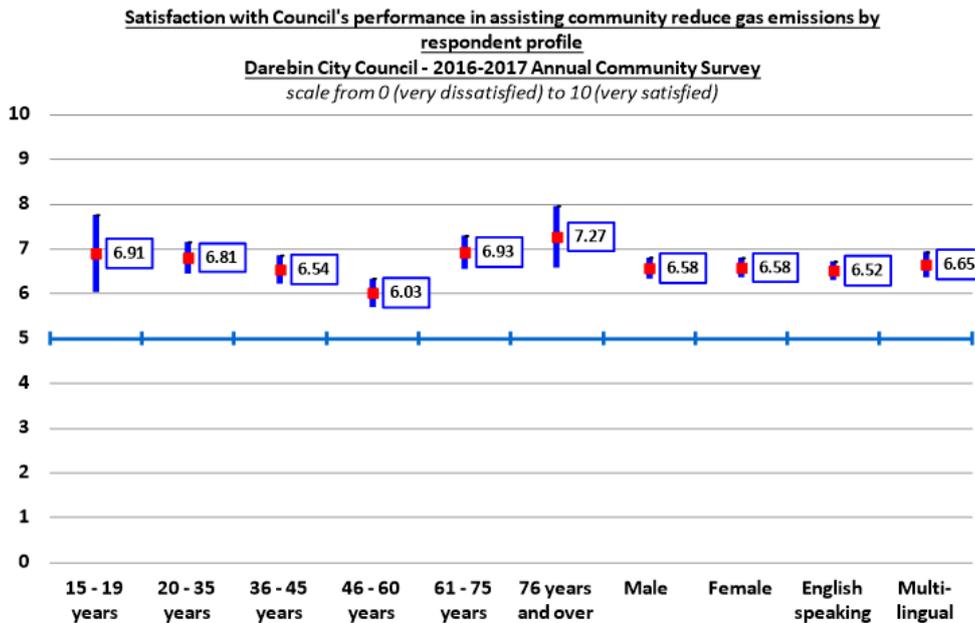


None of these changes were statistically significant.



There was a little meaningful variation in satisfaction with the performance of Council assisting the community to reduce greenhouse gas emissions observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** – respondents were measurably significantly less satisfied than other respondents, and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “solid”.



**Satisfaction with Council's performance in assisting community to reduce gas emissions****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	64	5.84	<b>6.50</b>	7.16
	2014	69	6.12	<b>6.58</b>	7.04
	2014-15	78	6.54	<b>6.91</b>	7.28
	2015-16	78	6.81	<b>7.12</b>	7.42
	2016-17	68	6.54	<b>7.01</b>	7.49
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	79	6.19	<b>6.72</b>	7.26
	2014	64	6.18	<b>6.67</b>	7.17
	2014-15	59	6.81	<b>7.25</b>	7.70
	2015-16	94	6.89	<b>7.20</b>	7.52
	2016-17	61	6.38	<b>6.79</b>	7.19
Reservoir West	2013	65	6.71	<b>7.12</b>	7.54
	2014	66	6.25	<b>6.73</b>	7.20
	2014-15	72	6.44	<b>6.88</b>	7.31
	2015-16	80	6.26	<b>6.73</b>	7.19
	2016-17	76	6.41	<b>6.76</b>	7.12
Northcote	2013	58	5.63	<b>6.17</b>	6.71
	2014	68	6.14	<b>6.49</b>	6.83
	2014-15	58	6.37	<b>6.71</b>	7.04
	2015-16	58	6.37	<b>6.71</b>	7.04
	2016-17	70	6.05	<b>6.53</b>	7.00
Thornbury	2013	79	6.29	<b>6.77</b>	7.26
	2014	58	5.93	<b>6.41</b>	6.90
	2014-15	67	5.82	<b>6.33</b>	6.83
	2015-16	67	5.82	<b>6.33</b>	6.83
	2016-17	50	5.81	<b>6.44</b>	7.07
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	60	5.48	<b>6.00</b>	6.52
	2014	60	6.04	<b>6.52</b>	6.99
	2014-15	66	6.30	<b>6.77</b>	7.24
	2015-16	66	6.30	<b>6.77</b>	7.24
	2016-17	77	5.91	<b>6.36</b>	6.82
Preston East	2013	65	6.33	<b>6.71</b>	7.09
	2014	56	6.26	<b>6.73</b>	7.20
	2014-15	69	6.47	<b>6.90</b>	7.33
	2015-16	82	6.19	<b>6.68</b>	7.18
	2016-17	65	5.84	<b>6.25</b>	6.65
Preston West	2013	78	5.86	<b>6.41</b>	6.96
	2014	70	5.49	<b>6.00</b>	6.51
	2014-15	75	5.90	<b>6.41</b>	6.92
	2015-16	81	6.45	<b>6.89</b>	7.32
	2016-17	64	5.45	<b>6.05</b>	6.64



**Green waste collection service**

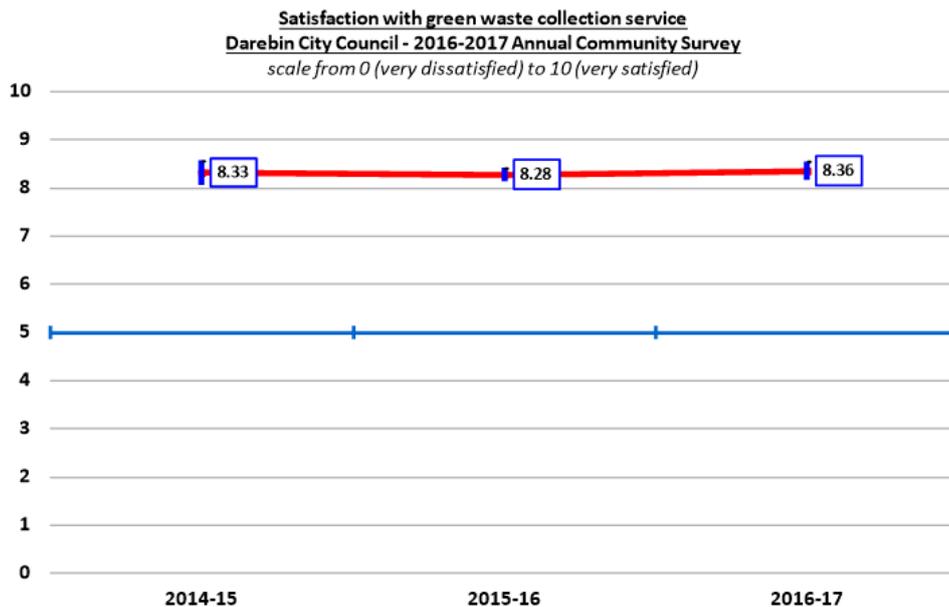
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the green waste collection service?”*

Satisfaction with the green waste collection service increased marginally, albeit not measurably in 2016-17, up by less than one percent to 8.36. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “excellent”, the same categorisation it has obtained in each of the last three years.

Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction scores of more than eight out of ten are relatively rare, and reflect very well on the performance of Council providing this service.

This result is very marginally, but not measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 8.47.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the green waste collection service observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.

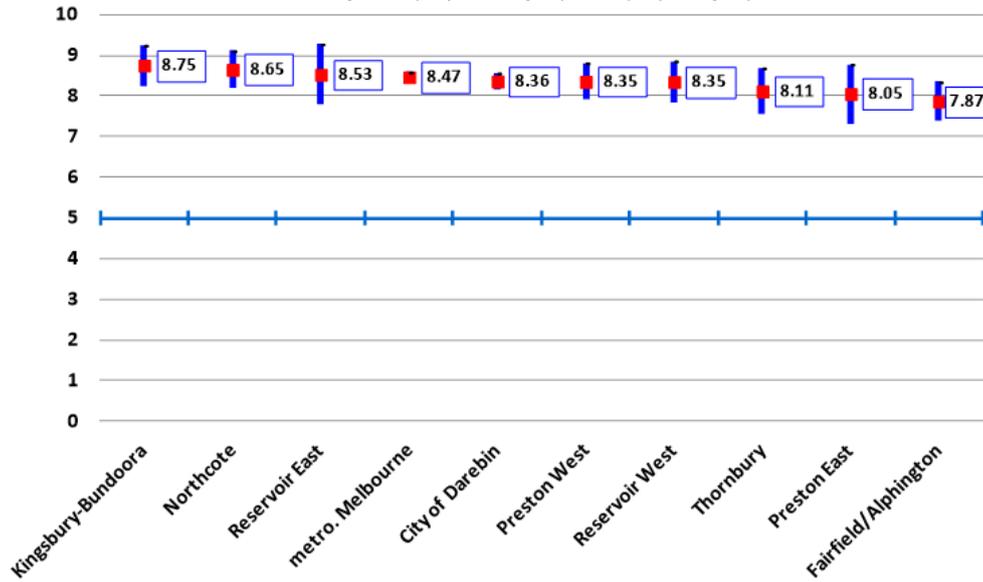
It is however observed that:

- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated satisfaction marginally, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average, although still at a level categorised as “excellent”.





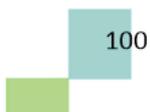
**Satisfaction with green waste collection service by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with the green waste collection service increased in four precincts, and declined in four precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Kingsbury-Bundoora, Northcote, Reservoir East, and Reservoir West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Preston East, Preston West, Thornbury, and Fairfield-Alphington.

None of these changes were statistically significant.



**Satisfaction with green waste collection service**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2014-15	16	7.19	<b>8.19</b>	9.18
	2015-16	49	7.81	<b>8.22</b>	8.64
	2016-17	32	8.26	<b>8.75</b>	9.24
Northcote	2014-15	17	7.47	<b>8.24</b>	9.00
	2015-16	51	7.76	<b>8.14</b>	8.51
	2016-17	37	8.19	<b>8.65</b>	9.11
Reservoir East	2014-15	21	6.94	<b>7.52</b>	8.11
	2015-16	41	8.03	<b>8.46</b>	8.89
	2016-17	38	7.78	<b>8.53</b>	9.27
Preston West	2014-15	20	8.45	<b>8.90</b>	9.35
	2015-16	50	8.42	<b>8.78</b>	9.14
	2016-17	51	7.90	<b>8.35</b>	8.81
Reservoir West	2014-15	21	7.66	<b>8.52</b>	9.38
	2015-16	47	7.62	<b>8.02</b>	8.43
	2016-17	46	7.84	<b>8.35</b>	8.86
Thornbury	2014-15	16	7.62	<b>8.31</b>	9.01
	2015-16	53	7.93	<b>8.26</b>	8.60
	2016-17	35	7.54	<b>8.11</b>	8.68
Preston East	2014-15	20	8.36	<b>8.85</b>	9.34
	2015-16	40	7.95	<b>8.45</b>	8.95
	2016-17	38	7.33	<b>8.05</b>	8.78
Fairfield-Alphington	2014-15	15	8.44	<b>8.93</b>	9.42
	2015-16	55	7.45	<b>7.93</b>	8.41
	2016-17	38	7.40	<b>7.87</b>	8.34

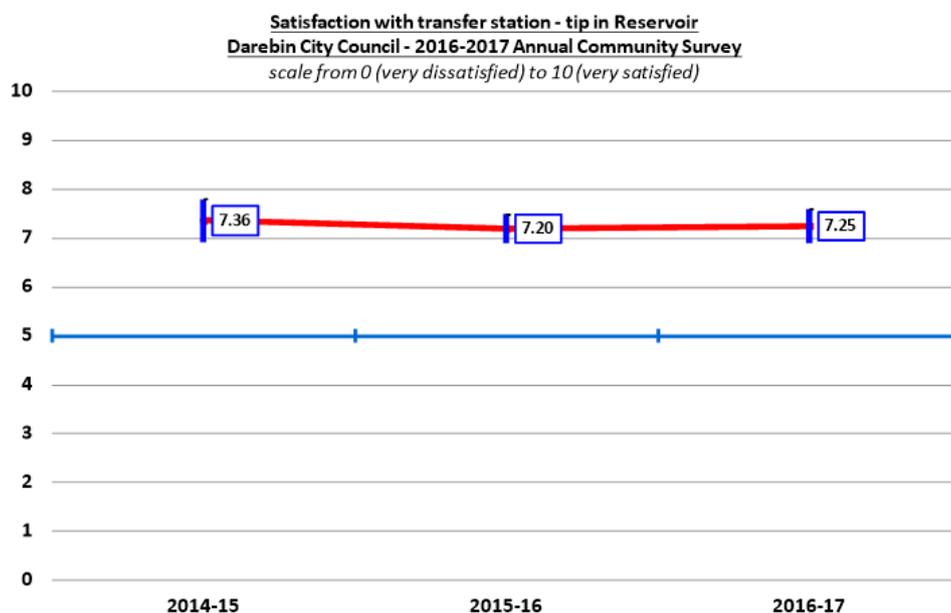


**Transfer station – tip in Reservoir**

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with the transfer station – Tip in Reservoir?”*

Satisfaction with the transfer station – Tip in Reservoir increased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, up by less than one percent to 7.25. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “very good”, an improvement on the “good” categorisation last year.



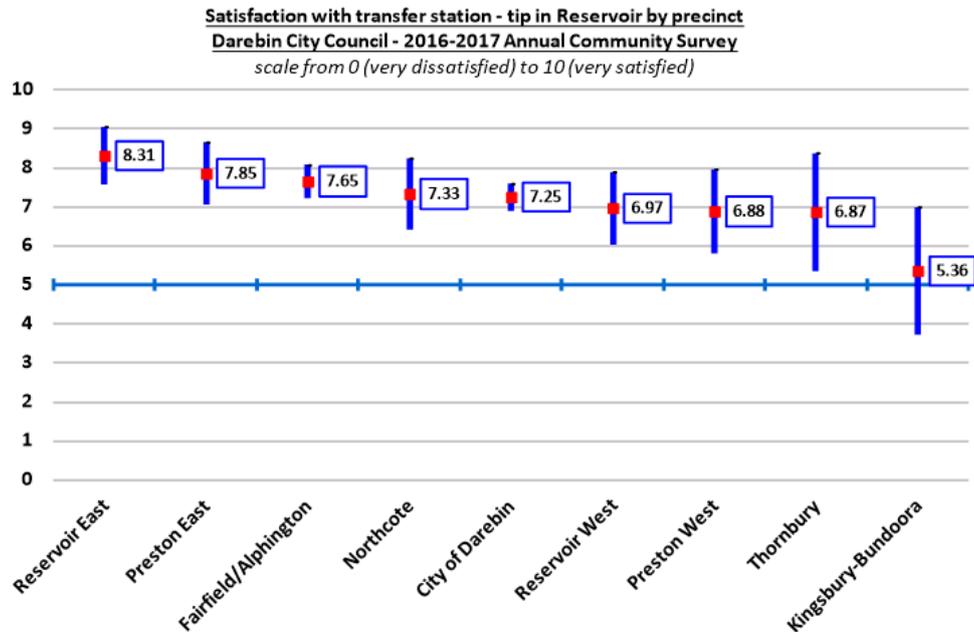
There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the transfer station observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “excellent”.
- ⊗ **Preston East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “excellent”.
- ⊗ **Kingsbury-Bundoora** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very poor”.

Metropolis Research does note that these precinct level results are based on a very small sample size, which is reflected in the large 95% confidence intervals (the vertical blue bars).



The average sample size is approximately fifteen respondents per precinct. These small sample sizes are the result of the fact that a relatively small proportion of the total sample over the course of the year had actually used the transfer station and therefore been in a position to provide a satisfaction score.



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with the transfer station increased in four precincts, and declined in four precincts.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir East, Preston East, Fairfield-Alphington, and Reservoir West.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Preston West, Northcote, Thornbury, and Kingsbury-Bundoora.

None of these changes were statistically significant.



**Satisfaction with transfer station - tip in Reservoir**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2014-15	12	6.28	<b>7.00</b>	7.72
	2015-16	20	5.74	<b>6.75</b>	7.76
	2016-17	16	7.57	<b>8.31</b>	9.06
Preston East	2014-15	7	6.40	<b>7.86</b>	9.31
	2015-16	15	6.88	<b>7.60</b>	8.32
	2016-17	20	7.04	<b>7.85</b>	8.66
Fairfield-Alphington	2014-15	9	7.56	<b>8.33</b>	9.10
	2015-16	29	6.65	<b>7.24</b>	7.83
	2016-17	23	7.23	<b>7.65</b>	8.08
Northcote	2014-15	9	6.25	<b>7.78</b>	9.30
	2015-16	23	6.66	<b>7.39</b>	8.13
	2016-17	21	6.42	<b>7.33</b>	8.25
Reservoir West	2014-15	7	4.56	<b>6.86</b>	9.15
	2015-16	28	5.94	<b>6.93</b>	7.92
	2016-17	31	6.04	<b>6.97</b>	7.90
Preston West	2014-15	7	6.73	<b>7.86</b>	8.98
	2015-16	22	6.73	<b>7.59</b>	8.45
	2016-17	26	5.80	<b>6.88</b>	7.97
Thornbury	2014-15	4	5.86	<b>8.25</b>	10.00
	2015-16	27	6.58	<b>7.37</b>	8.16
	2016-17	15	5.34	<b>6.87</b>	8.39
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2014-15	6	3.27	<b>5.33</b>	7.40
	2015-16	21	5.98	<b>7.00</b>	8.02
	2016-17	14	3.71	<b>5.36</b>	7.00



**Arts and culture**

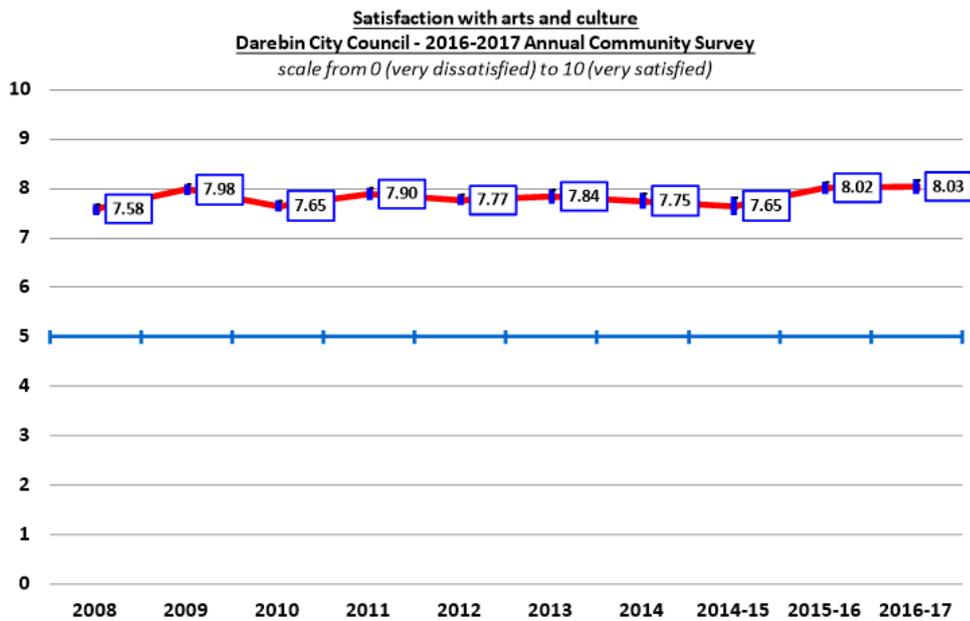
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with arts and culture?”*

Satisfaction with arts and culture (including libraries, Bundoora Homestead, and the Darebin Arts and Entertainment Centre) was essentially stable in 2016-17 at 8.03.

This level of satisfaction is categorised as “excellent”, which is the same categorisation obtained by this service in seven of the last ten years. This result was marginally, albeit not measurably higher than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 7.85.

It is noted that this category of “arts and culture” is unusually broad in its description, and that it is typical to include the library service as a stand alone service in the community satisfaction survey. Metropolis Research would recommend that Council consider this approach in future *Annual Community Surveys*.



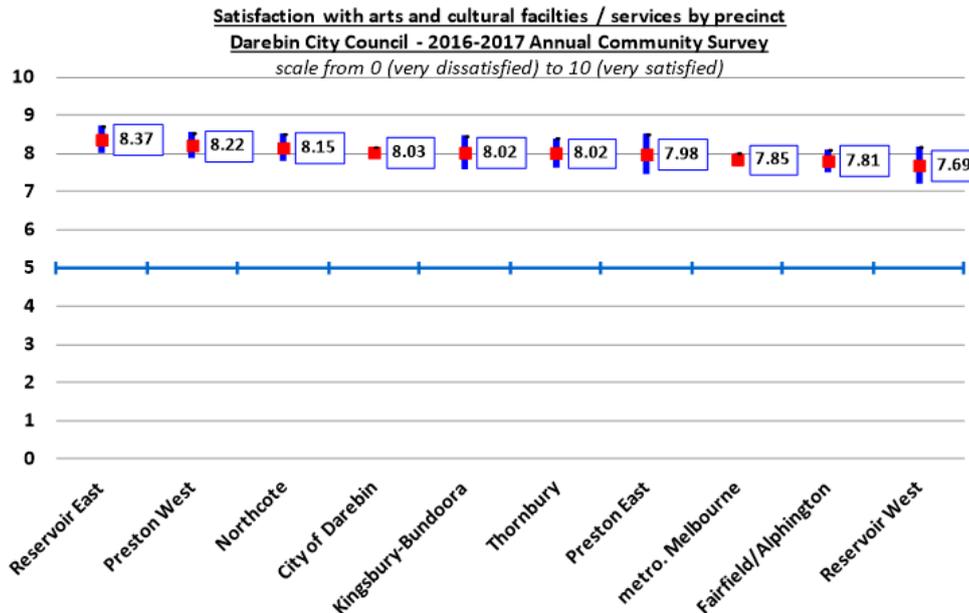
There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with arts and culture observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, although attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir West** – respondents rated satisfaction marginally, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very good”.

When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with arts and culture increased in five precincts, and declined in three precincts. None of these changes were statistically significant.

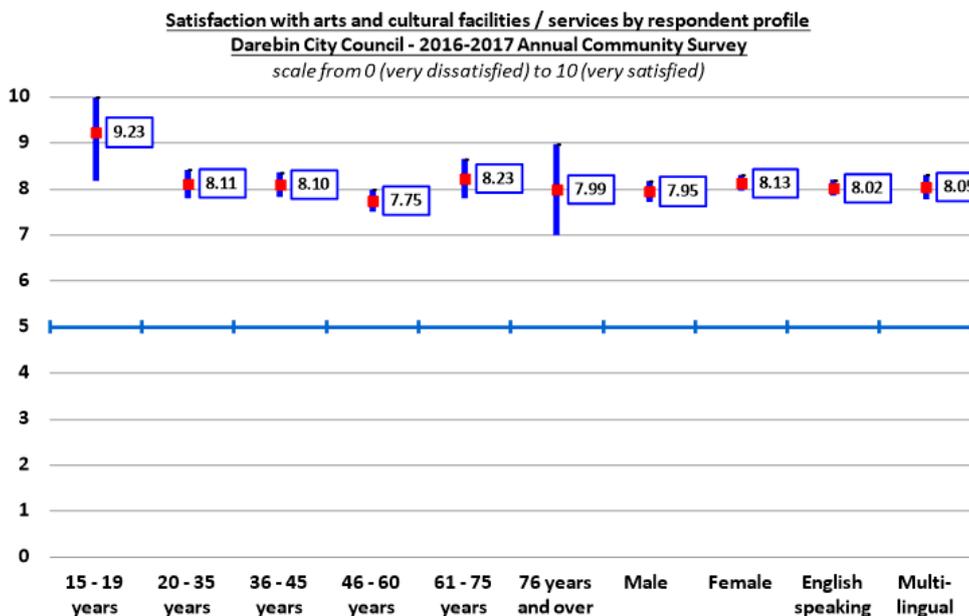


- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir East, Preston West, Northcote, Kingsbury-Bundoora, and Thornbury.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Preston East, Fairfield-Alphington, and Reservoir West.



There was relatively little meaningful variation in satisfaction with arts and culture observed by respondent profile, although attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years)** – respondents were somewhat more satisfied than older respondents.

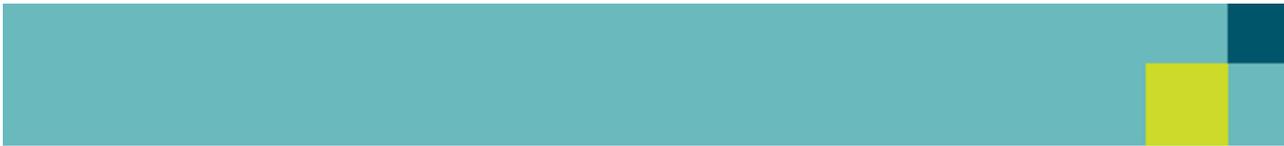


**Satisfaction with arts and cultural facilities/services**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2013	44	7.27	<b>7.73</b>	8.19
	2014	42	7.30	<b>7.76</b>	8.22
	2014-15	42	7.30	<b>7.83</b>	8.37
	2015-16	54	7.90	<b>8.26</b>	8.62
	2016-17	46	8.02	<b>8.37</b>	8.72
Preston West	2013	47	6.95	<b>7.36</b>	7.77
	2014	41	7.47	<b>7.90</b>	8.34
	2014-15	45	6.72	<b>7.27</b>	7.82
	2015-16	66	7.70	<b>8.05</b>	8.39
	2016-17	69	7.89	<b>8.22</b>	8.55
Northcote	2013	63	7.57	<b>7.89</b>	8.21
	2014	43	7.55	<b>7.95</b>	8.36
	2014-15	49	7.49	<b>7.88</b>	8.26
	2015-16	77	7.56	<b>7.90</b>	8.23
	2016-17	65	7.79	<b>8.15</b>	8.52
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2013	45	7.50	<b>8.09</b>	8.68
	2014	35	6.82	<b>7.43</b>	8.04
	2014-15	45	7.54	<b>7.93</b>	8.33
	2015-16	51	7.30	<b>7.78</b>	8.27
	2016-17	41	7.58	<b>8.02</b>	8.47
Thornbury	2013	67	7.68	<b>8.03</b>	8.38
	2014	39	7.53	<b>7.92</b>	8.31
	2014-15	42	7.27	<b>7.76</b>	8.26
	2015-16	69	7.48	<b>7.75</b>	8.03
	2016-17	59	7.62	<b>8.02</b>	8.41
Preston East	2013	45	7.56	<b>7.93</b>	8.30
	2014	43	7.03	<b>7.54</b>	8.04
	2014-15	56	7.21	<b>7.70</b>	8.19
	2015-16	59	8.06	<b>8.36</b>	8.65
	2016-17	55	7.45	<b>7.98</b>	8.51
Fairfield-Alphington	2013	59	7.30	<b>7.61</b>	7.92
	2014	56	7.30	<b>7.70</b>	8.09
	2014-15	48	7.12	<b>7.63</b>	8.13
	2015-16	84	7.64	<b>7.95</b>	8.26
	2016-17	79	7.51	<b>7.81</b>	8.11
Reservoir West	2013	57	7.50	<b>7.91</b>	8.33
	2014	33	6.89	<b>7.52</b>	8.14
	2014-15	43	6.36	<b>7.05</b>	7.73
	2015-16	56	7.62	<b>8.04</b>	8.45
	2016-17	68	7.20	<b>7.69</b>	8.18

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**Council's festivals and events**

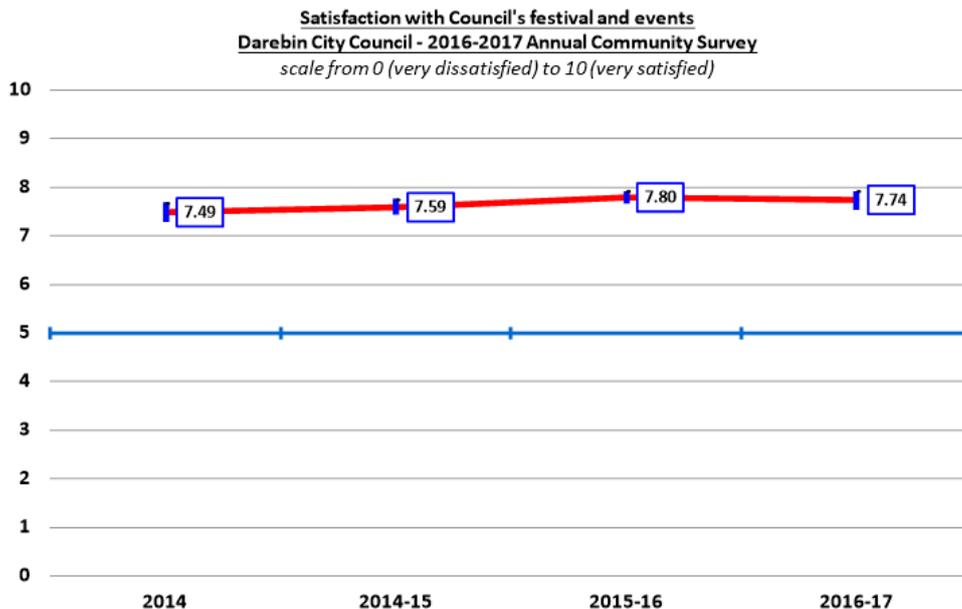
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your personal level of satisfaction with Council’s festivals and events?”*

Satisfaction with Council’s festivals and events (including Community and Kite Festival, Homemade Food & Wine Festival and Music Feast) declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down less than one percent to 7.74.

This level of satisfaction is categorised as “very good”, a decline on the “excellent” obtained last year, but consistent with the categorisation in previous years.

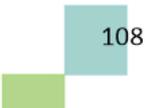
Metropolis Research also notes that whilst satisfaction with Council’s festivals and events has always received high satisfaction scores, it has trended higher in recent years.



There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with Council’s festivals and events observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.

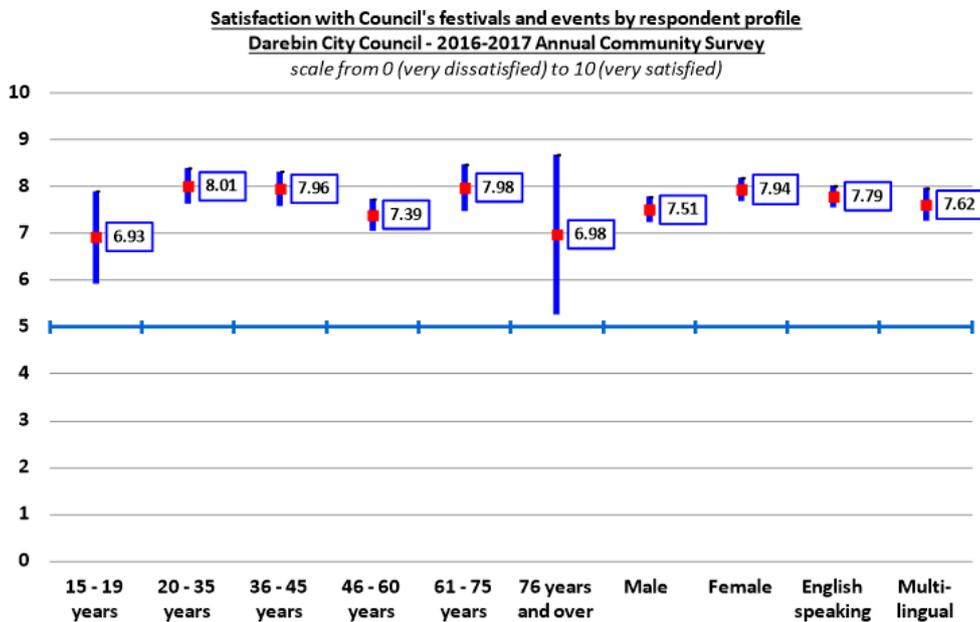
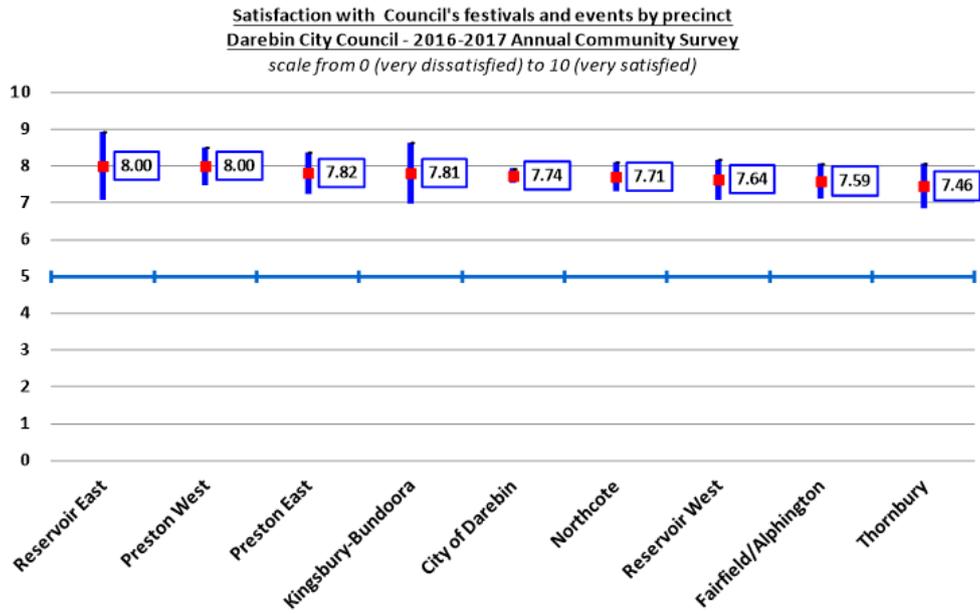
There was some notable variation in satisfaction with Council’s festivals and events observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years) and senior citizens (aged 76 years and over)** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “good”.





- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably lower than the municipal average.
- ⊗ **Gender** – female respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than male respondents.



When explored over time, it is noted that satisfaction with Council's festivals and events increased in three precincts, and declined in five precincts. None of these changes were statistically significant.

- ⊗ **Increased satisfaction** – satisfaction increased marginally in Reservoir East, Preston West, and Kingsbury-Bundoora.
- ⊗ **Decreased satisfaction** – satisfaction decreased marginally in Preston East, Northcote, Reservoir West, Fairfield-Alphington, and Thornbury.

**Satisfaction with Council's festivals and events**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and index score 0 - 10)*

Precinct	Year	Number	Satisfaction		
			Lower	Mean	Upper
Reservoir East	2014	31	7.11	<b>7.61</b>	8.11
	2014-15	37	7.46	<b>7.84</b>	8.21
	2015-16	39	7.36	<b>7.85</b>	8.34
	2016-17	21	7.07	<b>8.00</b>	8.93
Preston West	2014	22	7.18	<b>7.73</b>	8.28
	2014-15	25	6.76	<b>7.24</b>	7.72
	2015-16	47	7.57	<b>7.91</b>	8.25
	2016-17	42	7.49	<b>8.00</b>	8.51
Preston East	2014	24	6.85	<b>7.46</b>	8.07
	2014-15	35	7.21	<b>7.63</b>	8.05
	2015-16	39	7.62	<b>8.00</b>	8.38
	2016-17	39	7.26	<b>7.82</b>	8.38
Kingsbury-Bundoora	2014	18	6.81	<b>7.50</b>	8.19
	2014-15	33	7.21	<b>7.67</b>	8.12
	2015-16	33	6.62	<b>7.18</b>	7.75
	2016-17	21	6.97	<b>7.81</b>	8.64
Northcote	2014	39	7.26	<b>7.69</b>	8.12
	2014-15	50	7.45	<b>7.80</b>	8.15
	2015-16	54	7.64	<b>7.93</b>	8.21
	2016-17	56	7.32	<b>7.71</b>	8.11
Reservoir West	2014	32	6.21	<b>6.94</b>	7.66
	2014-15	38	6.62	<b>7.29</b>	7.96
	2015-16	43	7.40	<b>7.81</b>	8.23
	2016-17	44	7.09	<b>7.64</b>	8.19
Fairfield-Alphington	2014	32	6.96	<b>7.53</b>	8.1
	2014-15	31	6.78	<b>7.26</b>	7.73
	2015-16	57	7.67	<b>7.91</b>	8.15
	2016-17	44	7.12	<b>7.59</b>	8.07
Thornbury	2014	23	7.14	<b>7.61</b>	8.07
	2014-15	29	6.95	<b>7.52</b>	8.09
	2015-16	49	7.15	<b>7.47</b>	7.79
	2016-17	39	6.85	<b>7.46</b>	8.07



## Traffic and parking

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest) with five being neutral, can you please rate your satisfaction with the following aspects of traffic and parking in your local area?”*

This set of questions relating to satisfaction with aspects of traffic and parking were included in only two of the four quarterly surveys in 2016-17.

Satisfaction with the volume and speed of traffic on both local streets and main roads, as well as the availability of parking on local streets and around shopping areas remains relatively low, as is clearly outlined in the following graph.

Satisfaction with these six aspects of traffic and parking can best be summarised as follows:

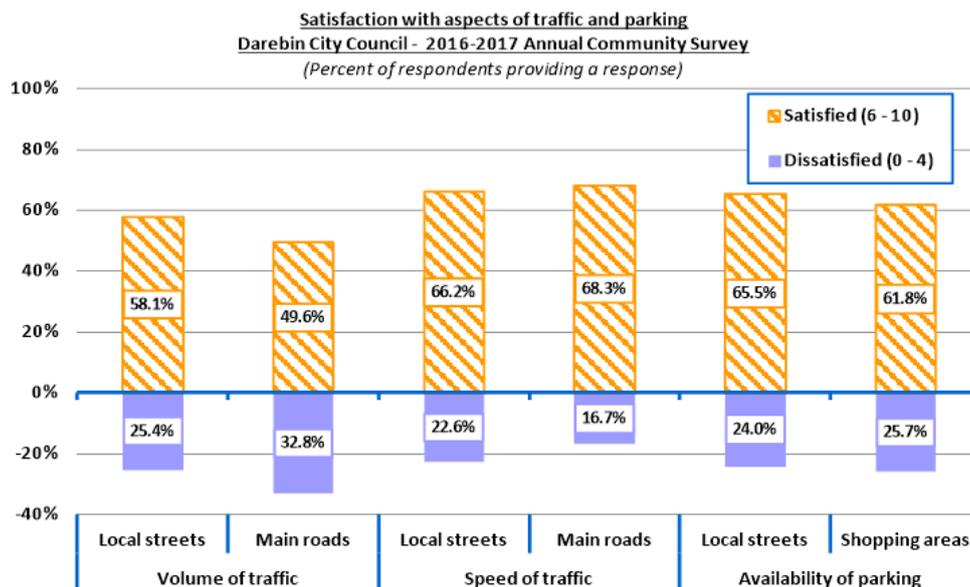
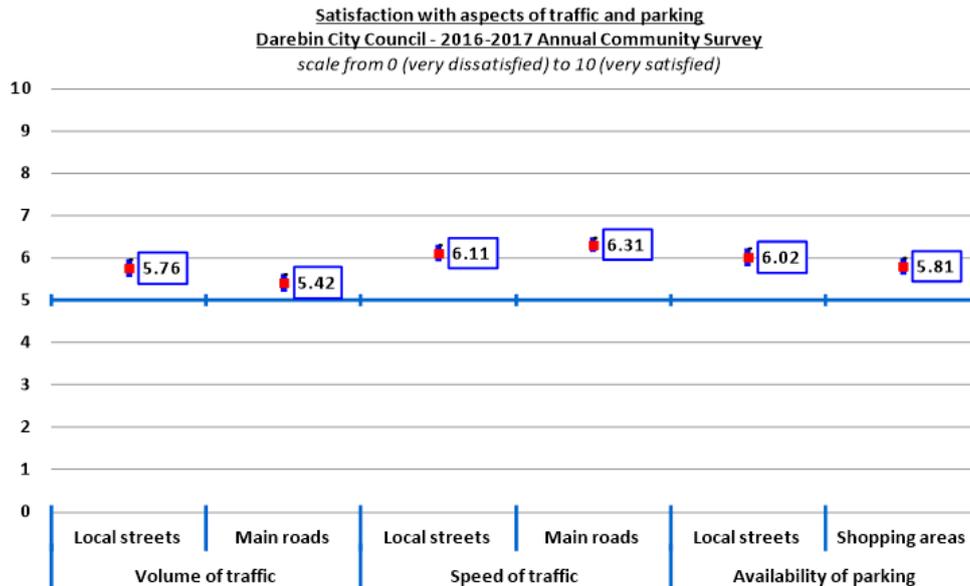
- ⊗ **Solid** – for the speed of traffic on local streets and main roads and the availability of parking on local streets. Approximately two-thirds of respondents were satisfied with these aspects, whilst approximately one-sixth (16.7%) were dissatisfied with the speed of traffic on main roads, and a little less than one-quarter were dissatisfied with the speed of traffic on local streets (22.6%) and the availability of parking on local streets (24.0%).
- ⊗ **Poor** – for the volume of traffic on local streets and the availability of parking around busy shopping strips and major commercial areas. Whilst more than half the respondents were satisfied with these two aspects, approximately one-quarter were dissatisfied.
- ⊗ **Very Poor** – for the volume of traffic on main roads. Approximately half (49.6%) the respondents were satisfied with this aspect, whilst approximately one-third (32.8%) were dissatisfied.

Metropolis Research notes that traffic related issues are a strong theme throughout this report, not only in 2016-17 but over an extended period of time. This includes this set of questions about satisfaction with the volume and speed of traffic, as well as the satisfaction with Council’s performance managing local traffic, and the issues to address in the City of Darebin section. All of these results taken together are clear and unambiguous evidence of strong community concern with the amount of traffic, particularly traffic congestion, both on local streets and main arterial roads.

This issue of traffic and the management of traffic in and around the City of Darebin is a negative influence on community satisfaction with the performance of the Darebin City Council. This includes both directly in relation to traffic management on local streets, as well as advocacy efforts by Council to other levels of government to improve traffic management in the municipality.



Metropolis Research notes that satisfaction with the speed and volume of traffic on both local residential streets and main roads was lower in the City of Darebin in 2016-17 than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne averages. This is particularly true in relation to the volume of traffic on both local residential streets and main roads, which was measurably lower in the City of Darebin than the metropolitan Melbourne average.



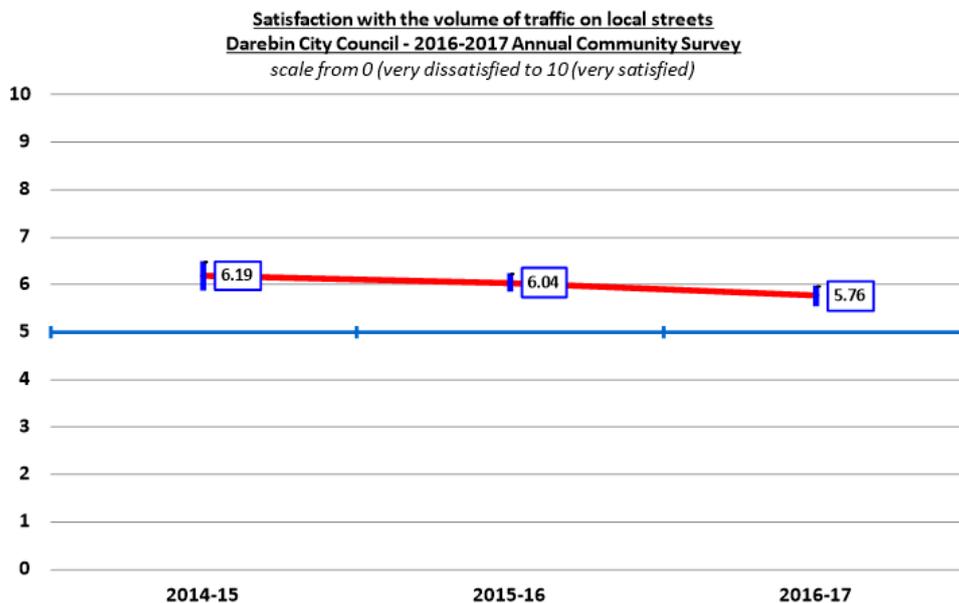


**Volume of traffic**

**Volume of traffic on local streets**

Satisfaction with the volume of traffic on local streets declined for the second consecutive year, although the decline was not statistically significant. Satisfaction declined 4.6% in 2016-17, down from 6.04 to 5.76 and it is now at a level categorised as “poor”.

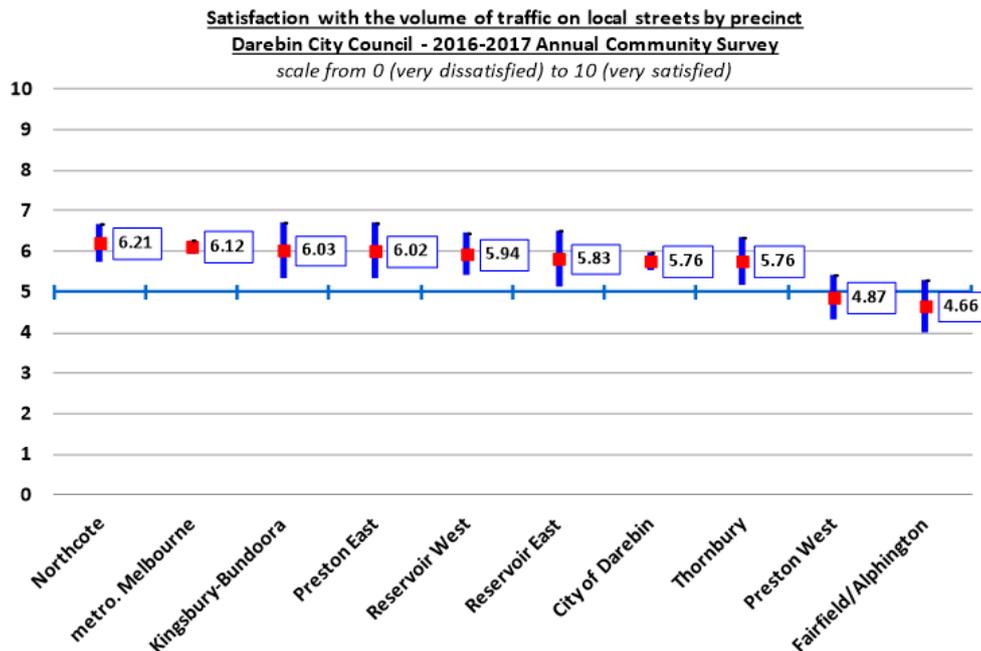
This result is measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.12.



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the volume of traffic on local streets observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Northcote** – respondents were marginally but not measurably more satisfied than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “solid”.
- ⊗ **Preston West and Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.



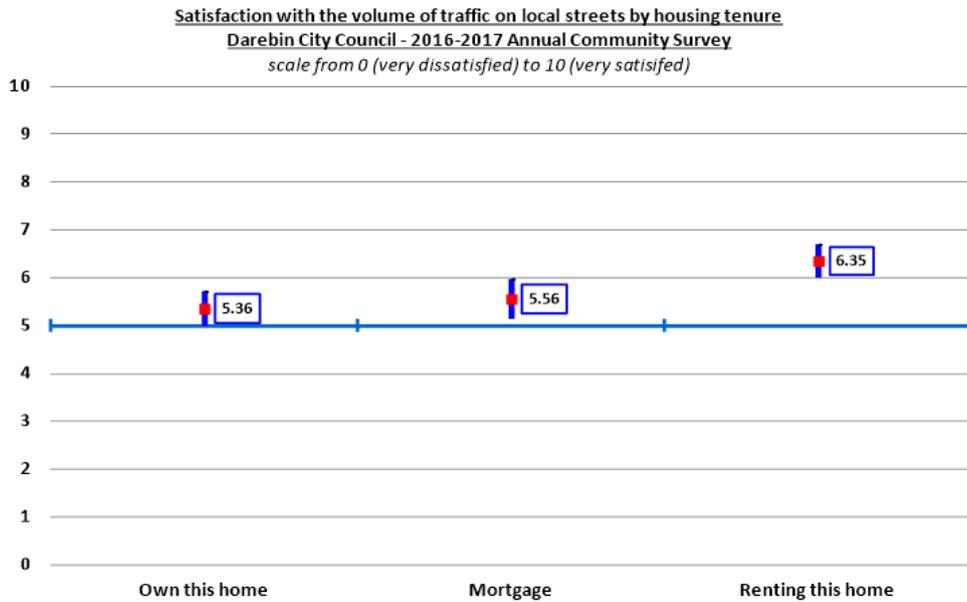
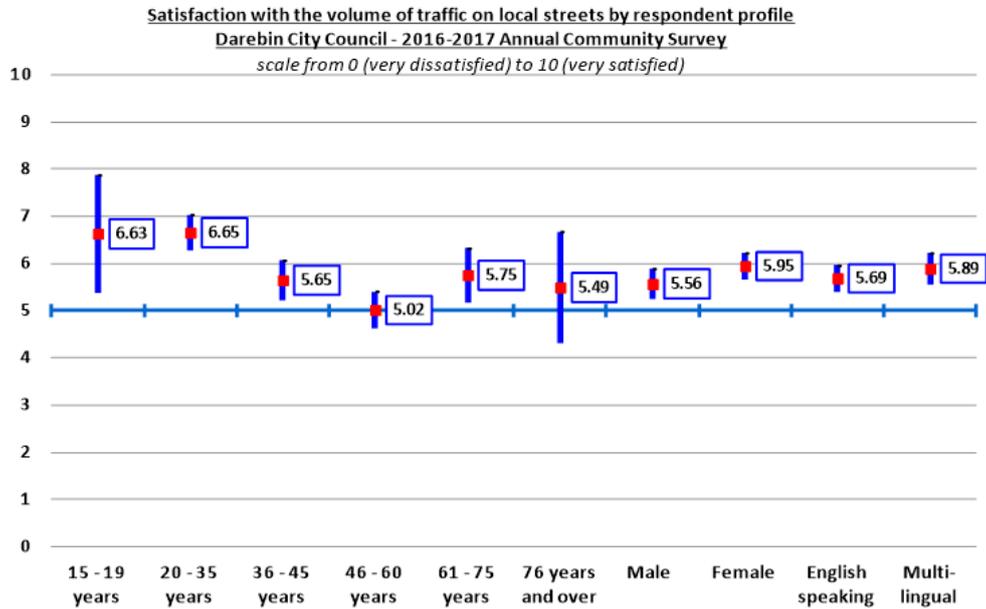


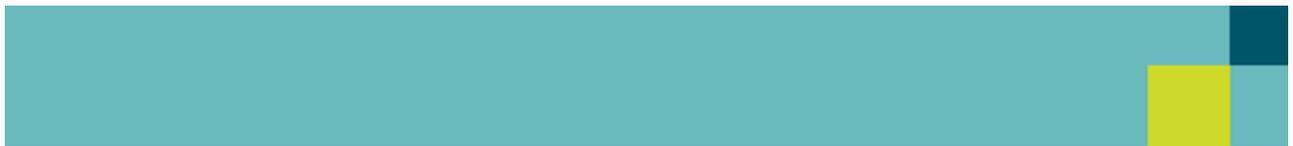
There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the volume of traffic on local streets observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very poor”.
- ⊗ **Gender** – female respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than male respondents.

There was also significant variation in satisfaction with the volume of traffic on local streets observed by the respondents’ housing situation, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Home owners** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very poor”.
- ⊗ **Rental households** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.



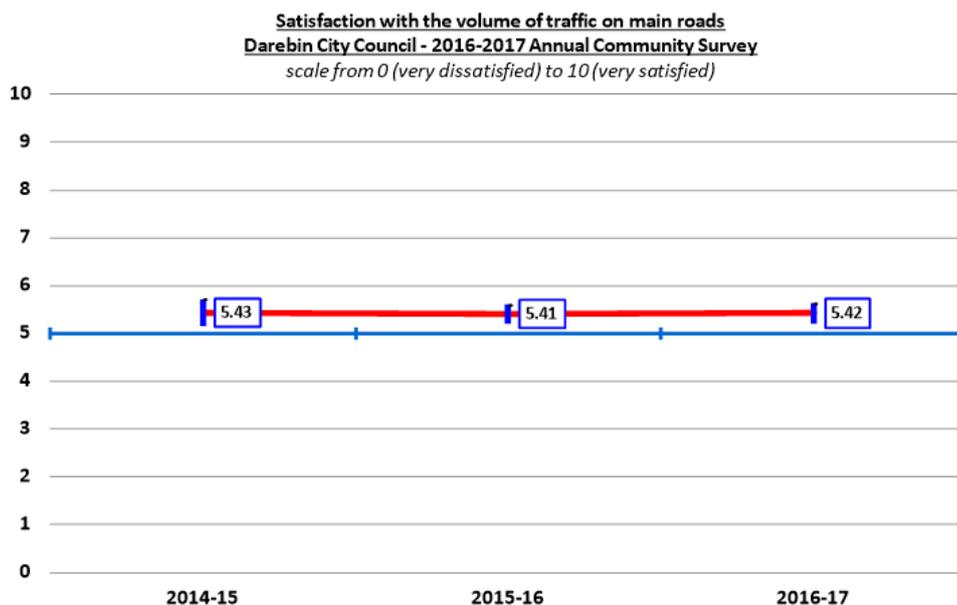


**Volume of traffic on main roads**

Satisfaction with the volume of traffic on main roads has remained remarkably stable over the course of the last three years at a little less than 5.5 out of ten. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “very poor”.

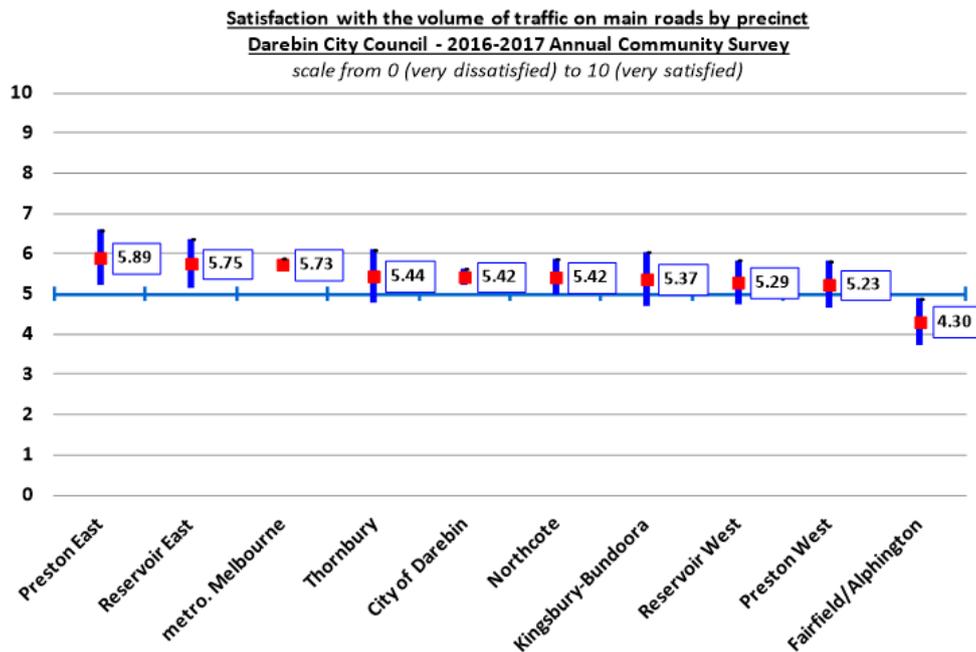
This is a significant result, particularly given the stability at this “very poor” level of satisfaction over the course of three years. It is clear from the results to this question, as well as a range of other questions included in this survey program that traffic congestion on the main arterial roads of the City of Darebin is a significant issue for the Darebin community, and one that they have consistently identified as a major issue in which Council should involve itself.

This result was measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 5.73.



There was some measurable variation in satisfaction with the volume of traffic on main roads observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Preston East and Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “poor”.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “extremely poor”.



There was significant variation in satisfaction with the volume of traffic on main roads observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.
- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “extremely poor”.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than respondents from English speaking households, and at a level categorised as “poor” compared to “very poor”.

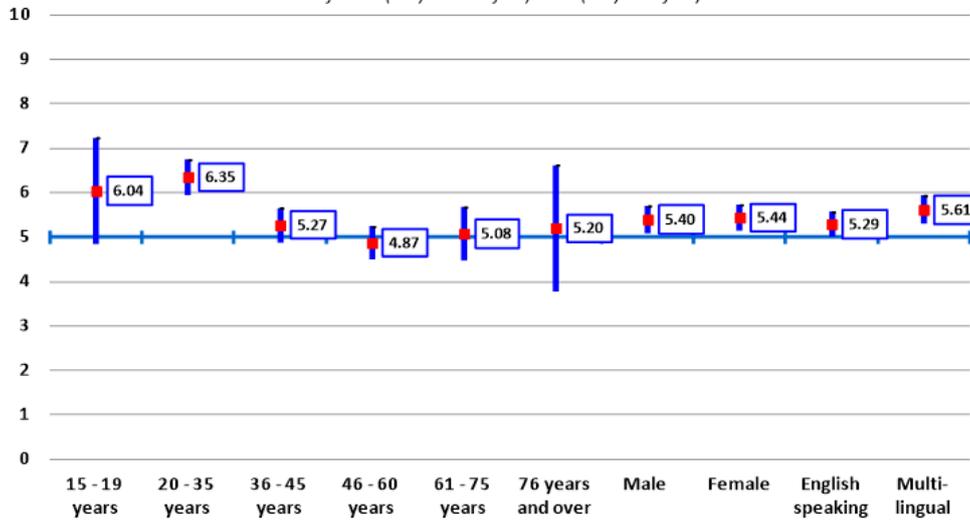
There was also significant variation in satisfaction with the volume of traffic on main roads observed by the respondents’ housing situation, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Home owners and mortgagee** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “very poor” and “extremely poor” respectively.
- ⊗ **Rental households** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “poor”.





**Satisfaction with the volume of traffic on main roads by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



**Satisfaction with the volume of traffic on main roads by housing tenure**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*





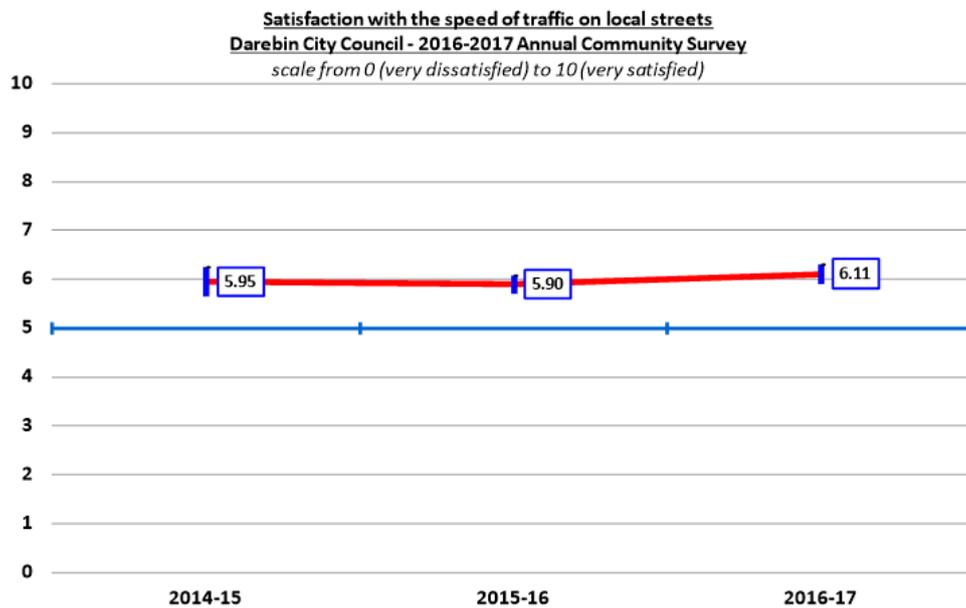
**Speed of traffic**

**Speed of traffic on local streets**

Satisfaction with the speed of traffic on local streets increased marginally, albeit not measurably in 2016-17, up 3.6% to 6.11. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “solid”, which is an improvement on the “poor” recorded in each of the previous two years.

Metropolis Research notes that approximately two-thirds (67.3%) of respondents dissatisfied with the speed of traffic on local streets considered that the speed was “too fast” and one-third (32.7%) considered the speed to be “too slow”. This is evidence of solid support in the community for the traffic calming measures undertaken by Council to reduce the speed on local residential streets in the municipality.

This result is marginally, albeit not measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.36.

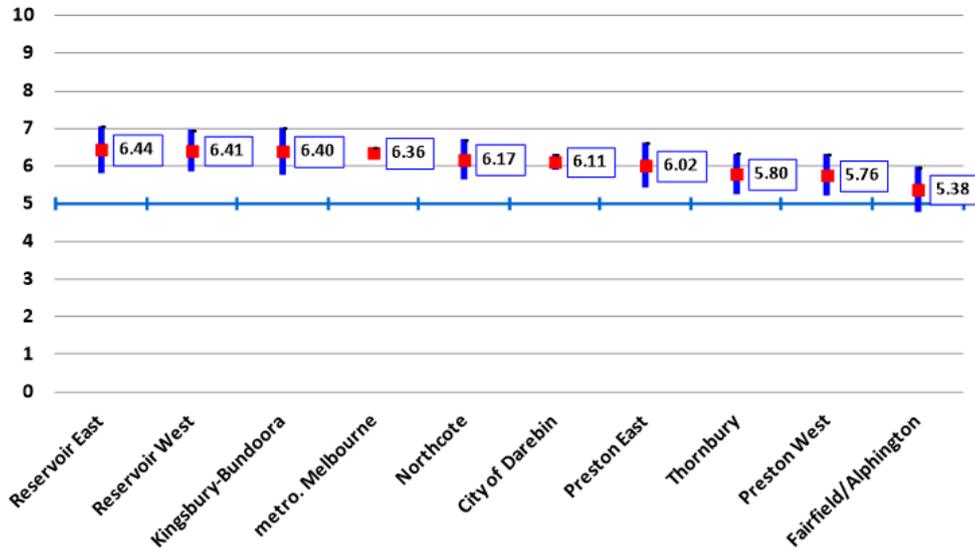


There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the speed of traffic on local streets observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, although attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated satisfaction significantly, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very poor”.



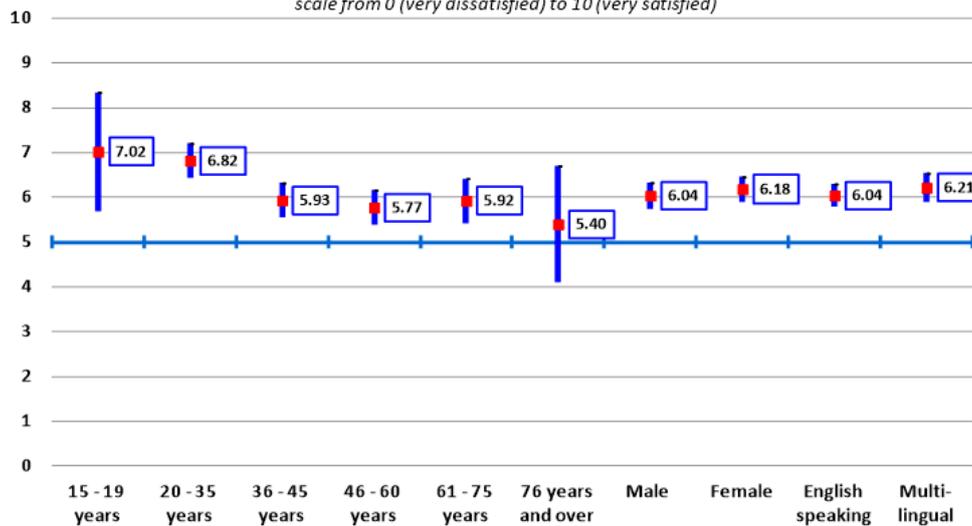
**Satisfaction with the speed of traffic on local streets by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the speed of traffic on local streets observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “good”.

**Satisfaction with the speed of traffic on local streets by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*

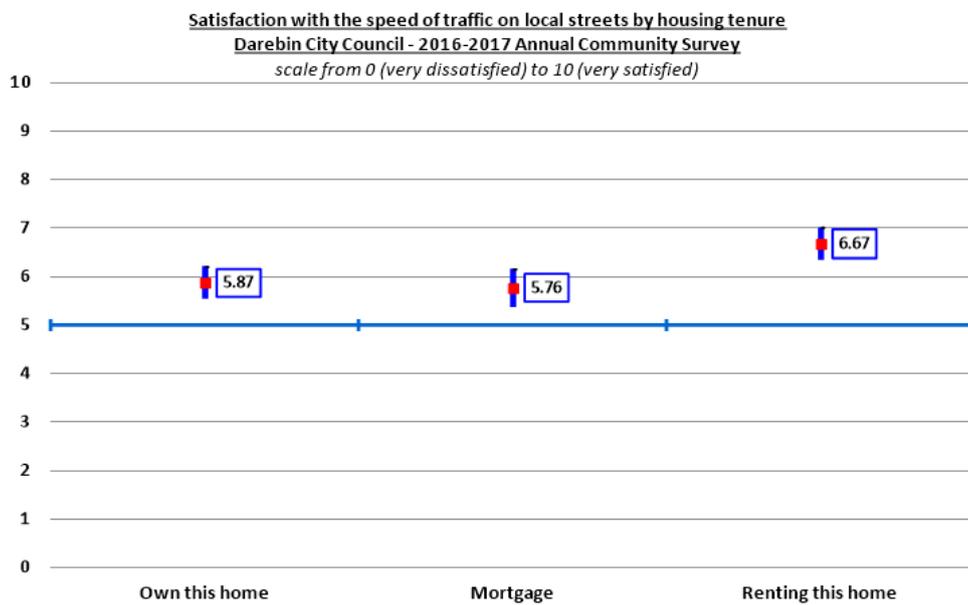




There was also measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the speed of traffic on local streets observed by housing tenure, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Rental household** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than home owner or mortgagee respondents and at a level categorised as “good”.

Clearly there is a strong relationship between younger respondents and respondents that rent their home. Whilst this is not always the case that rental households are younger, it is common. These results do suggest that younger respondents are less concerned about the speed of traffic on local roads than are older respondents.



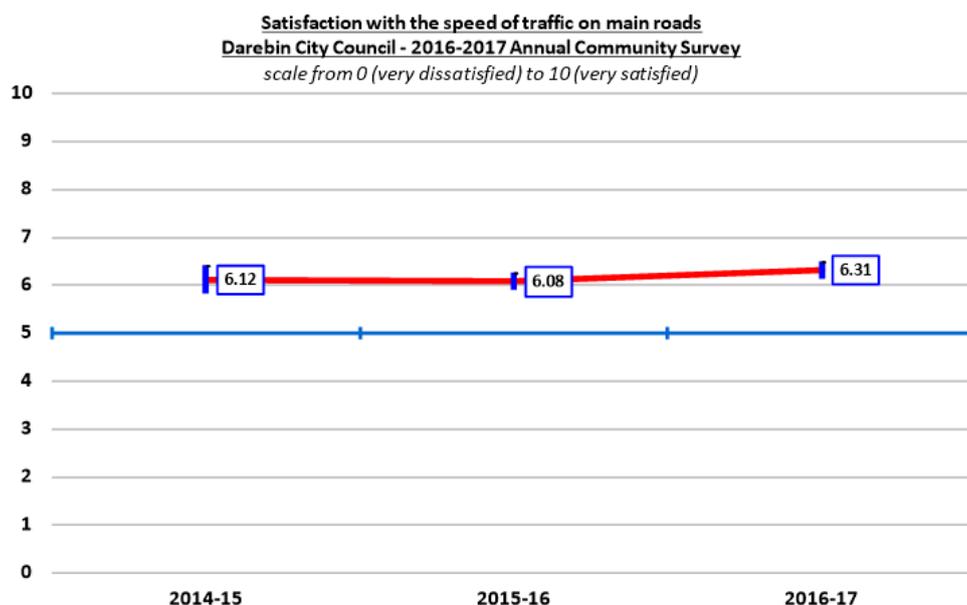
### Speed of traffic on main roads

Satisfaction with the speed of traffic on main roads increased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, up 3.8% to 6.31 although it remains at a level categorised as “solid”. Satisfaction with the speed of traffic on main roads has been categorised as “solid” in each of the last three years.

It is interesting to note that satisfaction with the speed of traffic on main roads (6.31) remains measurably and significantly higher than satisfaction with the volume of traffic on main roads (5.42). This does highlight the fact that there is significantly more community concern about the volume of traffic than the speed of the traffic.

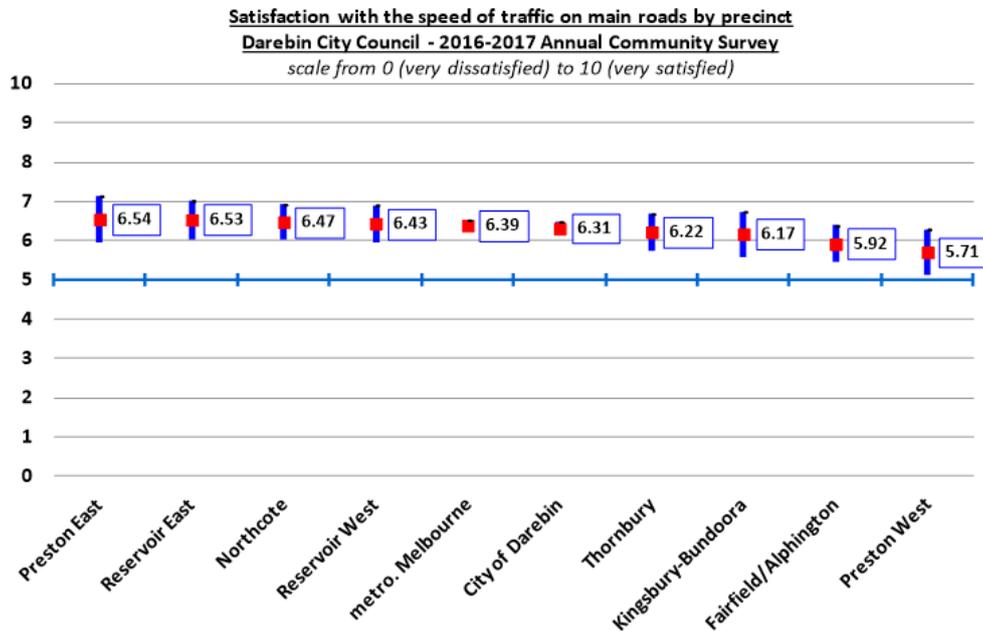
As discussed in the following section, it is noted that approximately two-thirds (65.4%) of respondents dissatisfied with the speed of traffic on main roads considered that the speed was “too fast” whilst approximately one-third (34.6%) considered that the speed was “too slow”.

This result was very marginally, but not measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.39.



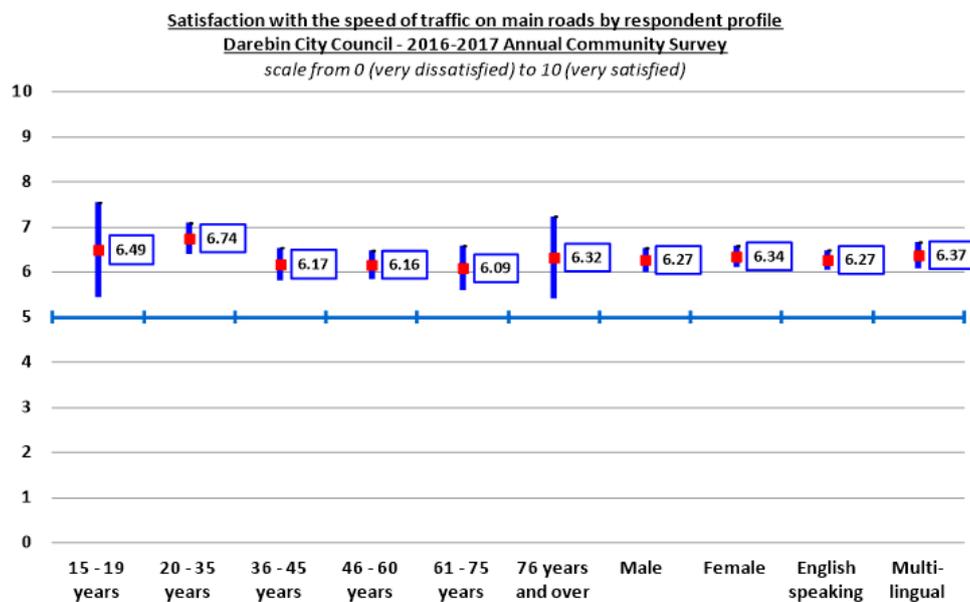
There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the speed of traffic on main roads observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, although attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Preston East and Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction marginally, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington and Preston West** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “poor”.



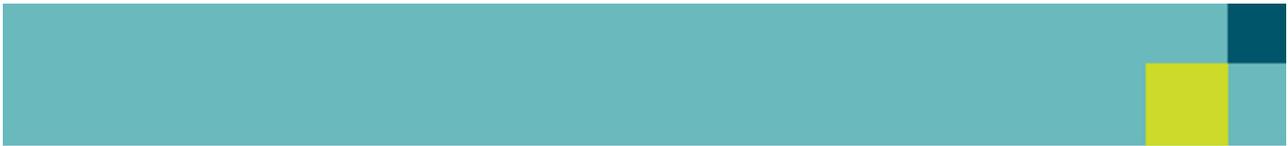
There was some variation in this result observed by respondent profile, although Metropolis Research notes that the variation is less evident in relation to satisfaction with the speed of traffic on main roads than it was in relation to satisfaction with the speed of traffic on local streets. Attention is however drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Young adults (aged 20 to 35 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.



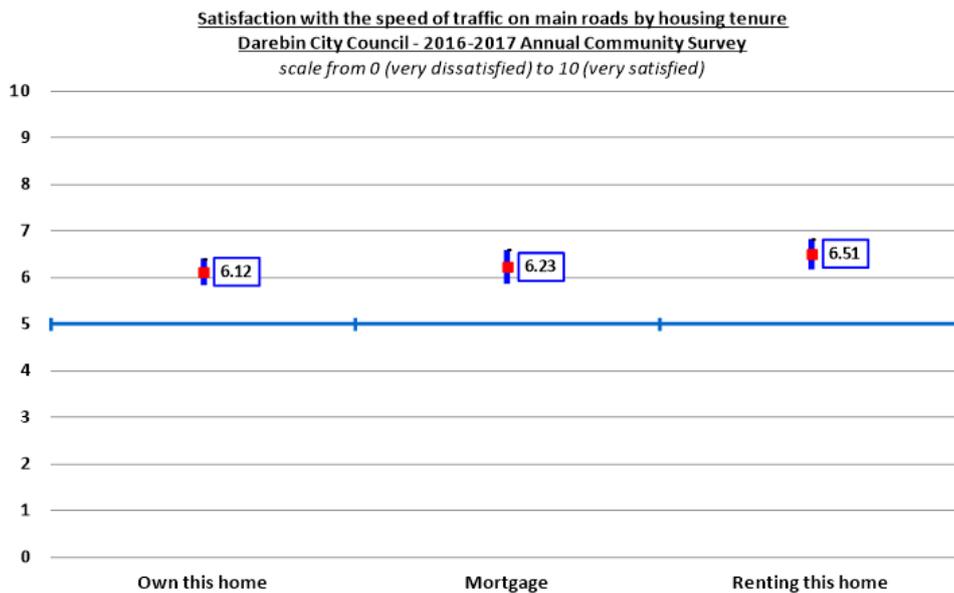
123



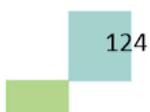


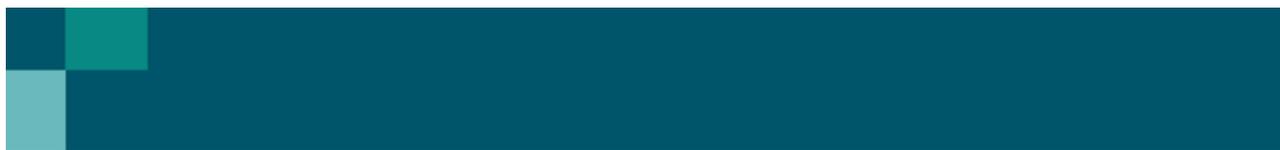
There was also some variation in satisfaction with the speed of traffic on main roads observed by the respondents' housing tenure, although again it is noted that this variation is not as evident as it was in relation in satisfaction with the speed of traffic on local streets.

It is observed that home owner respondents are the least satisfied with the speed of traffic on main roads, although the variation between these respondents' satisfaction and those of mortgagee and rental household respondents is not statistically significant.



These results do suggest that the Darebin community is more concerned about speeding on local streets than they are about the speed of traffic on main roads.





### Reason for dissatisfaction with the speed of traffic

Respondents that were dissatisfied with the speed of traffic on both local streets and main roads were asked if they considered the speed to be “too fast” or “too slow”.

As in previous years, and also consistent with the results observed by Metropolis Research over many years across metropolitan Melbourne, respondents were more likely to consider that the speed of traffic on local streets was “too fast”, whilst the speed of traffic on “main roads” was too slow.

#### Reasons for dissatisfaction with speed of traffic

##### Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey

*(Number and percent of respondents dissatisfied with speed of traffic)*

<i>Response</i>	<i>Local streets</i>		<i>Main roads</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Too fast	70	67.3%	27	34.6%
Too slow	34	32.7%	51	65.4%
Not stated	4		2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>100%</b>





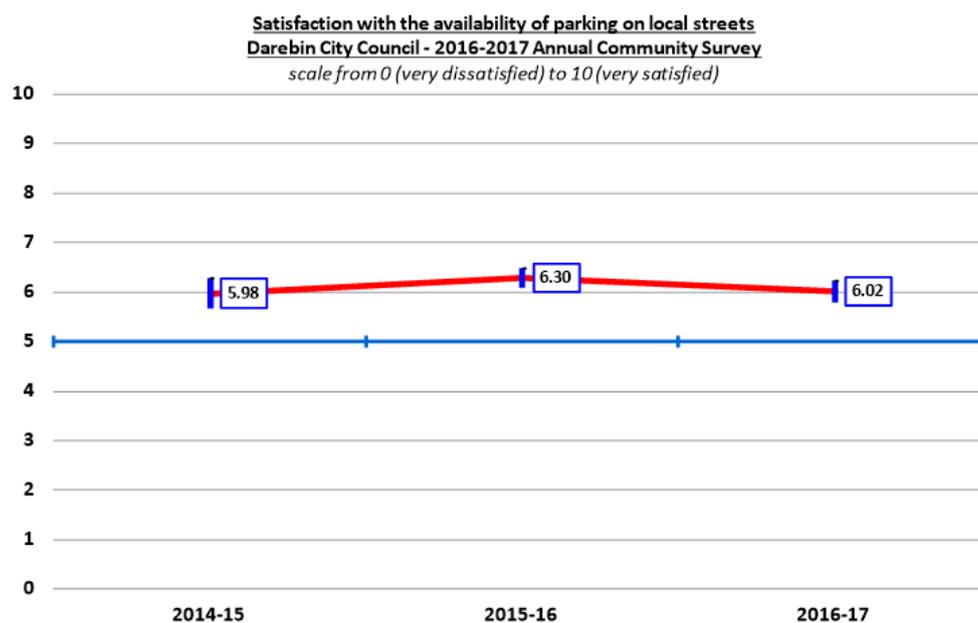
**Availability of parking**

**Availability of parking on local roads**

Satisfaction with the availability of parking on local streets declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 4.4% to 6.02 although it remains at a level categorised as “solid”.

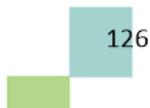
Metropolis Research notes that parking is a major issue identified in a number of sections of this report, including this section. It is also identified as the third most commonly identified issue for Council to address in the coming twelve months, with ten percent (10.1%) of respondents identifying this issue in 2016-17.

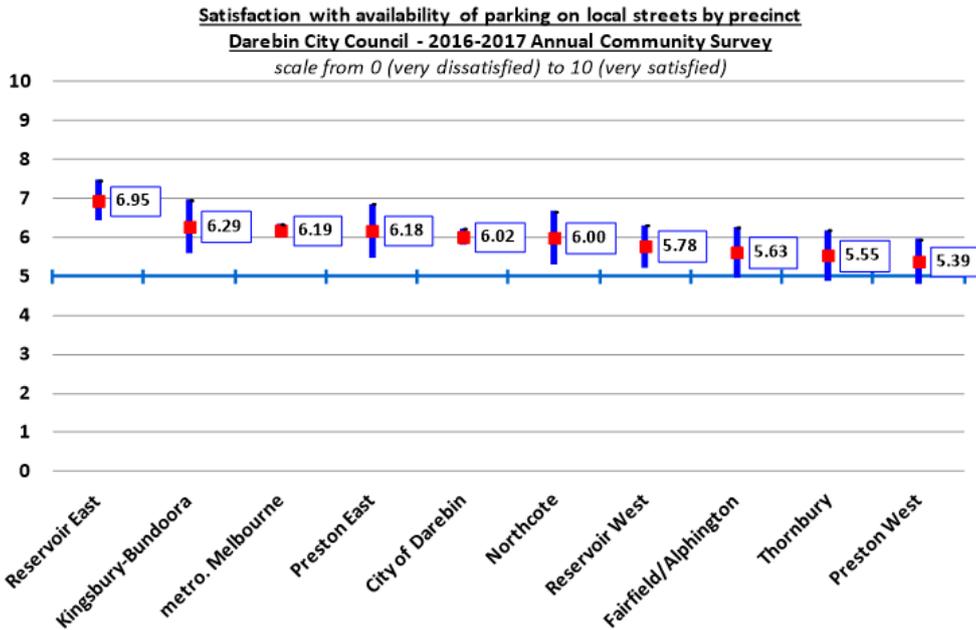
This result was marginally, albeit not measurably lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.19.



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the availability of parking on local streets observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

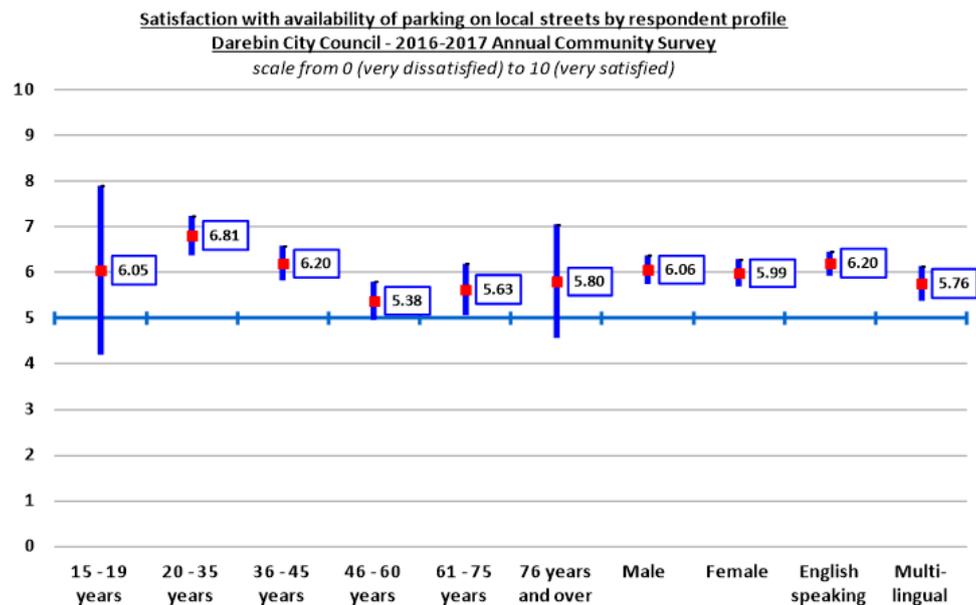
- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Preston West** – respondents rated satisfaction significantly, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very poor”.





There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the availability of parking on local streets observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to:

- ⊗ **Young adults (aged 20 to 35 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from English speaking households rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than respondents from multi-lingual households.

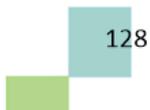
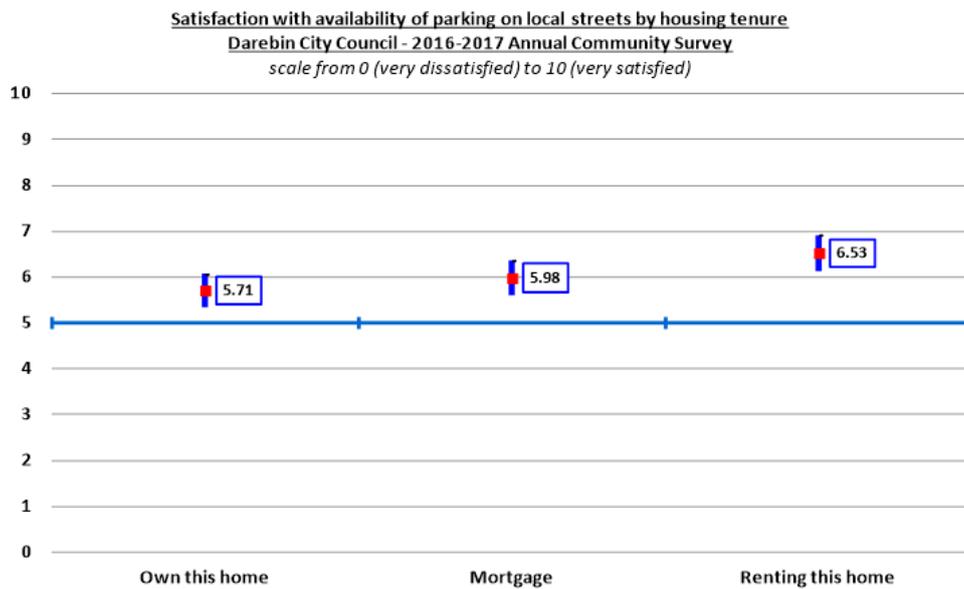




There was measurable variation in satisfaction with the availability of parking on residential streets observed by the respondents' housing tenure.

Attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Home owners** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “poor”.
- ⊗ **Rental household** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.



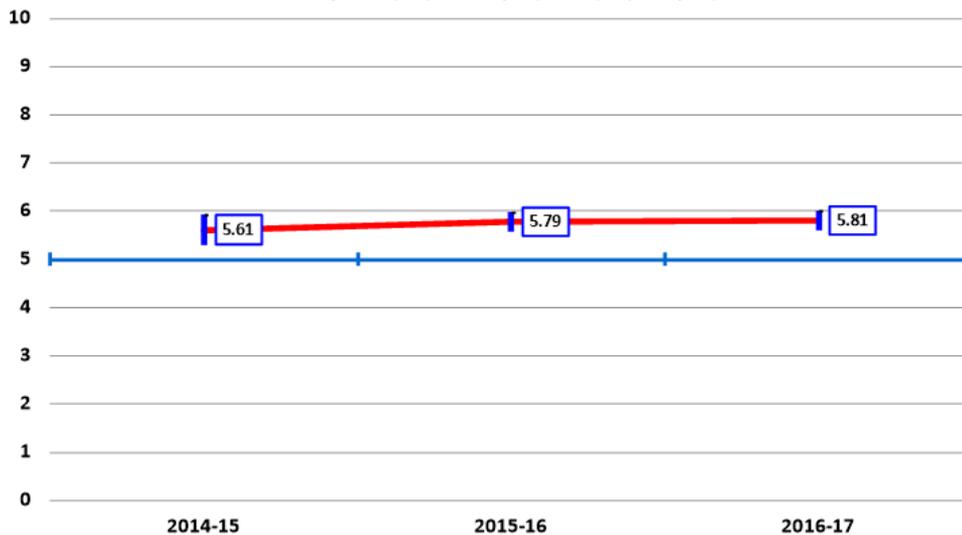


**Availability of parking at busy shopping strips and major commercial areas**

Satisfaction with the availability of parking at busy shopping strips and major commercial areas increased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, up by less than one percent to 5.81. Despite this increase, satisfaction remains at a level categorised as “poor”, which is the same categorisation as in each of the last three years.

Metropolis Research notes that parking is a major issue identified in a number of sections of this report, including this section. It is also identified as the third most commonly identified issue for Council to address in the coming twelve months, with ten percent (10.1%) of respondents identifying this issue in 2016-17.

**Satisfaction with availability of parking at busy shopping strips and commercial areas**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*

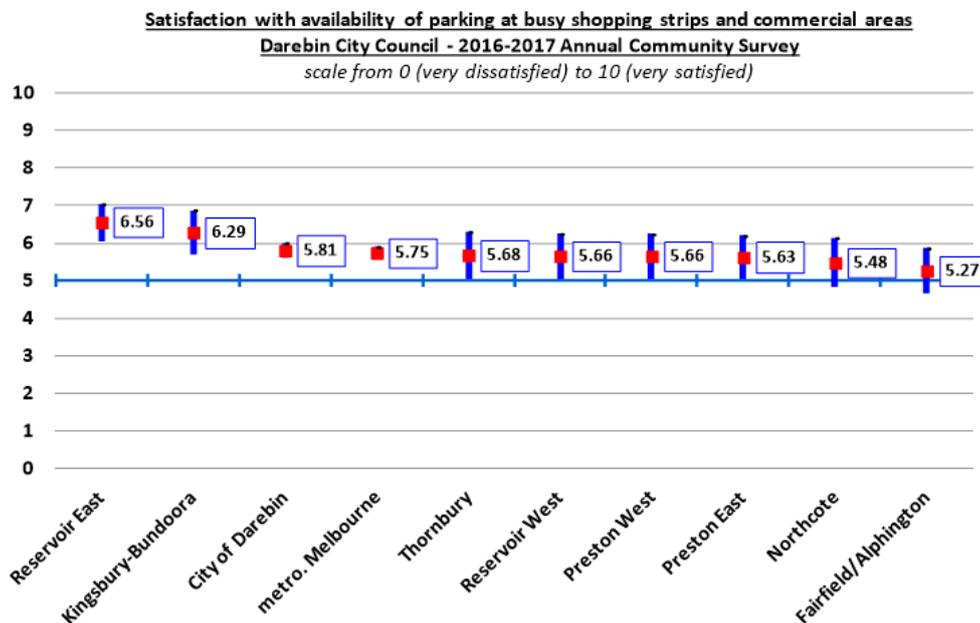


It is important to bear in mind that this question asked respondents’ to rate satisfaction with the availability of parking at busy shopping strips and major commercial areas, and was not limited to those shopping strips and commercial areas located within the respondents’ precinct of residence. That should be borne in mind when interpreting the following.

There was measurable and significant variation in these results observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

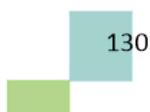
- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Kingsbury-Bundoora** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “solid”.
- ⊗ **Northcote and Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “very poor”.

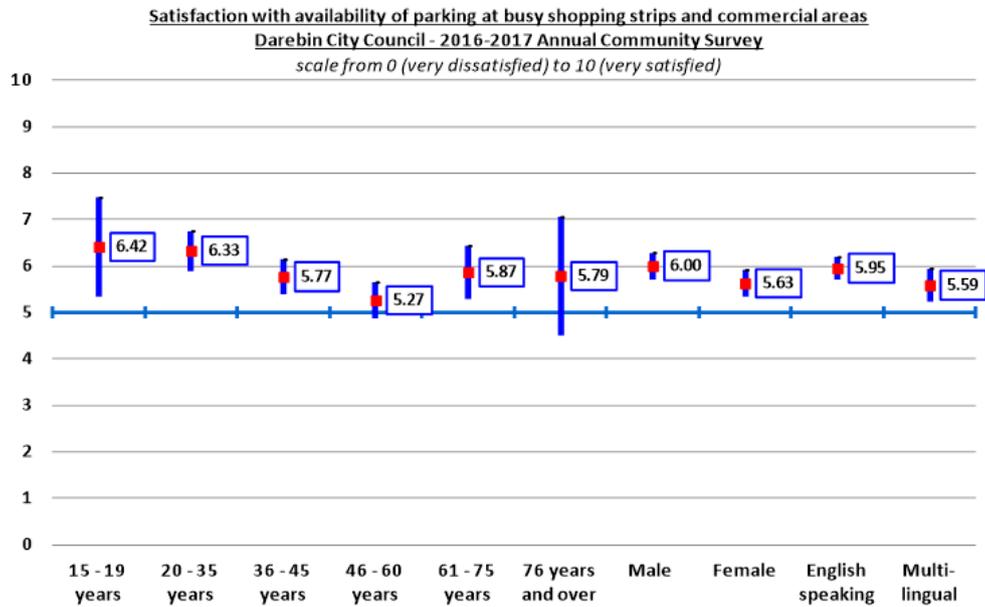




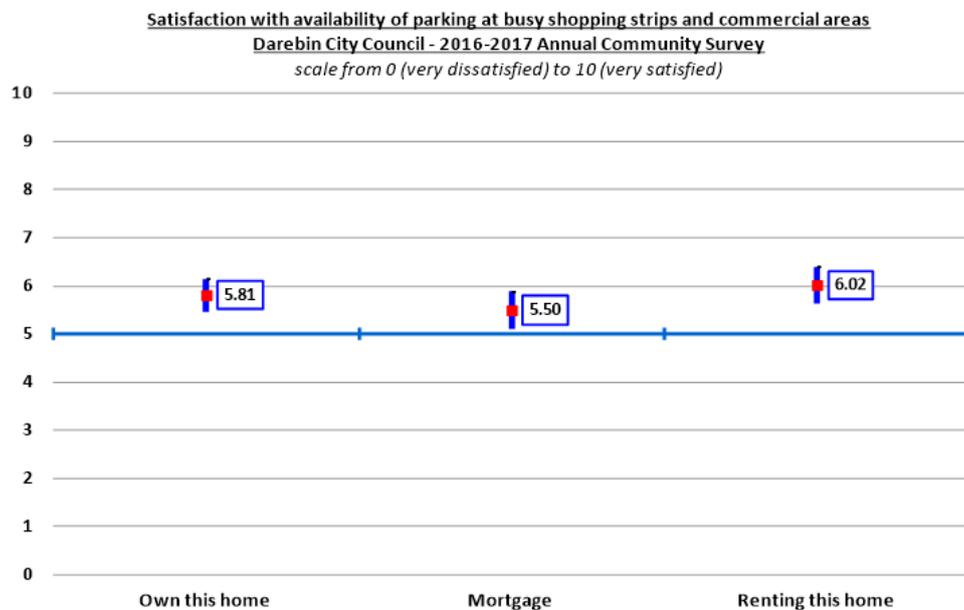
There was some measurable variation in satisfaction with the availability of parking around busy shopping strips and commercial areas observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.
- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** - respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “very poor”.
- ⊗ **Gender** – male respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than female respondents.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from English speaking households rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than respondents from multi-lingual households.





Unlike most of the other aspects of traffic and parking discussed in this section, there was relatively little variation in satisfaction with the availability of parking around busy shopping strips and major commercial areas observed by housing tenure. This does suggest that regardless of the housing tenure of residents, they are relatively dissatisfied with the availability of parking around shopping and commercial areas.



## Planning and housing development

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest), can you please rate your satisfaction with the following aspects of planning and housing development in your local area?”*

Satisfaction with the six included aspects of planning and housing development remains relatively low in 2016-17, consistent with the results observed in recent years. Metropolis Research notes that this is true not only in the City of Darebin but is a consistent result observed in many municipalities across metropolitan Melbourne. This is particularly true of middle-ring municipalities.

The average satisfaction with these six aspects of planning and housing development declined for the second consecutive year, declining 8.1% from the 2015-16 and 9.5% from the 2014-15 results. This level of average satisfaction is categorised as “very poor”, a decline on the previous result of “poor” obtained in both 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Satisfaction with these six aspects of planning and housing development can best summarised as follows:

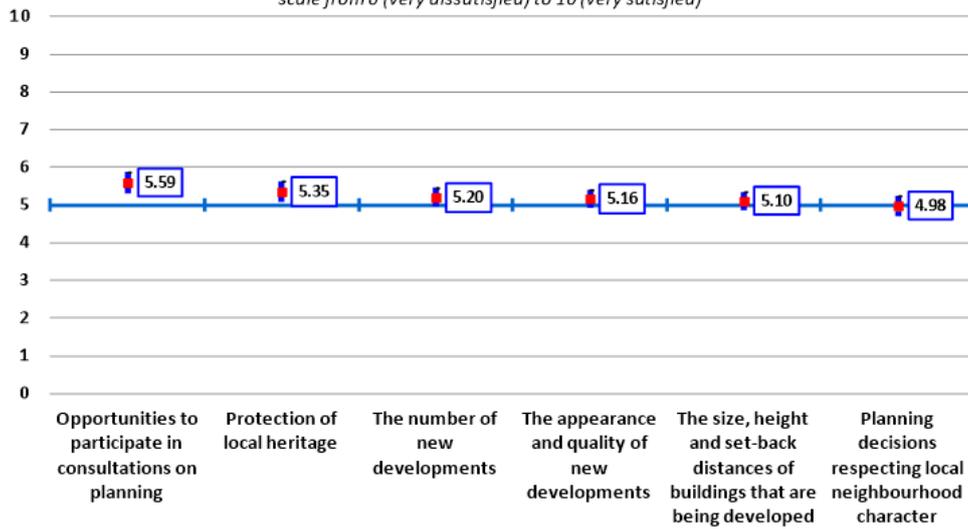
- ⊗ **Poor** – for the opportunities to participate in consultations on planning.
- ⊗ **Very Poor** – for the protection of local heritage, the number of new developments, the appearance and quality of new developments, and the size, height and set-back distance of buildings that are being developed.
- ⊗ **Extremely Poor** – for planning decisions respecting the local neighbourhood character.

The 2017 *Governing Melbourne* research included a somewhat different set of questions in relation to satisfaction with aspects of planning and housing development, with only two aspects consistent between *Governing Melbourne* and the City of Darebin *Annual Community Survey* program. These two aspects were the appearance and quality of local developments, and the protection of local heritage.

Metropolis Research notes that respondents in the City of Darebin rated satisfaction with the appearance and quality of local developments (18.5% lower) and the protection of local heritage and sites of significance (20.6% lower) measurably and significantly lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction. This result clearly reflects the higher levels of community concern around issues of planning and housing development in inner and middle ring municipalities.

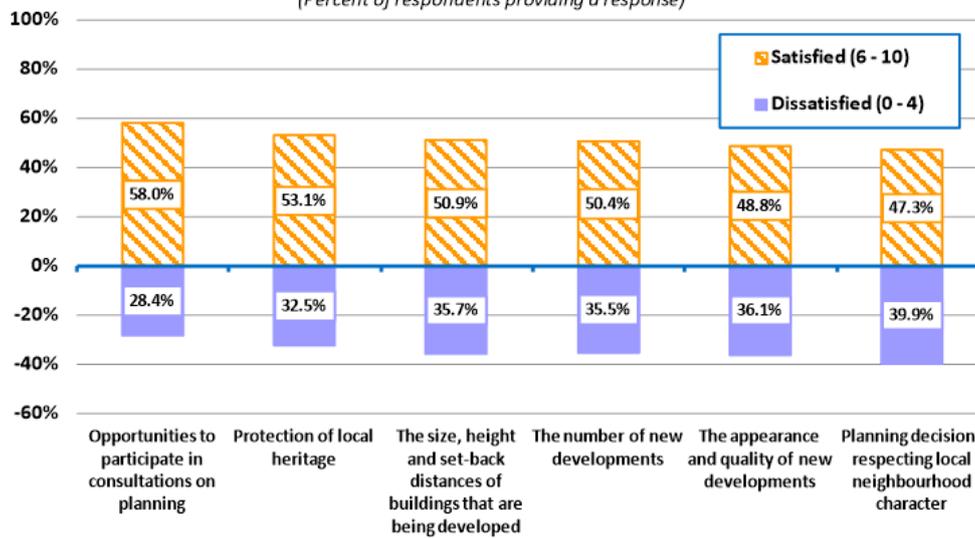


**Satisfaction with aspects of planning and housing development**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



Metropolis Research notes that approximately half of the respondents were satisfied with each of the six aspects of planning and housing development, and approximately one-third were dissatisfied with each aspect.

**Satisfaction with selected aspects of planning and housing development**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Percent of respondents providing a response)*



**Satisfaction with selected aspects of planning and housing development****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)*

<i>Aspect</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Dissatisfied (0 - 4)</i>	<i>Neutral (5)</i>	<i>Satisfied (6 - 10)</i>	<i>Can't say</i>
Opportunities to participate in consultations on planning	2014-15	19.2%	11.5%	69.3%	51
	2015-16	21.2%	15.3%	63.5%	126
	2016-17	28.4%	13.6%	58.0%	163
The number of new developments	2014-15	27.3%	14.7%	58.0%	32
	2015-16	31.1%	9.9%	59.1%	48
	2016-17	35.5%	14.1%	50.4%	77
The appearance and quality of new developments	2014-15	23.2%	12.6%	64.2%	26
	2015-16	30.4%	11.8%	57.8%	45
	2016-17	36.1%	15.1%	48.8%	61
The size, height and set-back distances of buildings that are being developed	2014-15	22.9%	12.1%	65.0%	50
	2015-16	29.1%	13.9%	57.0%	62
	2016-17	35.7%	13.4%	50.9%	82
Protection of local heritage	2014-15	22.6%	15.1%	62.2%	68
	2015-16	21.3%	11.8%	66.9%	97
	2016-17	32.5%	14.4%	53.1%	150
Planning decisions respecting the local neighbourhood character	2014-15	30.0%	9.5%	60.5%	56
	2015-16	25.7%	11.6%	62.8%	71
	2016-17	39.9%	12.8%	47.3%	106

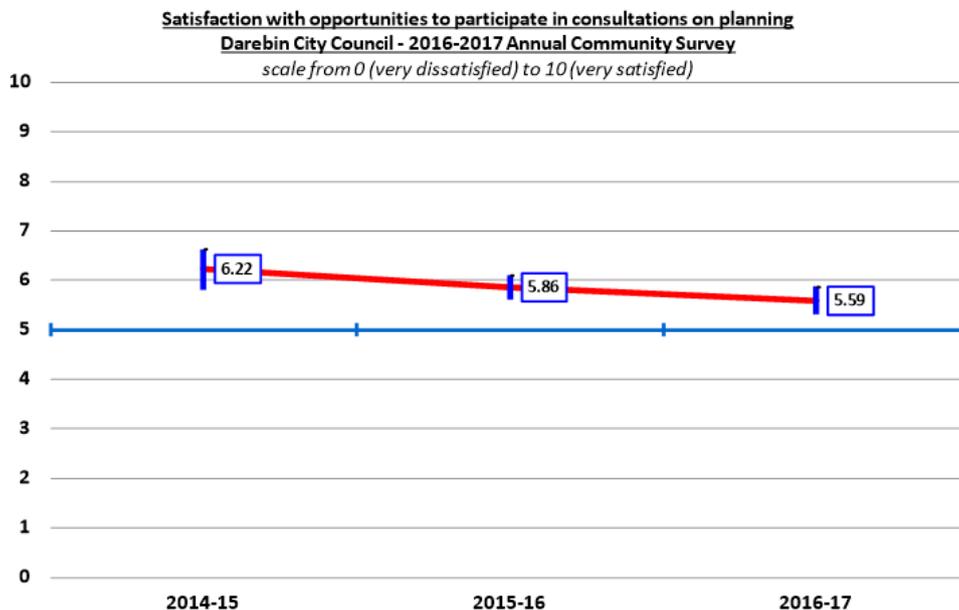
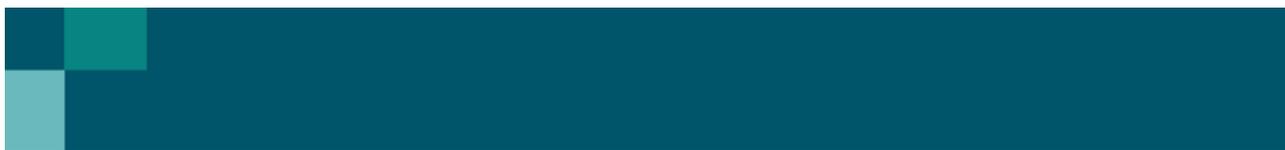
These results clearly show that there is significant community concern about housing and development outcomes in the City of Darebin.

This is a strong theme developed in this report, including these satisfaction scores, as well as the fact that issues of “building, housing, planning and development” were the second most commonly identified issues to address in the City of Darebin in the coming twelve months, with 14.1% of respondents identifying these issues in 2016-17.

***Opportunities to participate in consultations on planning***

Satisfaction with the opportunities to participate in consultations on planning declined for the second consecutive year, down 4.6% on the 2015-16 result and down 10.1% on the 2014-15 result.

This level of satisfaction remains categorised as “poor”, down on the 2014-15 categorisation of “solid”.

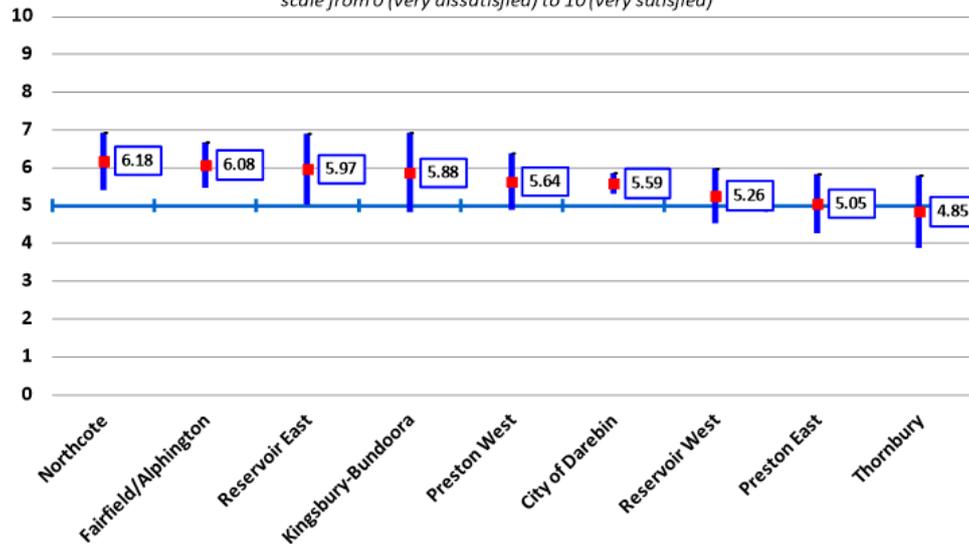


Due to the relatively small precinct sample size (of approximately sixty respondents per precinct), there was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the opportunities to participate in consultations on planning observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin. Attention is however drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Northcote and Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated satisfaction marginally, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “solid”.
- ⊗ **Thornbury** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “extremely poor”.



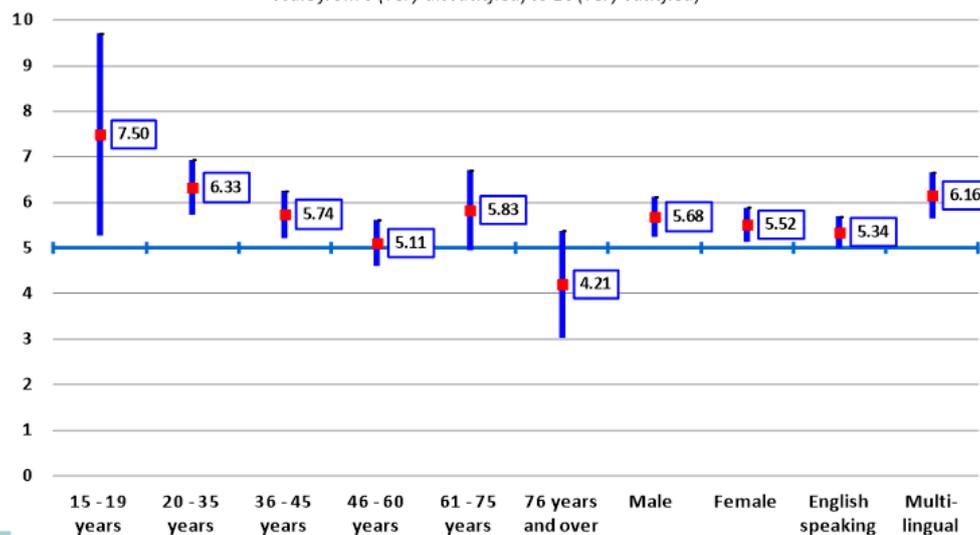
**Opportunities to participate in consultations on planning by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the opportunities to participate in consultations on planning observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Age structure** – satisfaction with this aspect tended to decline with the respondents’ age, with the exception of older adults (aged 61 to 75 years).
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than respondents from English speaking households.

**Opportunities to participate in consultations on planning by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*

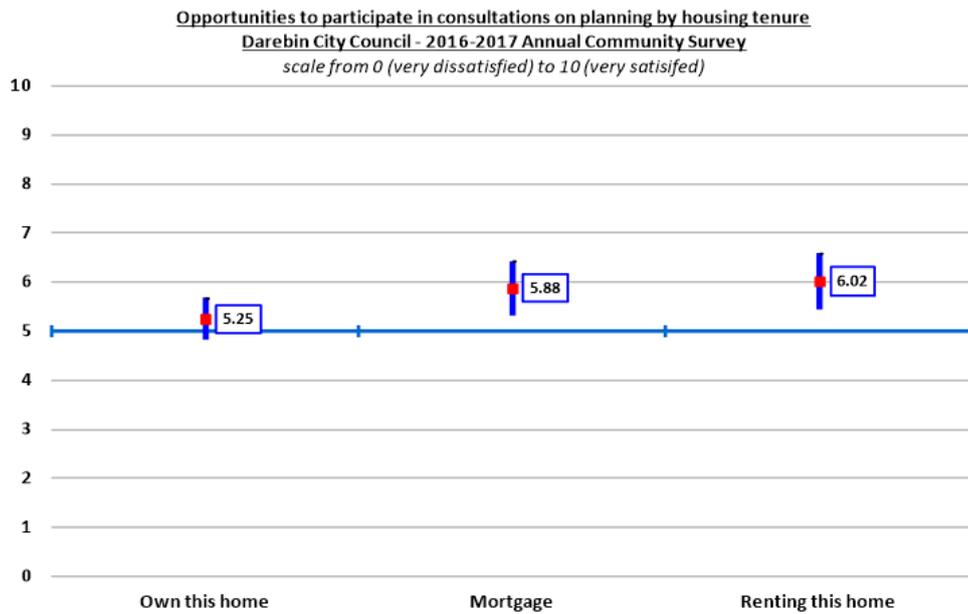


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There was significant variation in satisfaction with the opportunities to participate in consultations on planning observed by respondents' housing tenure, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Home owners** – respondents rated satisfaction significantly, albeit not measurably lower than other respondents and at a level categorised as “very poor”.

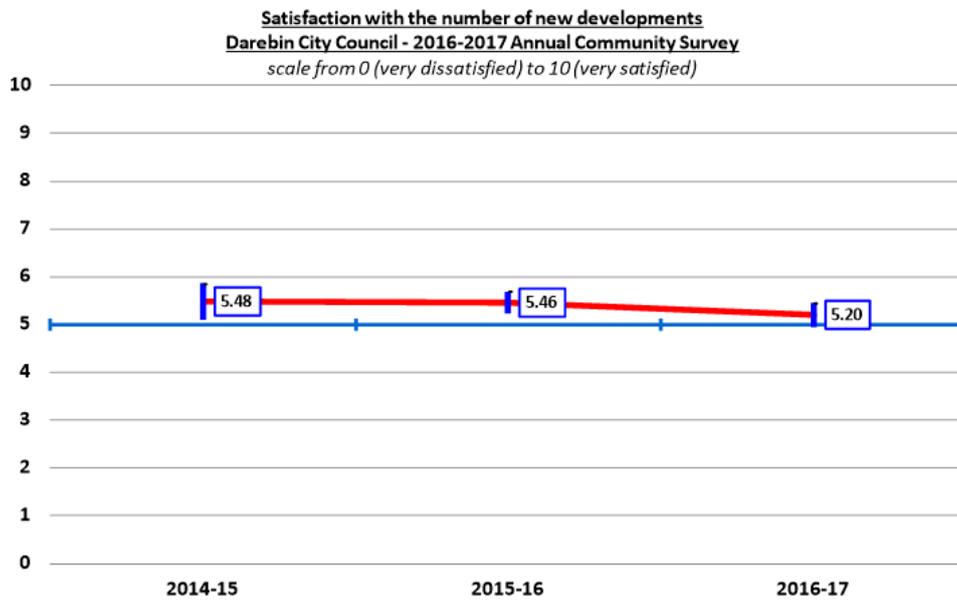




***The number of new developments***

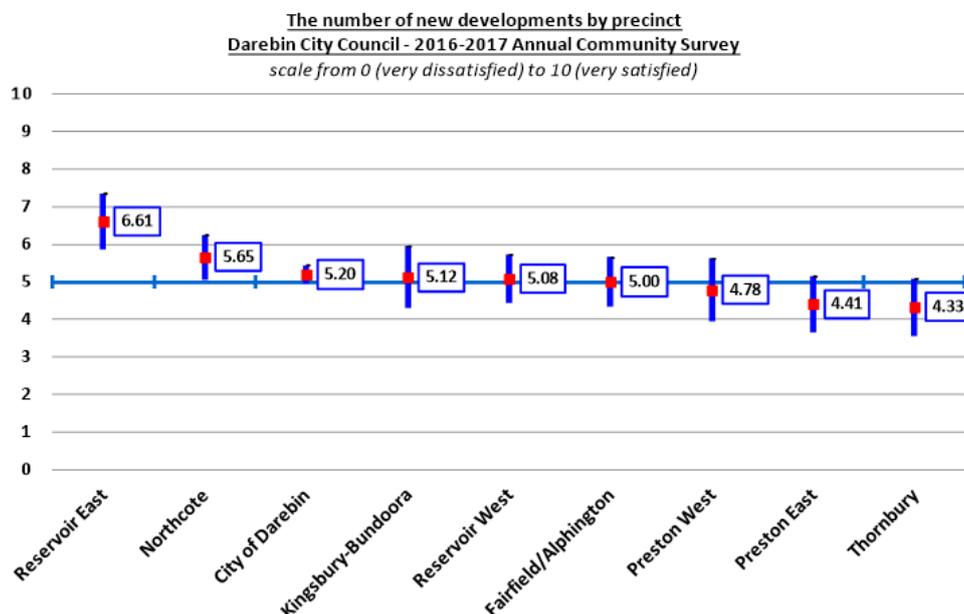
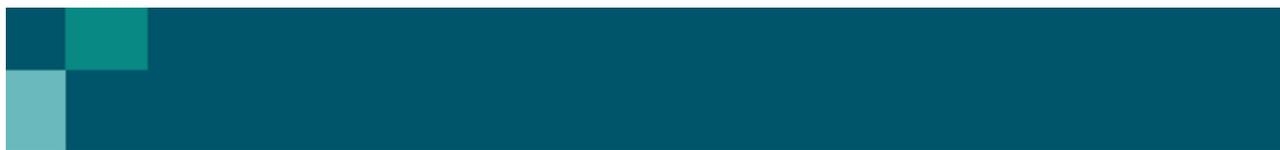
Satisfaction with the number of new developments declined somewhat, albeit not measurably in 2016-17, down 4.7% to 5.20, although it remains at a level categorised as “very poor”.

Clearly the fact that satisfaction with the number of new developments has been categorised as “very poor” in each of the last three years highlights the importance of the issue of the type and extent of new housing development in the municipality to many in the community.



There was significant variation in satisfaction with the number of new developments observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Preston West, Preston East, and Thornbury** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the number of new developments observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adults and middle-aged adults (aged 36 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than other respondents and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.
- ⊗ **Gender** – male respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than female respondents and at a level categorised as “poor”.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than respondents from English speaking households and at a level categorised as “solid”.

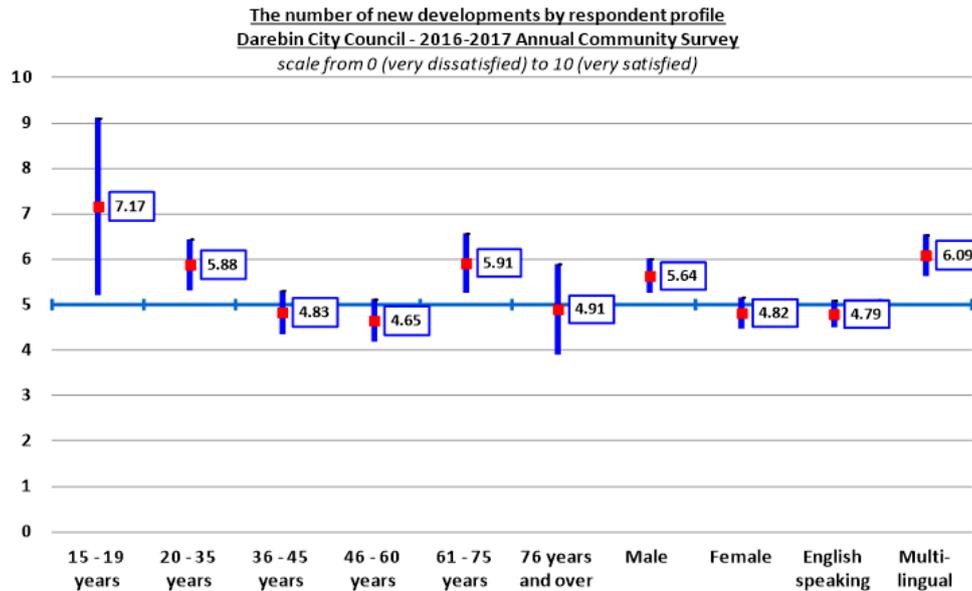
There was also measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the number of new developments observed by respondents’ housing tenure, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Rental household** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than home owners and mortgagee household respondents, and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “solid”. This compares to a categorisation of “extremely poor” by both home owner and mortgagee household respondents.

These results (both respondent profile and housing tenure) clearly show that younger residents, sometimes renting, and who have lived in the City of Darebin for a shorter period of time are more likely to be satisfied with new housing development in the municipality. This is also true for those in the community living in public housing that are also more likely to be satisfied than dissatisfied with new housing development.



Those in the Darebin community who are less satisfied with new housing development in the municipality tend to be middle-aged adults, who are more likely to be home owners or mortgagees and who have lived in the municipality for a longer period of time. Metropolis Research notes that this is a result that is not unique to the City of Darebin, and a very similar pattern has been observed across metropolitan Melbourne.



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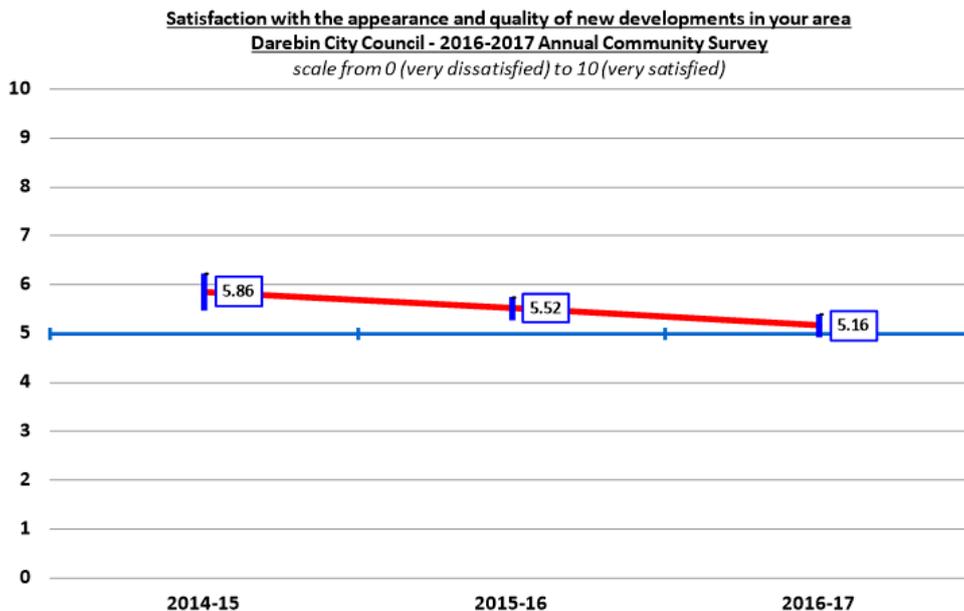
***The appearance and quality of new developments***

Satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments declined for the second consecutive year, down 6.5% on the 2015-16 result and down twelve percent on the 2014-15 result.

Satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments is now at a level categorised as “very poor”, a decline on the previous “poor” recorded in the previous two years.

Metropolis Research notes that this result is very similar to that discussed above in relation to satisfaction with the number of new developments and taken together they represent a significant level of community dissatisfaction with the extent and nature of new housing development occurring in the municipality.

This result was measurably and significantly (18.5%) lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 6.33, which was rated as “solid” compared to the Darebin result of “very poor”.

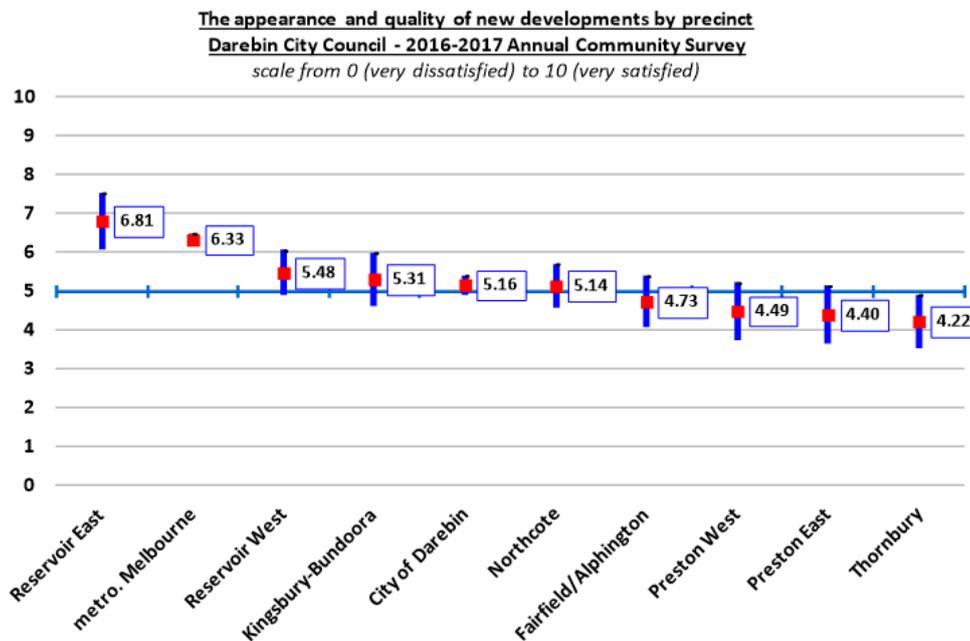


There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington, Preston West, and Preston East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.



- ⊗ **Thornbury** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “extremely poor”.



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

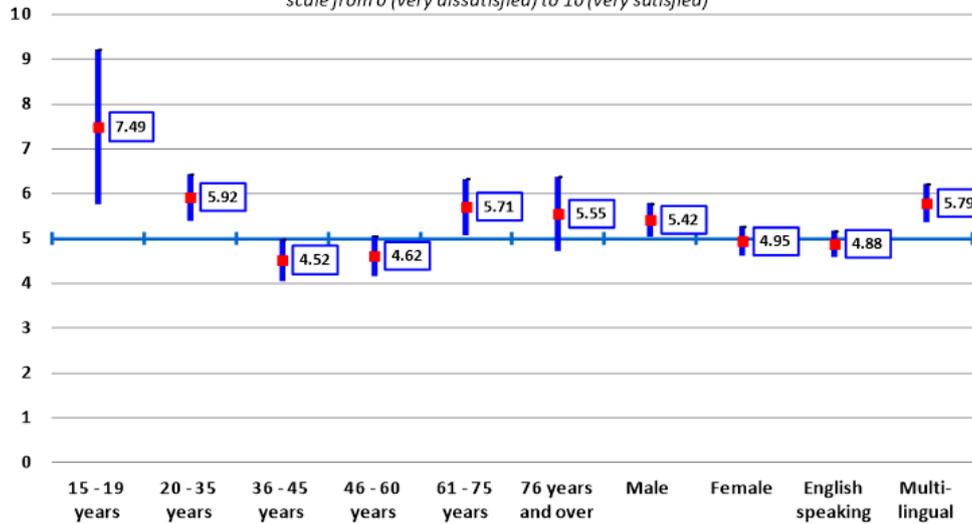
- ⊗ **Adults and middle-aged adults (aged 36 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than other respondents and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.
- ⊗ **Gender** – male respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than female respondents and at a level categorised as “very poor”.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than respondents from English speaking households and at a level categorised as “poor”.

There was also measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the appearance and quality of new developments observed by respondents’ housing tenure, with attention drawn to the following:

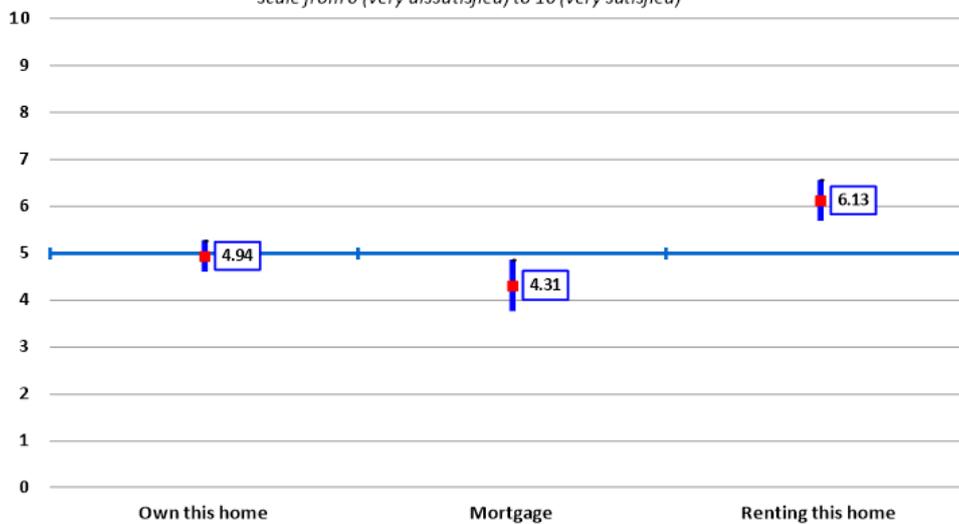
- ⊗ **Rental household** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than home owners and mortgagee household respondents, and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “solid”. This compares to a categorisation of “extremely poor” by both home owner and mortgagee household respondents.



**The appearance and quality of new developments by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



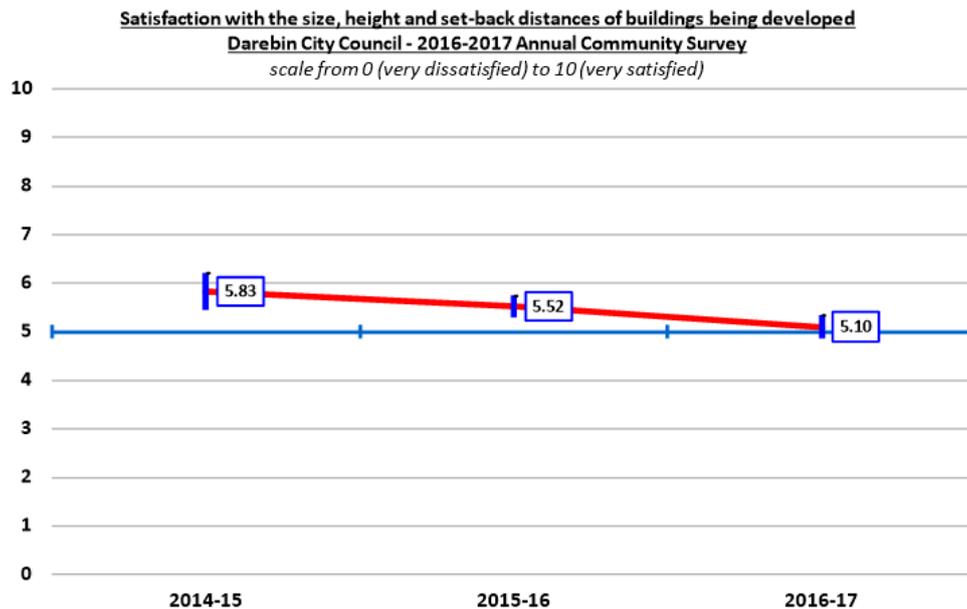
**The appearance and quality of new developments by housing tenure**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



***The size, height, and set back distance of buildings being developed***

Satisfaction with the size, height, and set back distance of buildings that are being developed declined for the second consecutive year, down 7.6% on the 2015-16 and 12.5% on the 2014-15 results.

As with the other aspects of planning and housing development discussed in this section, these results are strong evidence of significant community concern with the extent and nature of new housing development occurring in the municipality.

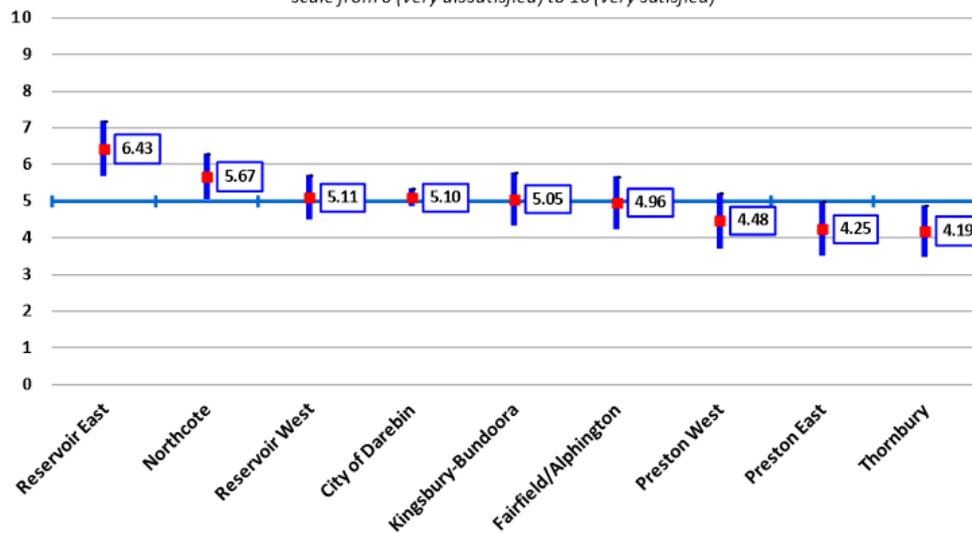


There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the size, height, and set back distance of buildings that are being developed observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “solid”.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “extremely poor”.
- ⊗ **Preston West, Preston East, and Thornbury** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.



The size, height and set-back distances of buildings being developed by precinct  
 Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey  
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the size, height, and set back distances of buildings being developed observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adults and middle-aged adults (aged 36 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than other respondents and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.
- ⊗ **Gender** – male respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than female respondents.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than respondents from English speaking households and at a level categorised as “poor”.

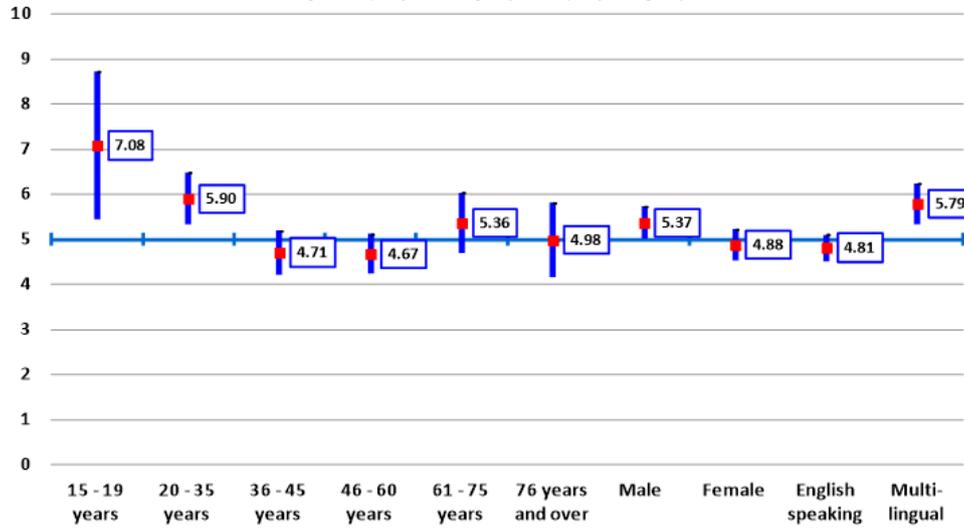
There was also measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the size, height, and set back distances of buildings being developed observed by respondents’ housing tenure, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Rental household** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than home owners and mortgagee household respondents, and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “solid”. This compares to a categorisation of “extremely poor” by both home owner and mortgagee household respondents.

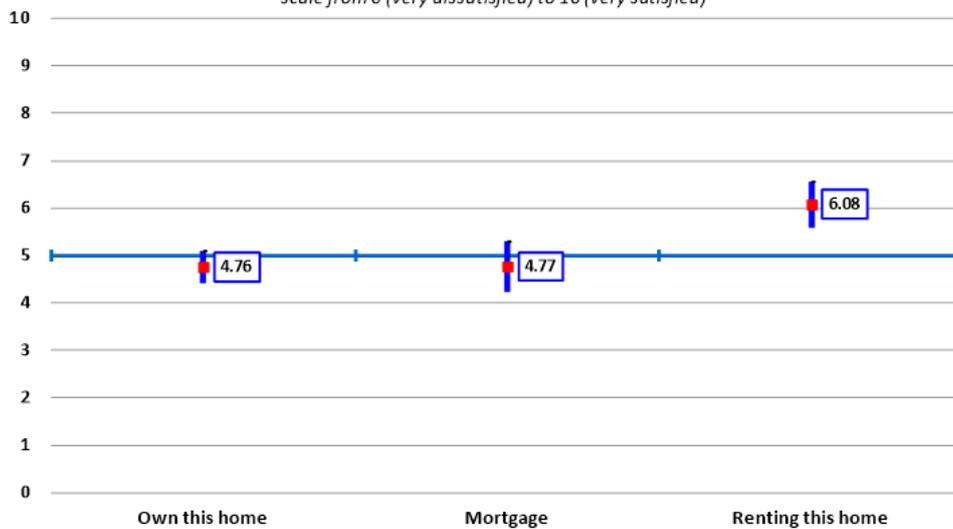




The size, height and set-back distances of buildings developed by respondent profile  
 Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey  
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



The size, height and set-back distances of buildings developed by housing tenure  
 Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey  
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



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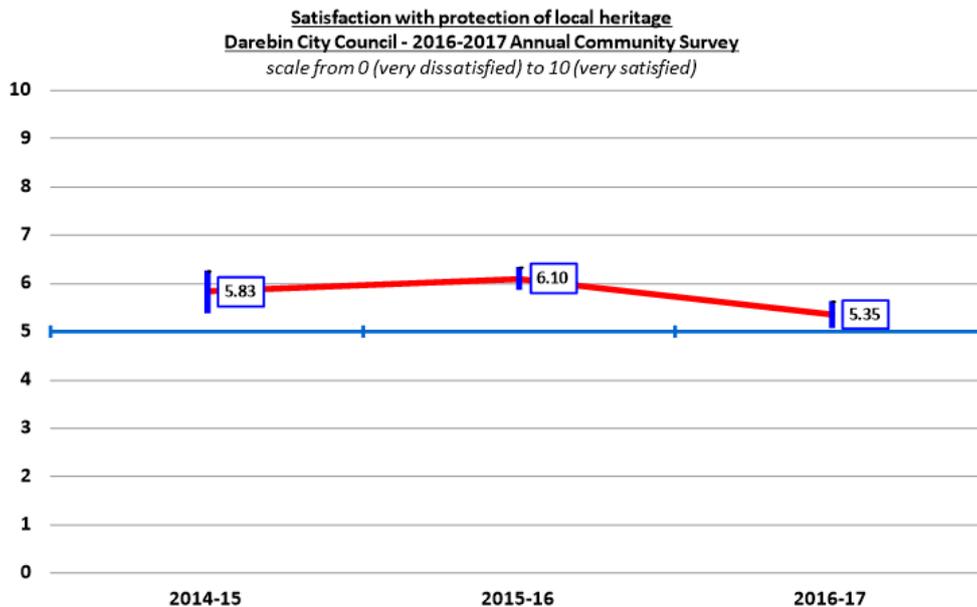


**The protection of local heritage**

Satisfaction with the protection of local heritage declined measurably and significantly in 2016-17, down 12.3% to 5.35, a level of satisfaction categorised as “very poor”.

Metropolis Research notes that this was one of the largest declines recorded in the *Annual Community Survey* this year. It also brings this result for the protection of local heritage into line with the other five aspects of planning and housing development. This does suggest significant community concern around all aspects of new housing development in the municipality, including the protection of local heritage.

This result was measurably and significantly (20.6%) lower than the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average satisfaction of 6.74, which was rated as “solid” compared to the Darebin result of “very poor”.

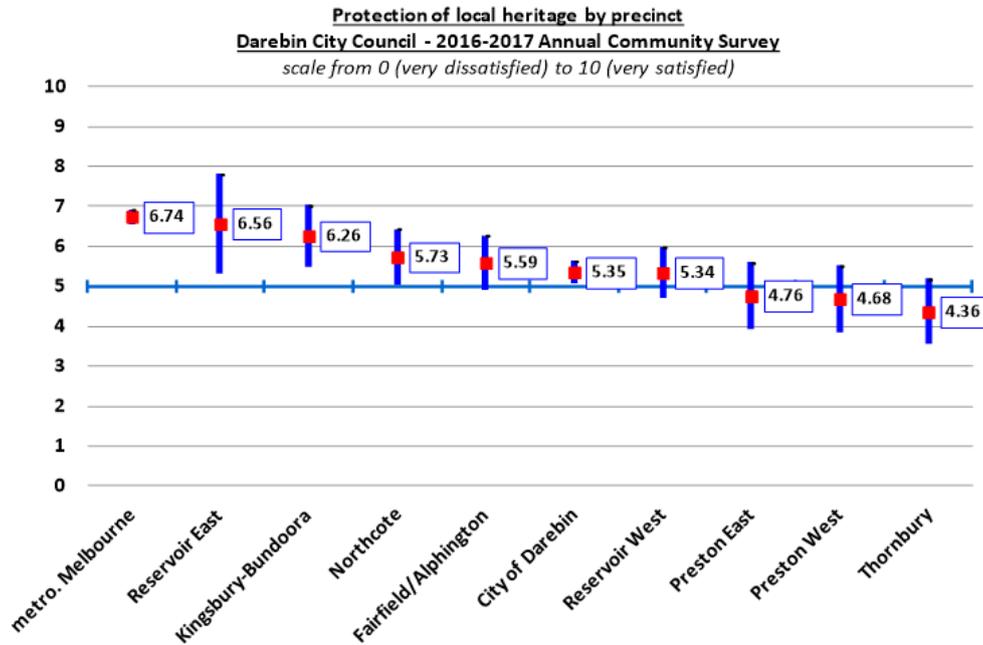


There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the protection of local heritage observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction significantly, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “good”.
- ⊗ **Preston West and Preston East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.



- ⊗ **Thornbury** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “extremely poor”.



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the protection of local heritage observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

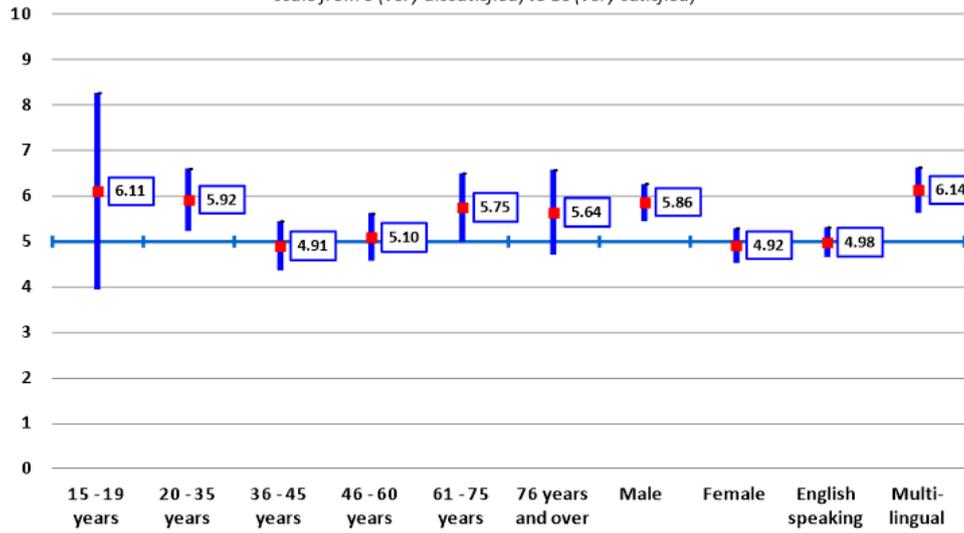
- ⊗ **Adults and middle-aged adults (aged 36 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than other respondents and at levels categorised as “extremely poor” and “very poor” respectively.
- ⊗ **Gender** – male respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than female respondents and at a level categorised as “poor”.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than respondents from English speaking households and at a level categorised as “solid”.

There was also measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the protection of local heritage observed by respondents’ housing tenure, with attention drawn to the following:

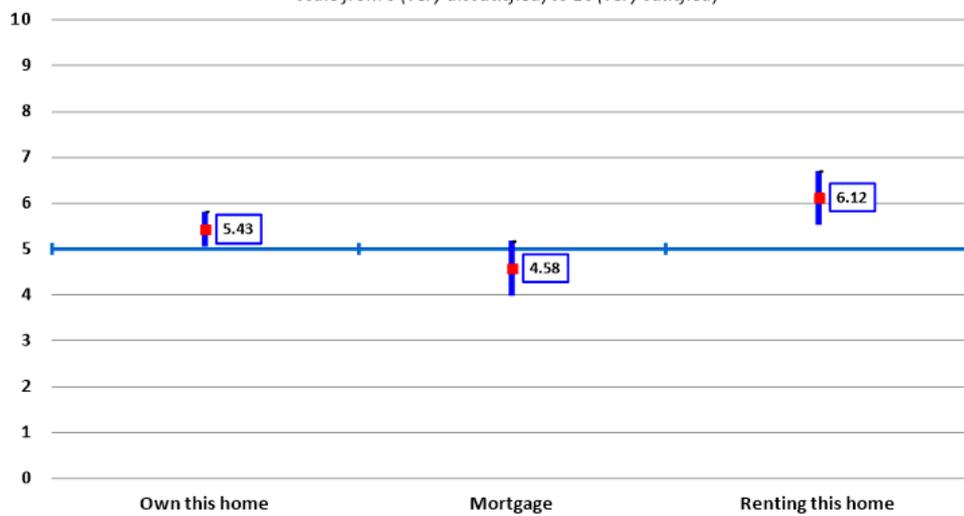
- ⊗ **Rental household** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than home owners and mortgagee household respondents, and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “solid”. This compares to a categorisation of “very poor” and “extremely poor” respectively.



**Protection of local heritage by respondent profile**  
 Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey  
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)



**Protection of local heritage by housing tenure**  
 Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey  
 scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)

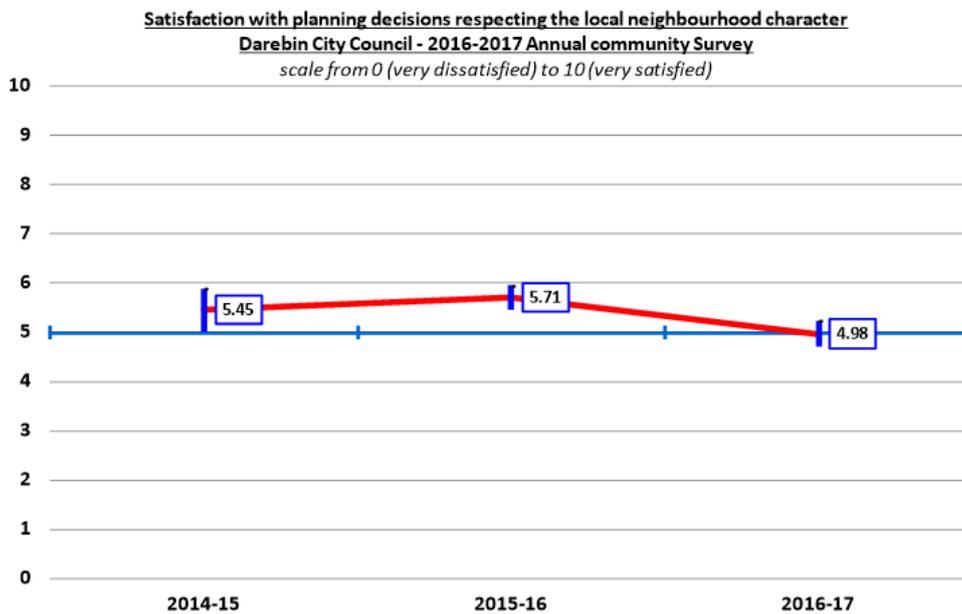




**Planning decisions respecting local neighbourhood character**

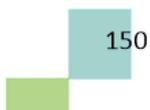
Satisfaction with planning decisions respecting local neighbourhood character declined measurably and significantly in 2016-17, down 12.8% to 4.98. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “extremely poor” and is a decline on the previous “poor” recorded in 2015-16.

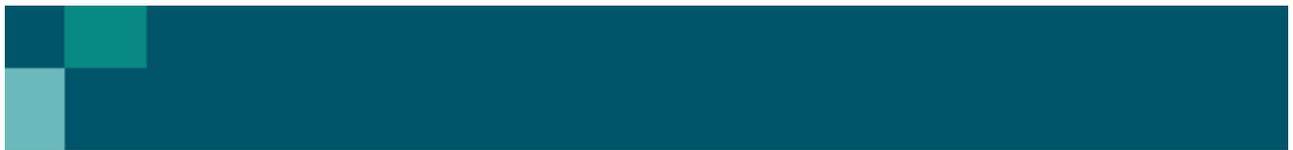
As discussed in relation to the other aspects of planning and housing development, these results do strongly suggest significant community concern about the extent, nature and impact of new housing development on the City of Darebin.



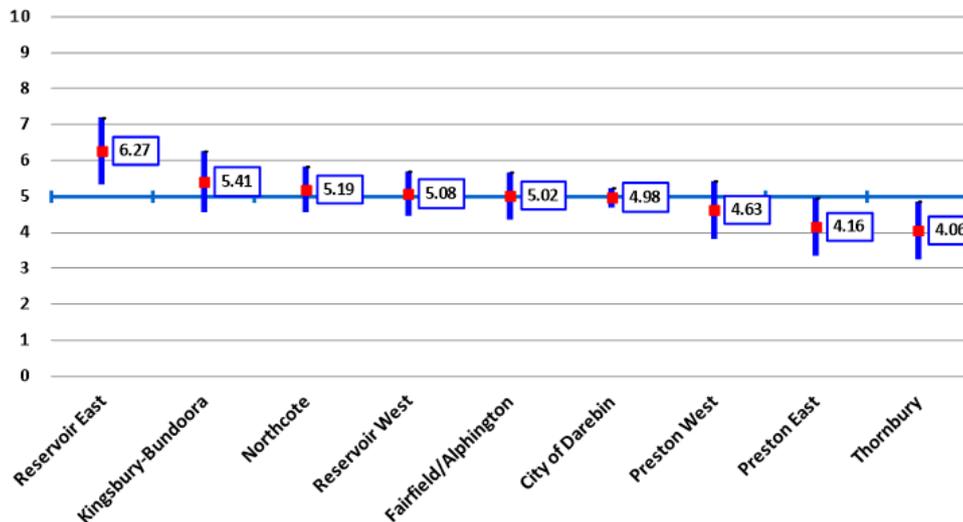
There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with planning decisions respecting local neighbourhood character observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “solid”.
- ⊗ **Preston West and Preston East** – respondents rated satisfaction somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.
- ⊗ **Thornbury** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “extremely poor”.





**Planning decisions respecting the local neighbourhood character by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



There was measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the protection of local heritage observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

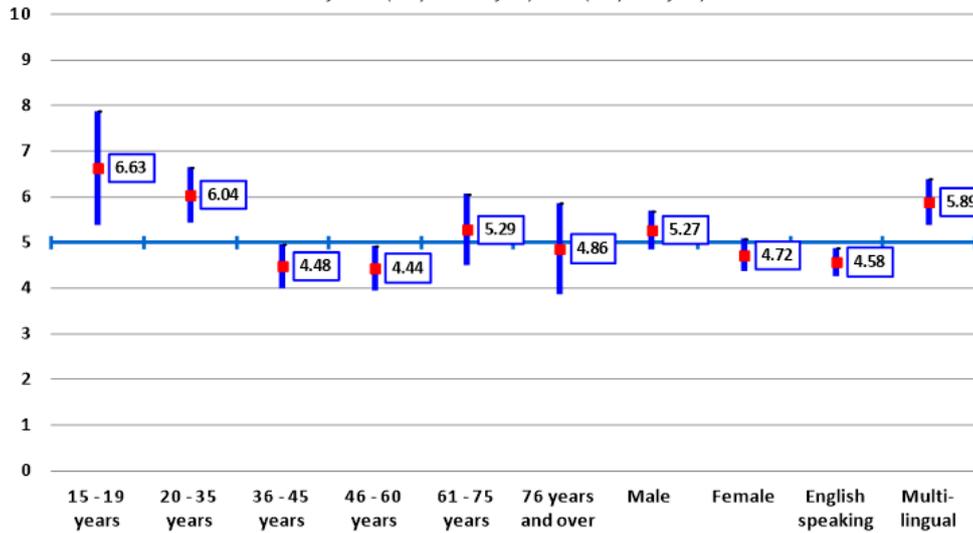
- ⊗ **Adolescents and young adults (aged 15 to 35 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “good” and “solid” respectively.
- ⊗ **Adults and middle-aged adults (aged 36 to 60 years)** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly lower than other respondents and at levels categorised as “extremely poor”.
- ⊗ **Gender** – male respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than female respondents.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from multi-lingual households rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than respondents from English speaking households and at a level categorised as “poor”.

There was also measurable and significant variation in satisfaction with the protection of local heritage observed by respondents’ housing tenure, with attention drawn to the following:

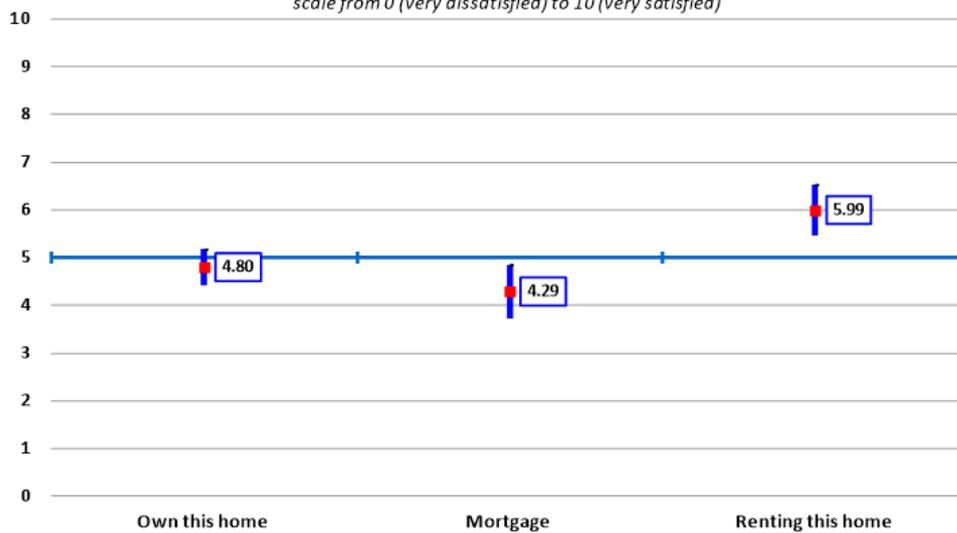
- ⊗ **Rental household** – respondents rated satisfaction measurably and significantly higher than home owners and mortgagee household respondents, and rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “poor”. This compares to a categorisation of “extremely poor” for home owners and mortgagees.



**Planning decisions respecting local neighbourhood character by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



**Planning decisions respecting the local neighbourhood character by housing tenure**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*



## Contact with Council

### Contact with Council in last twelve months

Respondents were asked:

*“Have you contacted Darebin City Council in the last twelve months?”*

Consistent with the results recorded in previous years, somewhat less than half (41.7%) of respondents had contacted Council in the last twelve months.

**Contacted Council in the last 12 months**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of respondents who contacted Council)*

Response	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15	2014	2013
	Number	Percent				
Yes	417	41.7%	40.4%	40.8%	42.0%	44.2%
No	578	57.8%	59.6%	59.2%	58.0%	55.8%
Not stated	5	0.5%	2	6	14	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>

### Form of contact

Respondents were asked:

*“When you last contacted Darebin City Council, did you?”*

The most common method of contacting Council remains by telephone, with a little less than two-thirds (59.1%) of respondents who contacted Council did so by this method.

Although methods like the website and Facebook are included in the list of methods of contacting Council, it is clear that when asked to identify their method of contacting Council most respondents are thinking of traditional customer contact methods, such as telephone and visiting in person.

This is reinforced by the fact that whilst results observed previously in the survey program and elsewhere by Metropolis Research have shown that approximately one-third of respondents will have visited their local council website at least occasionally, the website this year was identified as the method of last contacting Council by just 5.5% of respondents.

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**Forms of contact with Council****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of respondents who contacted Council)*

Form	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15	2014	2013	2012
	Number	Percent					
Telephone	246	59.1%	62.8%	60.2%	64.2%	66.2%	65.7%
Visit in person	81	19.5%	15.5%	23.1%	19.8%	13.9%	19.8%
E-mail	33	7.9%	11.0%	7.4%	7.4%	7.3%	6.4%
Darebin website	23	5.5%	3.2%	1.5%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Mail	12	2.9%	3.5%	1.2%	1.2%	2.7%	1.2%
Facebook	1	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Multiple methods	20	4.8%	4.0%	5.6%	7.1%	10.0%	2.6%
Can't say	1		2	3	6	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>345</b>

There was some variation in the methods of contacting Council observed between respondents from English speaking households and respondents from multi-lingual households, as outlined in the following table.

Attention is drawn to the fact that multi-lingual household respondents were somewhat more likely to visit Council in person than were respondents from English speaking households.

**Forms of contact with Council by language spoken at home****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of respondents who contacted Council)*

Form	English speaking		Multi-lingual	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Telephone	169	62.4%	77	53.5%
Visit in person	43	15.9%	37	25.7%
E-mail	20	7.4%	13	9.0%
Darebin website	15	5.5%	8	5.6%
Mail	8	3.0%	4	2.8%
Facebook	0	0.0%	1	0.7%
Multiple methods	16	5.9%	4	2.8%
Can't say	1		1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Satisfaction with customer service**

Respondents were asked:

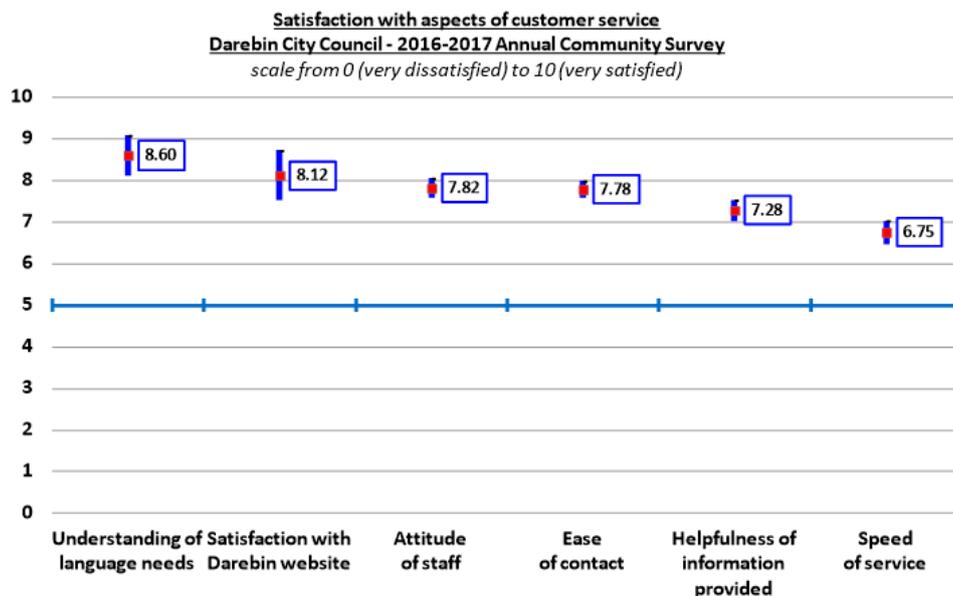
*“On a scale of 0 (lowest) to 10 (highest), with 5 being neutral, how satisfied were you with the following aspects of service when you last contacted Darebin City Council?”*

The average satisfaction with the six included aspects of customer service declined very marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 1.3% to 8.13. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “excellent”, the same categorisation that average satisfaction with the six aspects of customer service has obtained in each of the last three surveys.

Metropolis Research notes that average satisfaction with customer service in 2016-17 (as in previous years) was significantly higher than satisfaction with Council’s overall performance (6.69), average satisfaction with governance and leadership (6.86), average satisfaction with the eighteen included service and facilities (7.26), and average satisfaction with aspects of planning and housing development (5.23).

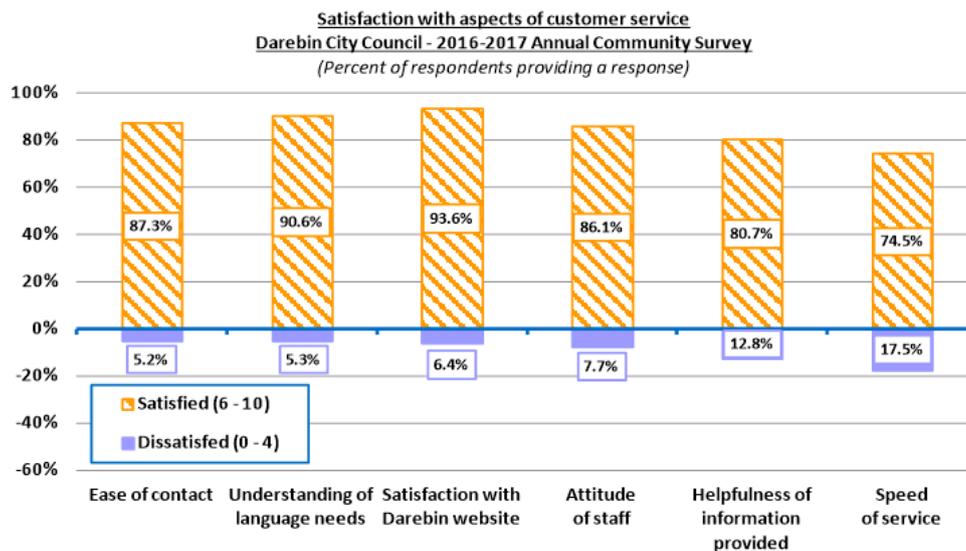
Satisfaction with these six aspects of customer service can best be summarised as:

- ⊗ **Excellent** – for staff understanding language needs (multi-lingual household respondents only), satisfaction with the Darebin website (respondents visiting the website only), the attitude of staff, and the ease of contact.
- ⊗ **Very Good** – for the helpfulness of the information provided.
- ⊗ **Good** – for the speed of service.



Consistent with these high average satisfaction scores, it is noted that more than four-fifths of respondents were satisfied with five of the six aspects of customer service.

Almost three-quarters (74.5%) of respondents were satisfied with the speed of service, whilst a little more than one-sixth (17.5%) were dissatisfied. Metropolis Research notes that the speed of service is always the lowest rated aspect of customer service, not only in the City of Darebin but consistently across metropolitan Melbourne. This is clearly the most difficult aspect of customer service with which to guarantee a standard level of performance, and the fact that satisfaction is still categorised as “good” reflects well on the performance of Darebin City Council.



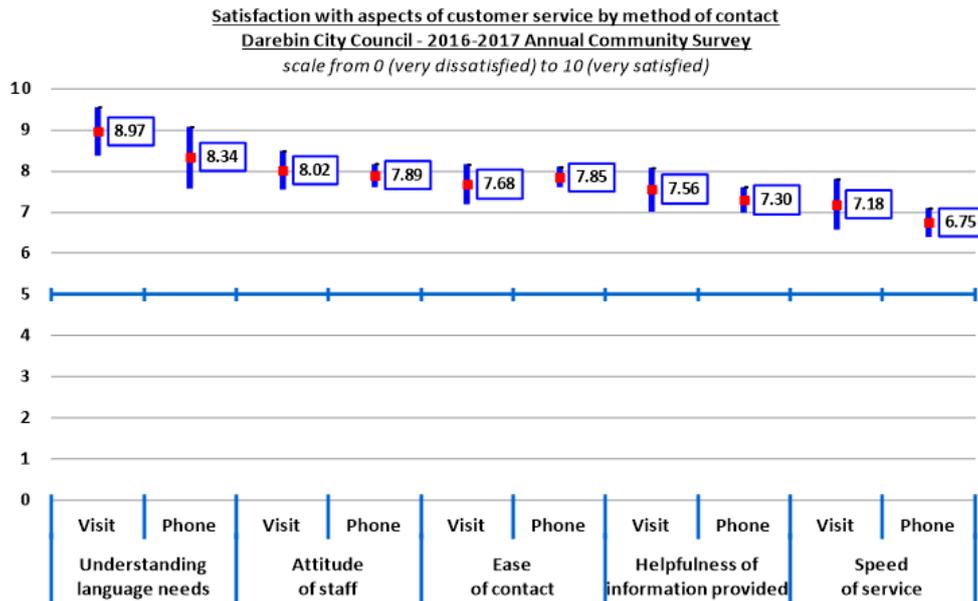
**Satisfaction by method of contacting Council**

The following graph provides a comparison of satisfaction with the five main included aspects of customer service, and excludes satisfaction with the website due to the small sample size.

Metropolis Research notes that respondents visiting Council in person were marginally, albeit not measurably more satisfied with four of the five aspects of customer service than respondents telephoning Council, and were marginally but not measurably less satisfied with the ease of contact.

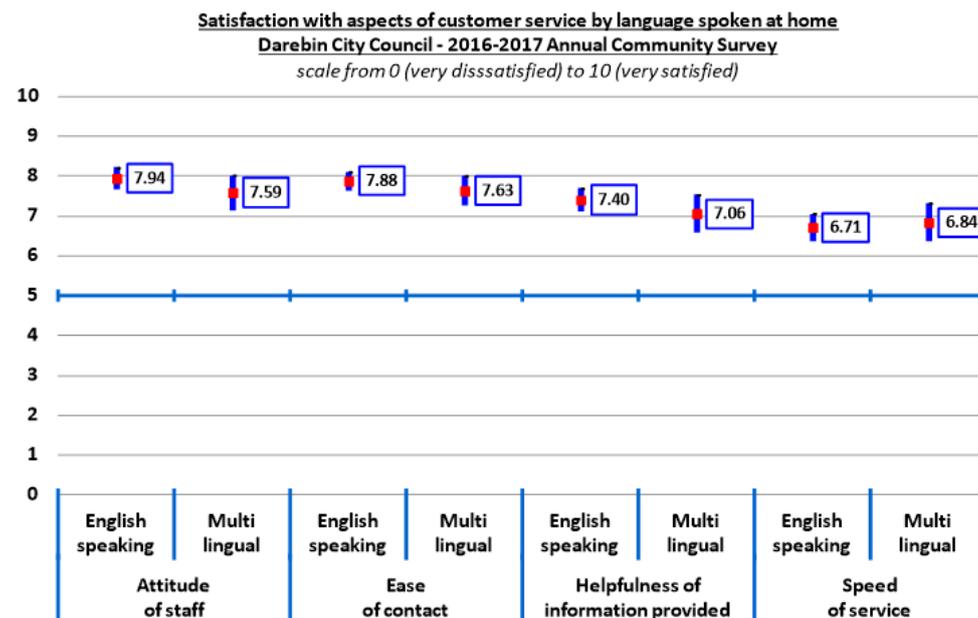
Respondents contacting Council by telephone (7.23) were on average 1.5% less satisfied than those visiting in person (7.34). Metropolis Research notes that the difference in satisfaction between those visiting in person and those telephoning Council is very small, and somewhat smaller than is typically found across metropolitan Melbourne.

This result reflects very well on the level of customer service provided by Darebin City Council, particularly telephone customer service.



**Satisfaction by language spoken at home**

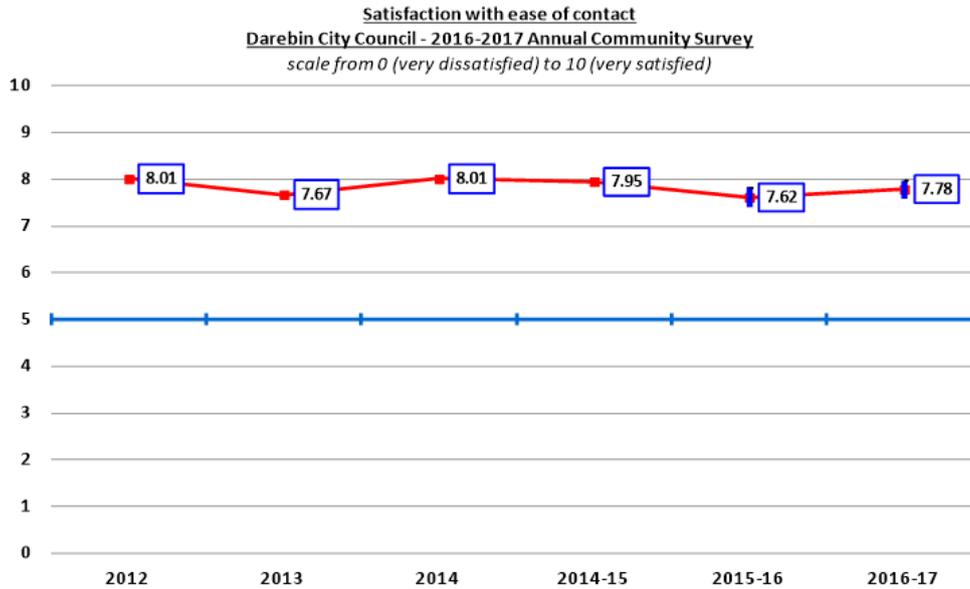
There was no statistically significant variation in satisfaction with the four aspects of customer service (excluding the website and understanding language needs) observed between respondents from English speaking households and respondents from multi-lingual households. It is noted however those respondents from English speaking households were marginally but not measurably more satisfied with the attitude of staff, the ease of contact, and the helpfulness of information provided.



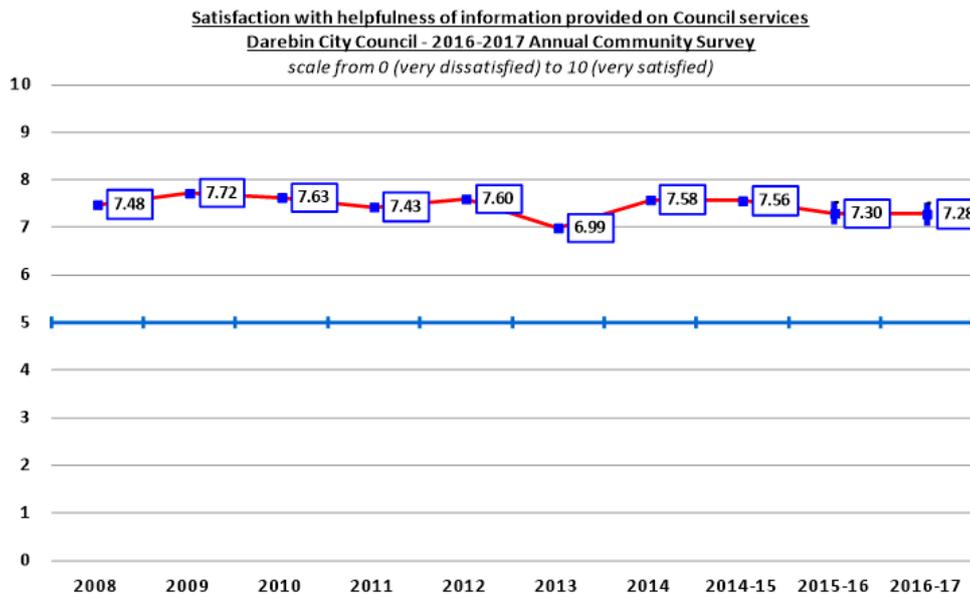
157



Satisfaction with the ease of contact increased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, up 2.1% to 7.78. This level of satisfaction is categorised as “excellent”, an improvement on the previous “very good” recorded last year.

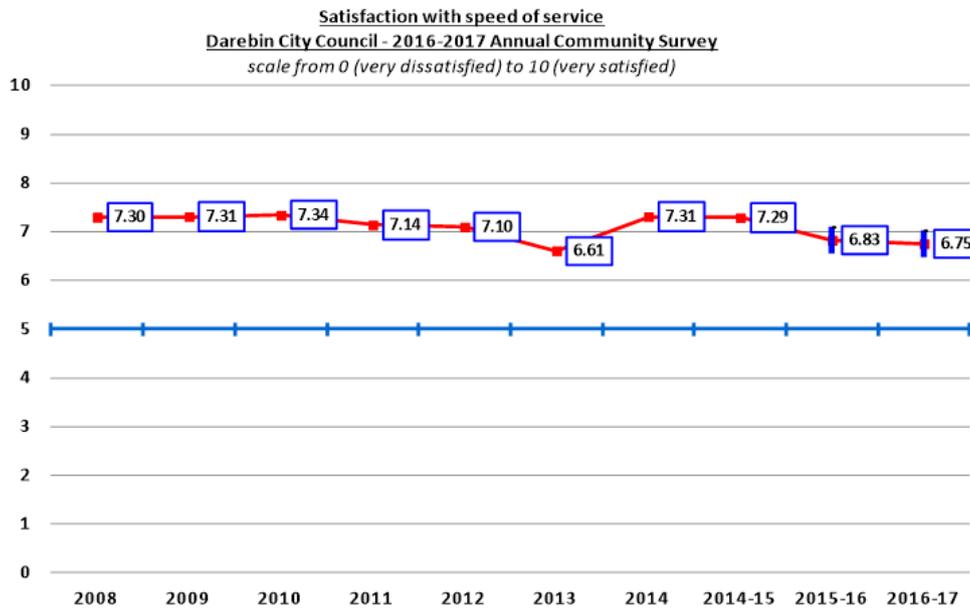


Satisfaction with the helpfulness of information provided on Council services remained essentially stable in 2016-17 at 7.28, a level of satisfaction categorised as “very good”.

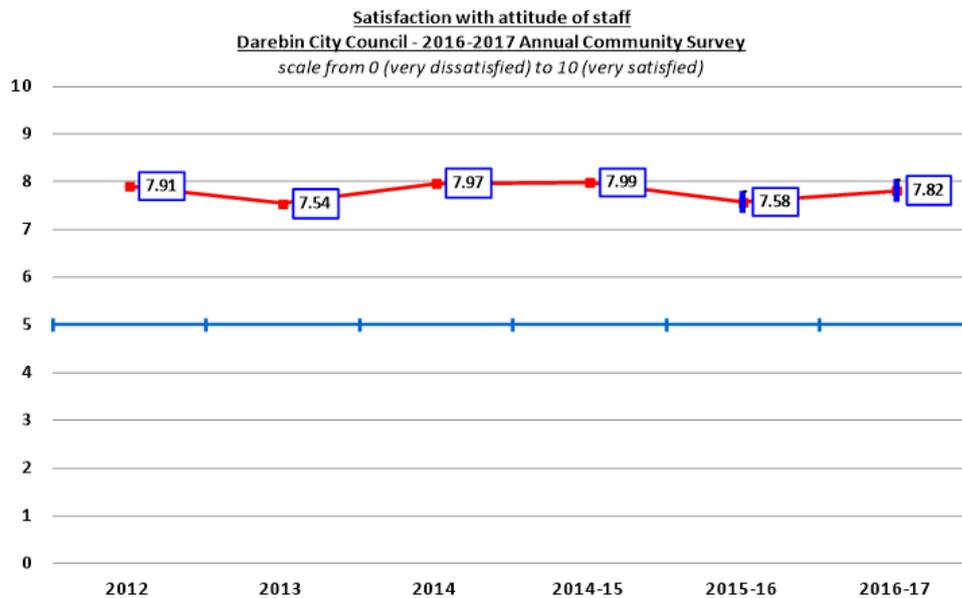




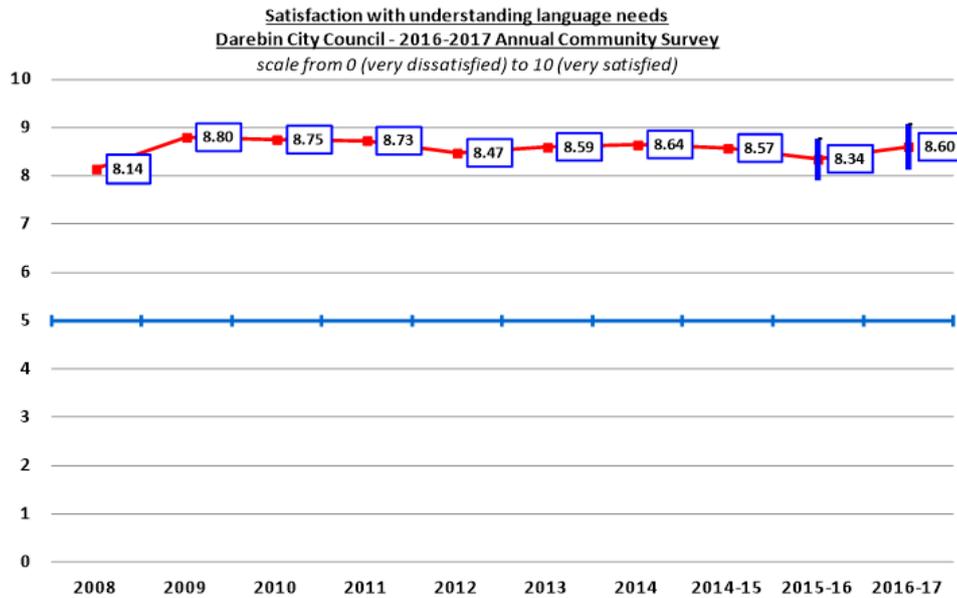
Satisfaction with the speed of service declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 1.2% to 6.75, although it remains at a level categorised as “good”.



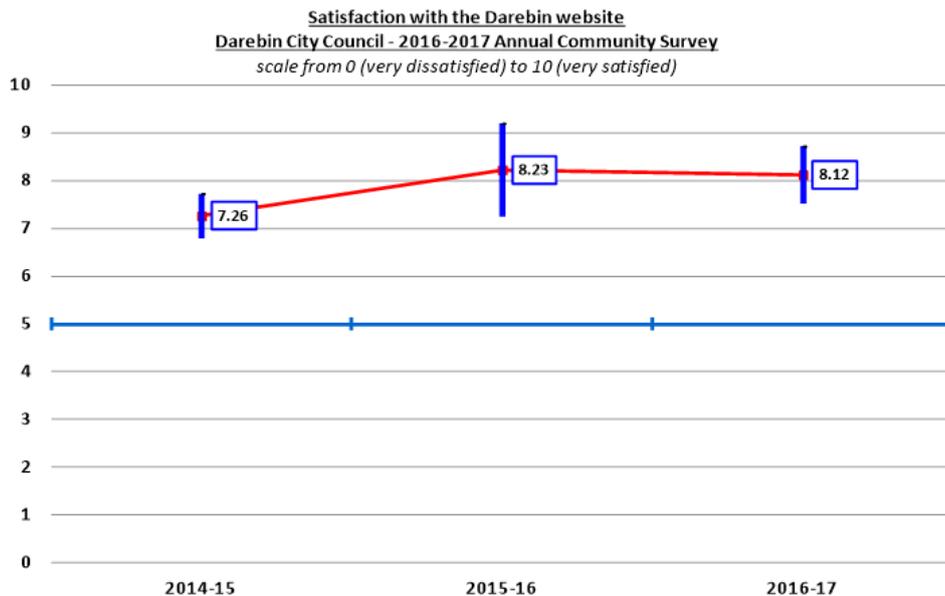
Satisfaction with the attitude of staff increased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, up 3.2% to 7.82, a level of satisfaction categorised as “excellent”. This is an improvement on the previous categorisation of “very good” last year.



Satisfaction with staff understanding language needs (for respondents from multi-lingual households only) increased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, up 3.2% to 8.60. Consistent with the results in each of the last ten years satisfaction is a level categorised as “excellent”.



The twenty-three respondents that contacted Council via the website rated satisfaction at 8.12, a level of satisfaction categorised as “excellent”.





## Safety in public areas

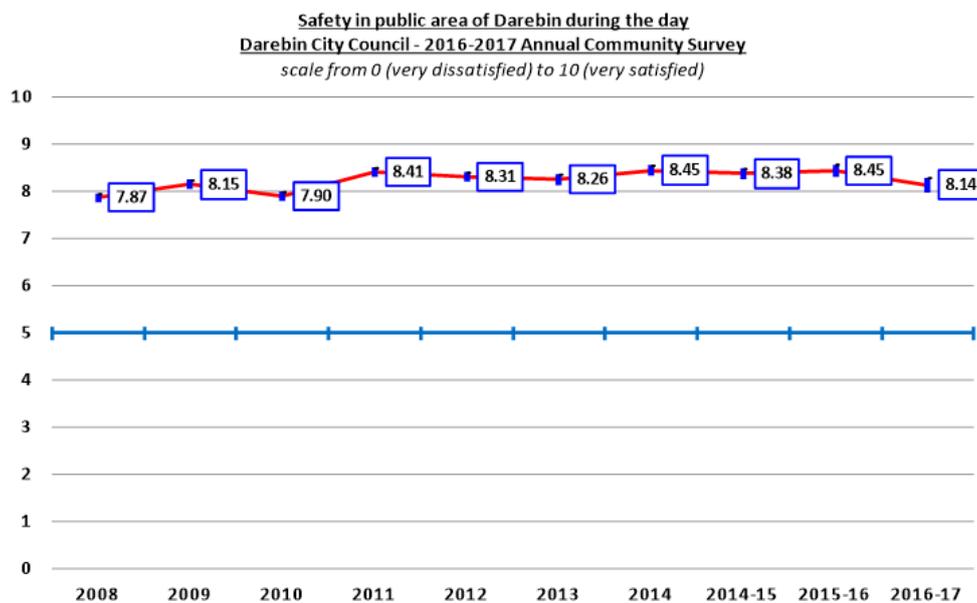
Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (lowest) to ten (highest), how safe do you feel in public areas in the City of Darebin?”*

### Safety during the day

The perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin declined measurably but not significantly in 2016-17, down 3.7% to 8.14.

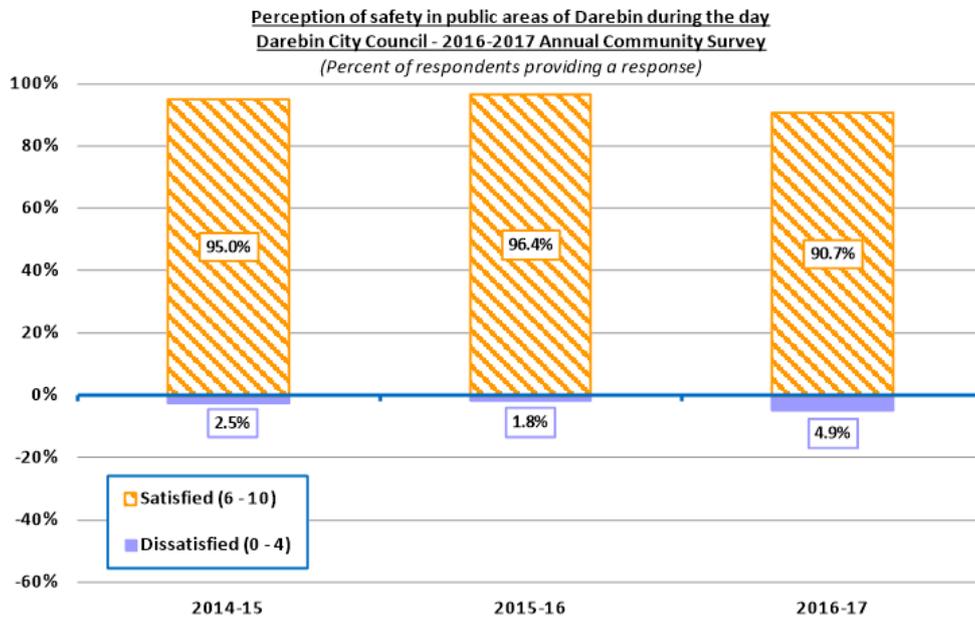
This result is marginally below the long-term average over the last ten years of 8.23, but still represents a very strong perception of safety of the Darebin community out in the public areas of the municipality during the day.



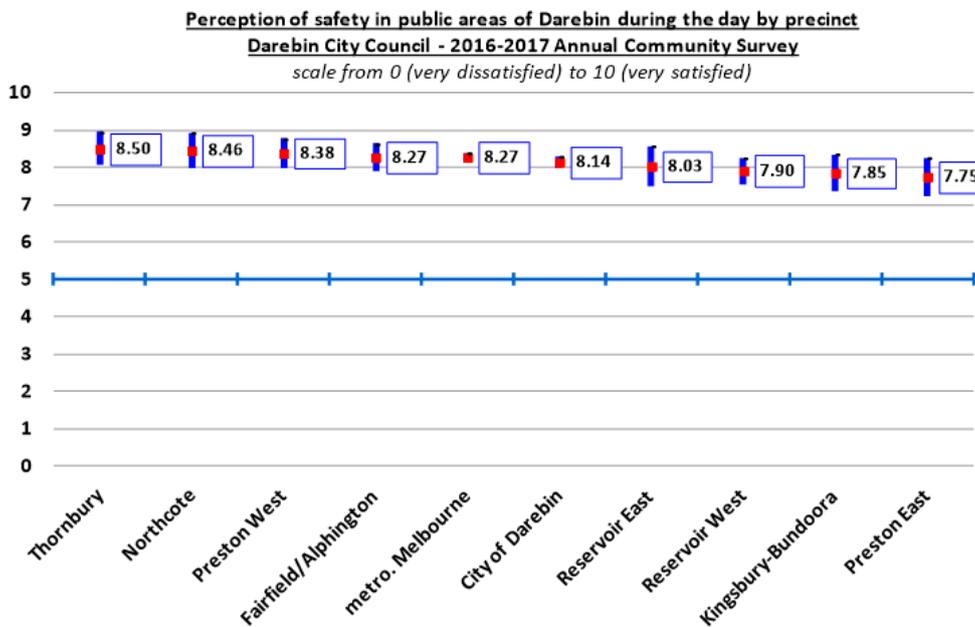
Consistent with the very high average perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day, attention is drawn to the fact that ninety percent (90.7%) of respondents in 2016-17 felt at least somewhat safe in the municipality during the day.

Despite the fact that there was an increase in the proportion of respondents that felt unsafe in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day, Metropolis Research notes that it remains true that less than five percent of respondents felt unsafe.





There was no statistically significant variation in the perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin. It is also noted that this result was almost identical to the 2017 metropolitan Melbourne average of 8.27.



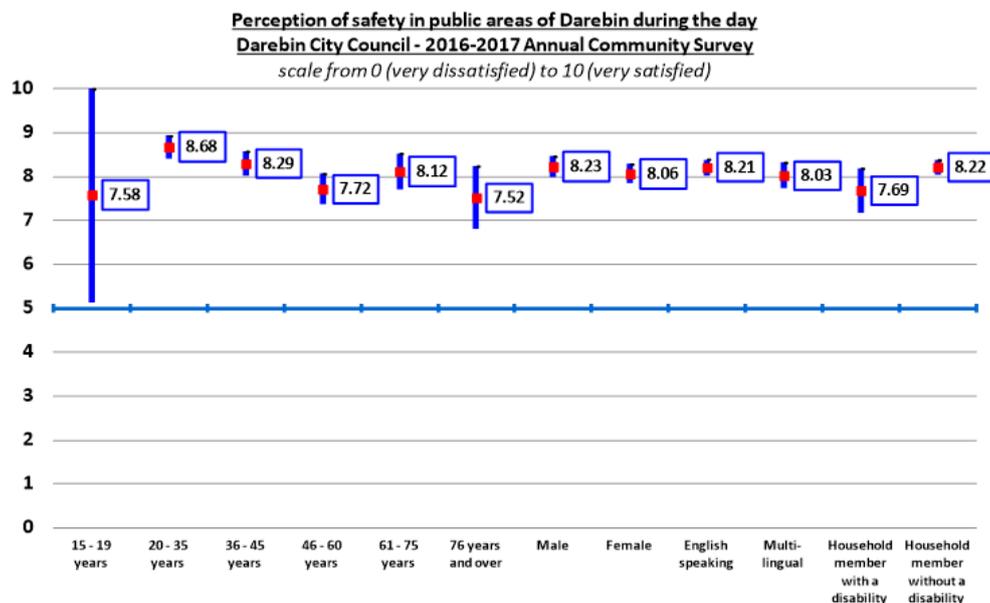
Metropolis Research does note however that the perception of safety is marginally, albeit not measurably higher in most of the southern precincts (Northcote, Thornbury, and Fairfield-Alphington).



It was also marginally but not measurably lower in the northern precincts (Reservoir East, Reservoir West, and Kingsbury-Bundoora). Preston West respondents rated their perception of safety during the day marginally higher than average, whilst respondents from Preston East rated it marginally lower than average.

There was some variation in the perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin during the day observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Adolescents (aged 15 to 19 years) and senior citizens (aged 76 years and over)** – respondents rated their perception of safety marginally but not measurably lower than other respondents.
- ⊗ **Young adults (aged 20 to 35 years)** – respondents rated their perception of safety somewhat, albeit not measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average.
- ⊗ **Gender** – male respondents rated their perception of safety marginally, albeit not measurably higher than female respondents.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – respondents from English speaking households rated their perception of safety marginally, albeit not measurably higher than respondents from multi-lingual households.
- ⊗ **Disability status** – respondents from households with a member with a disability rated their perception of safety significantly, albeit not measurably lower than other respondents.



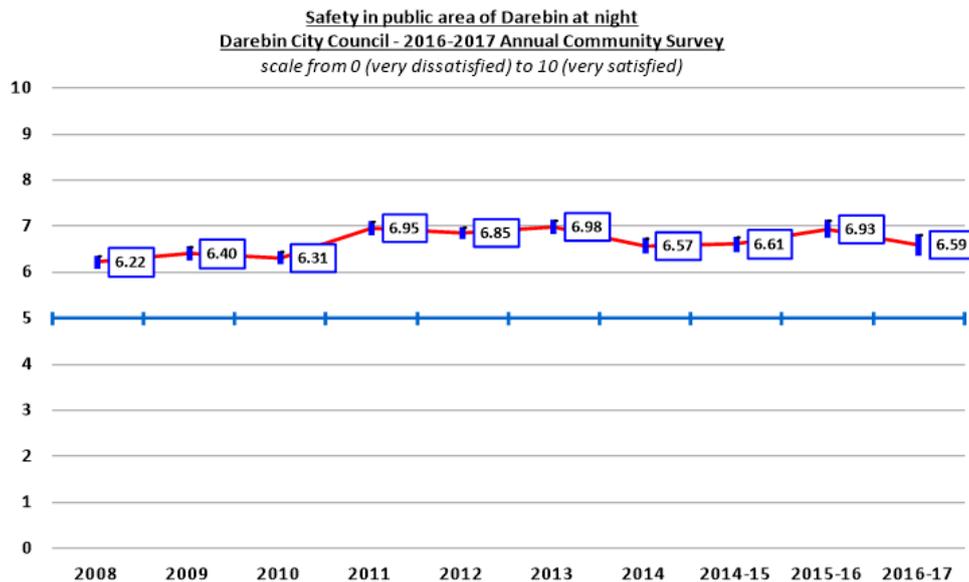
**Safety at night**

The perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night declined significantly, albeit not measurably in 2016-17, down five percent to 6.59. This result is very marginally lower than the long-term average of the last ten years of 6.64.

Metropolis Research notes that the perception of safety at night has declined very significantly in many areas of metropolitan Melbourne in the last year or so, most particularly in the outer urban areas of metropolitan Melbourne. Feedback received by Metropolis Research in the field has been that issues around a fear of violent home invasion and break-ins at night have been the major cause of concern for residents particularly in growth areas.

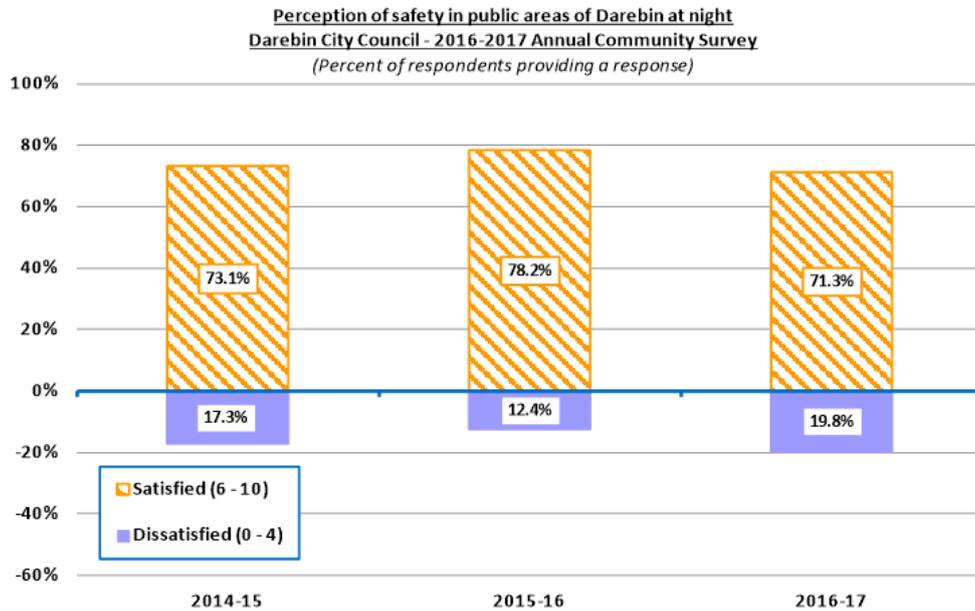
By way of comparison the 2017 *Governing Melbourne* research recorded average perception of safety at night of 6.60, almost identical to this City of Darebin result of 6.59.

This trend of lower perception of safety at night has not been as acute in the inner and middle-ring municipalities, including these City of Darebin results, as well as in recent research in the City of Yarra conducted by Metropolis Research.



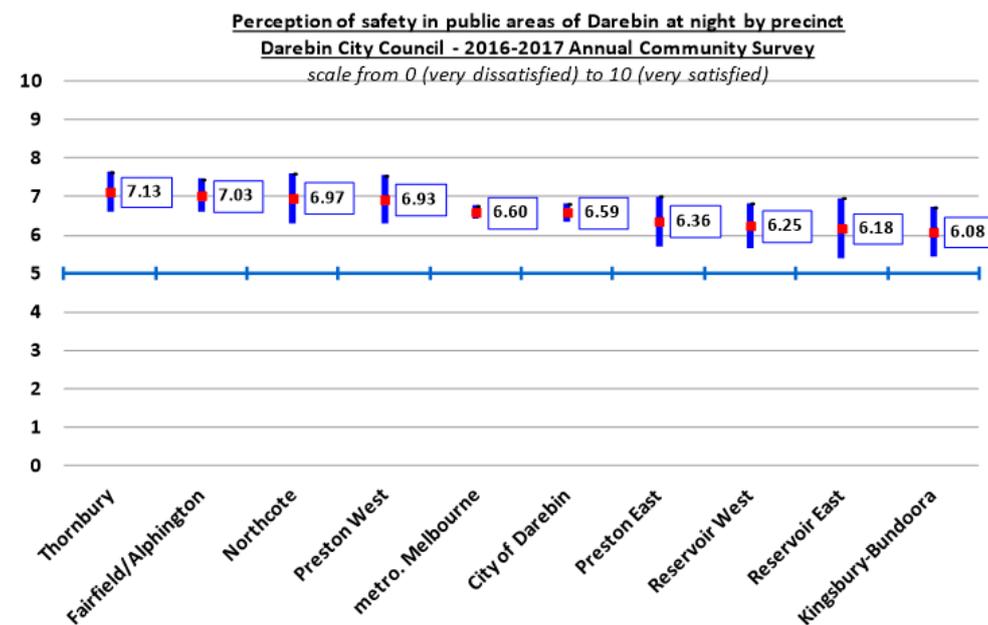
Consistent with the small decline in the average perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night, it is noted that the proportion of respondents that feel safe at night declined marginally in 2016-17, down from 78.2% to 71.3%.

The proportion of respondents that felt unsafe in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night increased somewhat in 2016-17, up from 12.4% to 19.8%.



There was no statistically significant variation in the perception of safety in the public areas of the City of Darebin at night observed across the eight precincts comprising the municipality, although attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Thornbury and Fairfield–Alphington** – respondents rated their perception of safety at night marginally, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average.
- ⊗ **Reservoir East and Kingsbury-Bundoora** – respondents rated their perception of safety at night marginally, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average.



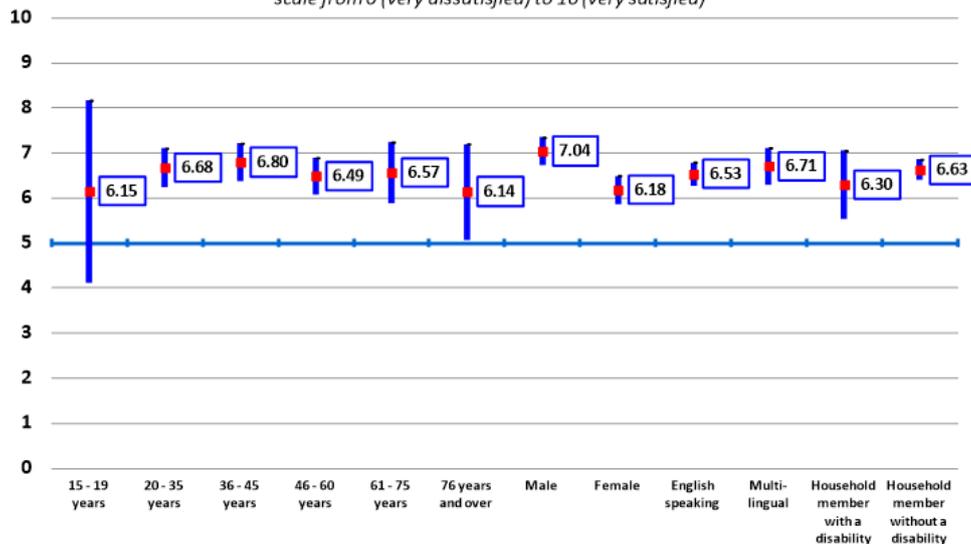
165

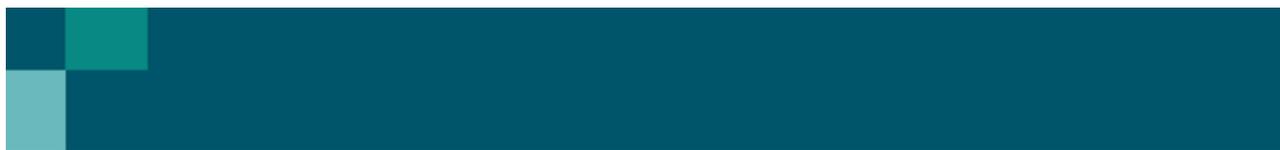


There was measurable and significant variation in the perception of safety at night observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Age structure** – there was no statistically significant variation in the perception of safety at night observed by age structure.
- ⊗ **Gender** – female respondents rated the perception of safety at night measurably and significantly lower than male respondents.
- ⊗ **Language spoken at home** – there was not statistically significant variation in the perception of safety at night observed by language spoken at home. This is an interesting result, as Metropolis Research would typically find that respondents from multi-lingual households would tend to feel less safe than respondents from English speaking households. The fact that this is not the case in Darebin speaks well of the level of harmony in the diverse Darebin community.
- ⊗ **Disability status** – respondents from households with a member with a disability rated their perception of safety marginally but not measurably lower than other respondents.

**Perception of safety in public areas of Darebin at night**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (very dissatisfied) to 10 (very satisfied)*





## Council as an organisation

Respondents were asked:

*“On a scale of zero (strongly disagree) to ten (strongly agree), please rate your agreement with the following statements regarding Darebin City Council as an organisation.”*

Respondents were again in 2016-17 asked to rate their agreement with six statements about Darebin City Council as an organisation. Whilst agreement with four statements declined marginally and increased marginally for two statements, none of these changes were statistically significant.

Agreement with these six statements about Darebin City Council as an organisation can best be summarised as follows:

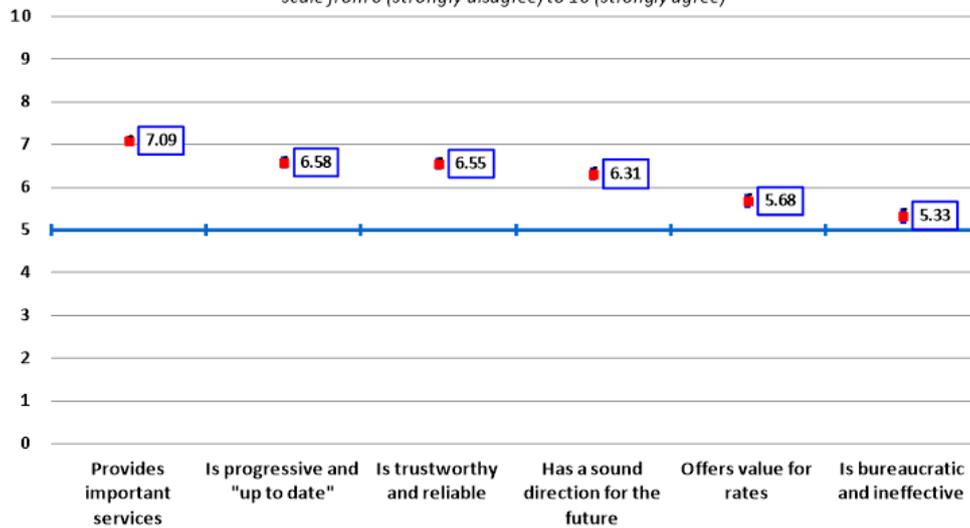
- ⊗ **Strong Agreement** – that Darebin City Council provides important services. More than four-fifths (85.7%) of respondents agreed with this statement and just 6.9% disagreed.
- ⊗ **Solid Agreement** – that Darebin City Council is progressive and up-to-date, is trustworthy and reliable, and has a sound direction for the future. Approximately three-quarters of respondents agreed with these three statements, whilst less than one-sixth disagreed.
- ⊗ **Mild Agreement** – that Darebin City Council offers value for rates. A little more than half (57.8%) of respondents agreed with this statement, whilst almost one-quarter (23.2%) disagreed.
- ⊗ **Mild Agreement** – that Darebin City Council is bureaucratic and ineffective. This statement was written in the negative, and therefore a lower score is more positive than a higher score. A little less than one-third (31.9%) of respondents disagreed that Council is bureaucratic and ineffective, and a little less than half (46.6%) agreed.

Metropolis Research notes that the agreement with these six statements show that whilst a significant majority of respondents agree that Council offers important service, is progressive and up-to-date, is trustworthy and reliable and offers value for rates, the community is on average mildly to solidly in agreement.

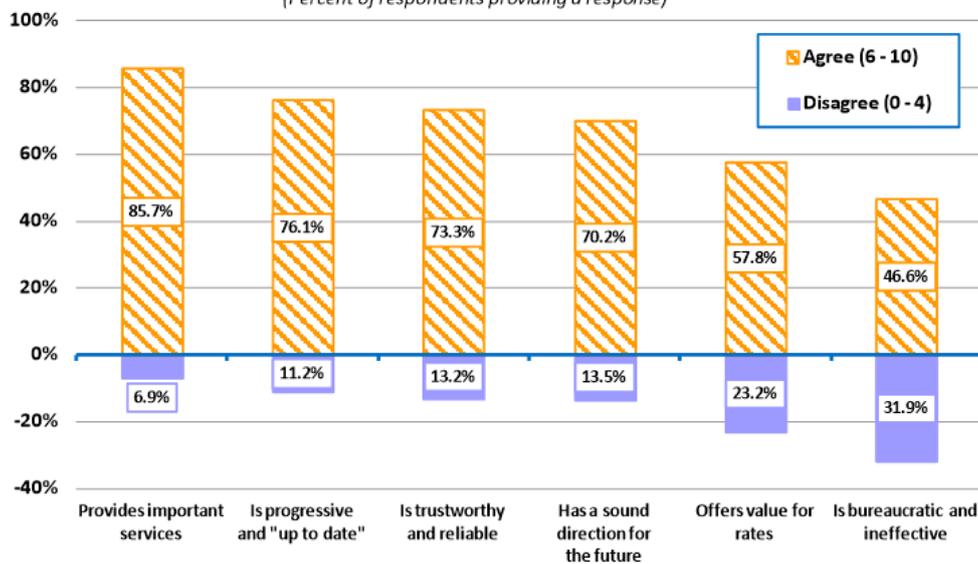
There is a significant minority of respondents in the City of Darebin that believe that Council does not offer value for rates and that Council is bureaucratic and ineffective.



**Agreement with selected statements about Darebin City Council**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*scale from 0 (strongly disagree) to 10 (strongly agree)*



**Agreement with selected statements about Darebin City Council**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Percent of respondents providing a response)*



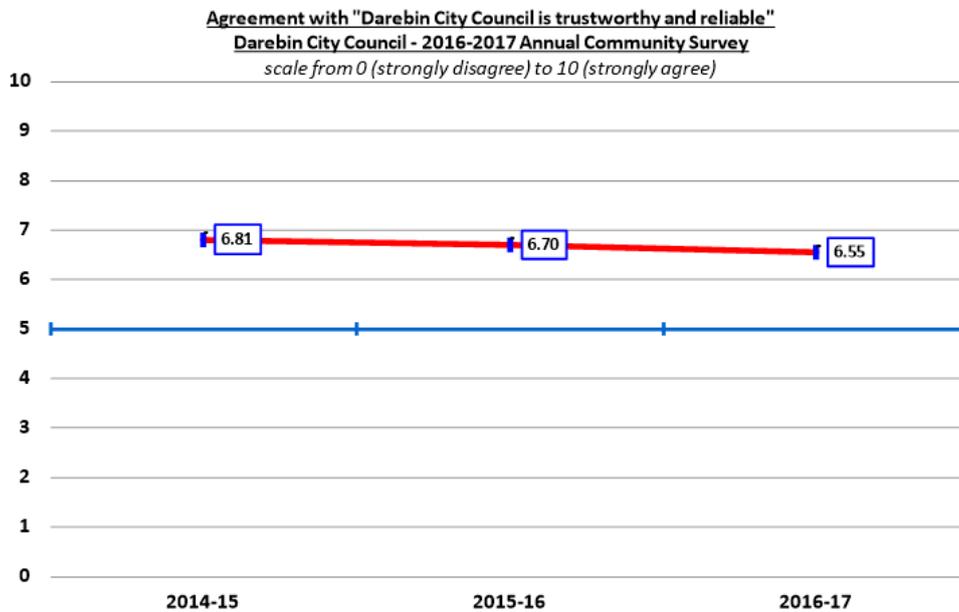
168

**Agreement with selected statements about Darebin City Council****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)*

<i>Aspect</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Disagree (0 - 4)</i>	<i>Neutral (5)</i>	<i>Agree (6 - 10)</i>	<i>Can't say</i>
Is trustworthy and reliable	2014-15	10.5%	12.4%	77.1%	108
	2015-16	12.5%	11.8%	75.7%	97
	2016-17	13.2%	13.5%	73.3%	100
Provides important services	2014-15	5.9%	9.4%	84.8%	58
	2015-16	6.0%	7.8%	86.2%	58
	2016-17	6.9%	7.3%	85.7%	87
Is bureaucratic and ineffective	2014-15	33.7%	20.3%	46.0%	73
	2015-16	32.3%	18.3%	49.4%	207
	2016-17	31.9%	21.5%	46.6%	228
Offers value for rates	2014-15	19.6%	15.3%	65.2%	166
	2015-16	22.8%	15.6%	61.6%	185
	2016-17	23.2%	19.0%	57.8%	213
Has a sound direction for the future	2014-15	16.2%	15.4%	68.4%	93
	2015-16	13.5%	15.2%	71.3%	264
	2016-17	13.5%	16.2%	70.2%	339
Is progressive and "up to date"	2014-15	13.0%	12.6%	74.4%	153
	2015-16	11.0%	15.8%	73.2%	133
	2016-17	11.2%	12.7%	76.1%	197

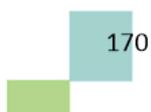


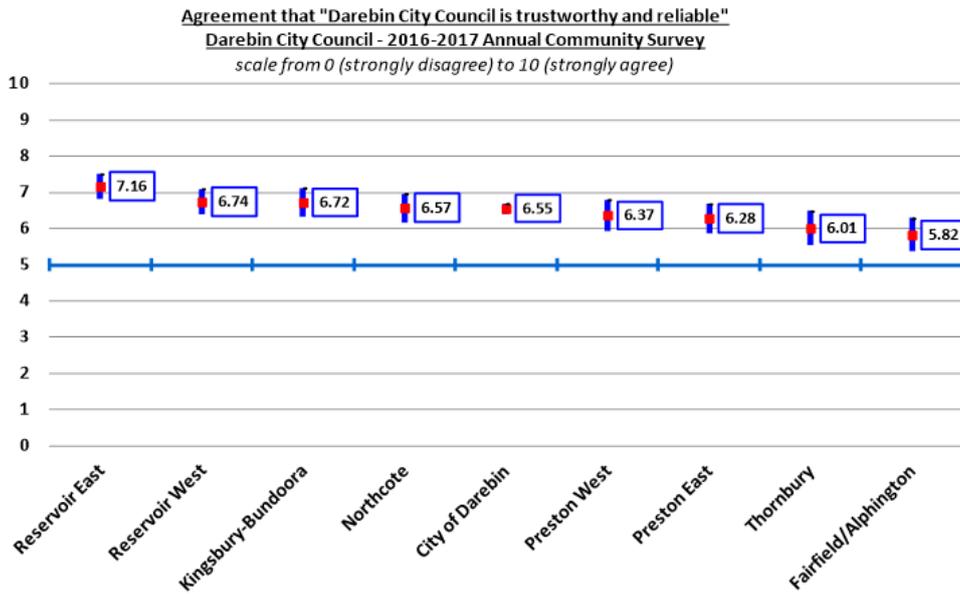
Average agreement that Darebin City Council is trustworthy and reliable declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 2.2% to 6.55, although it remains categorised as “solid” agreement.



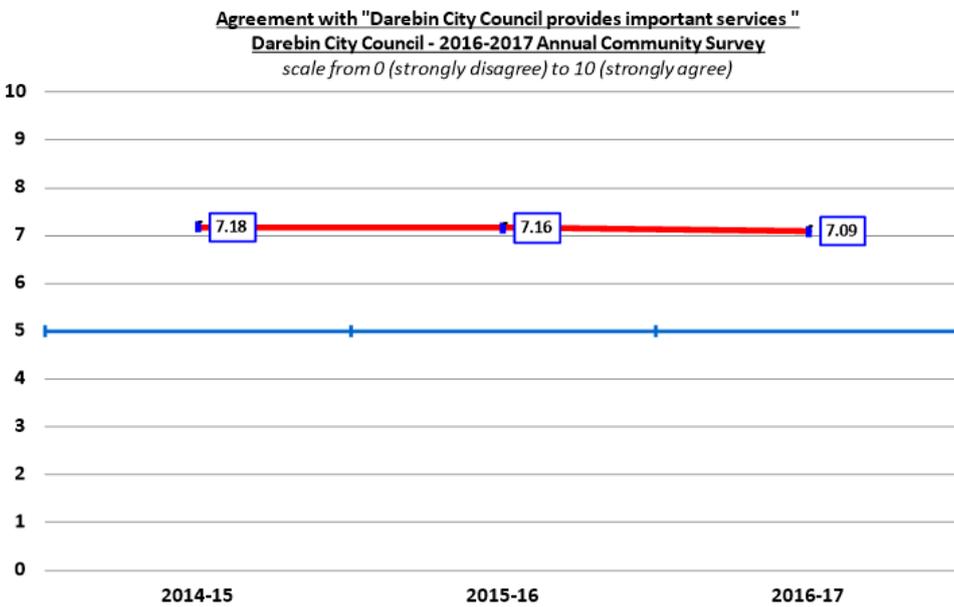
There was measurable and significant variation in this result observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated agreement measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “strong agreement”.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents rated agreement measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “mild agreement”.

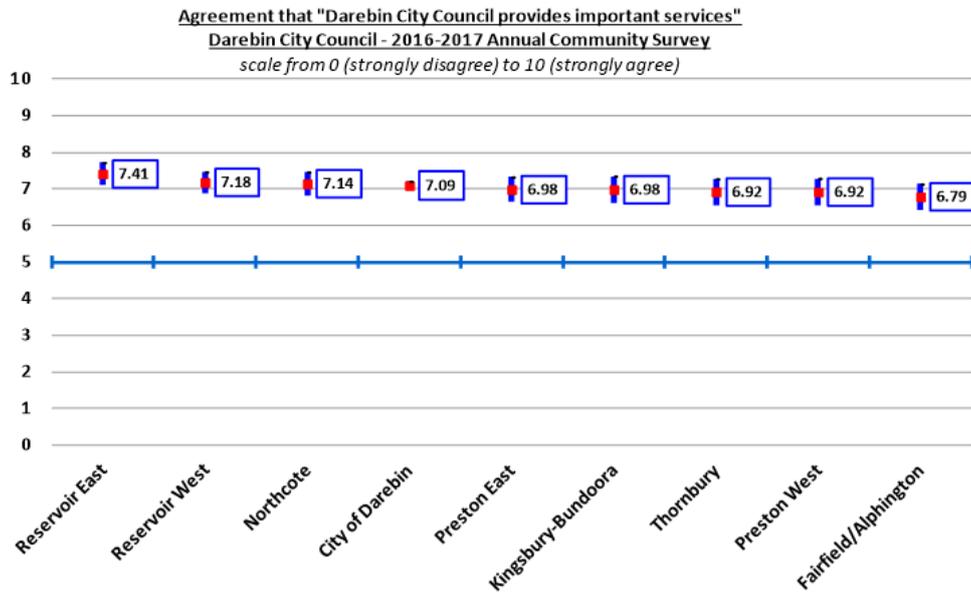




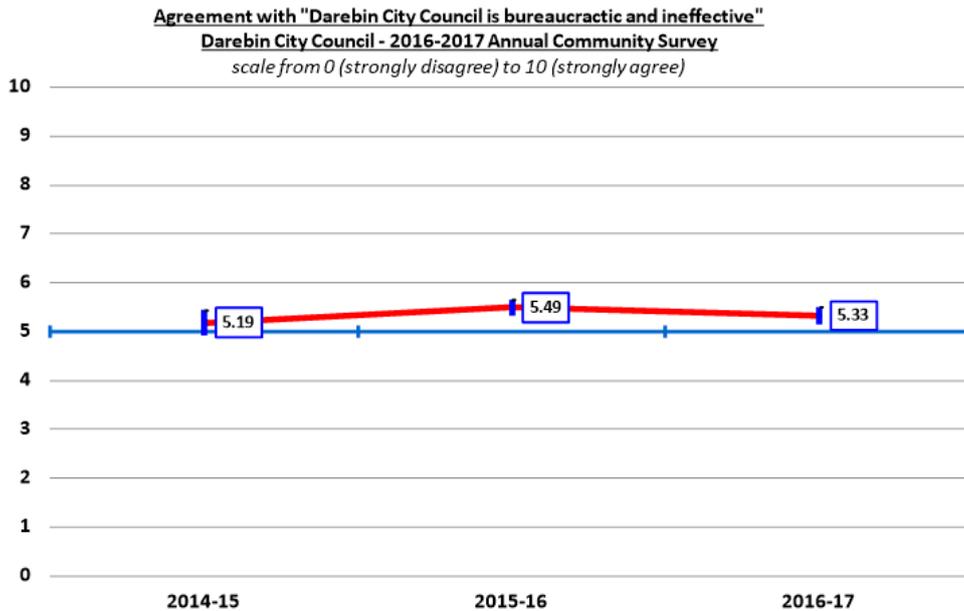
Average agreement that Darebin City Council provides important services declined for the second consecutive year, down marginally but not measurably to 7.09 (down 0.9%).



There was no statistically significant variation in this result observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.



Average agreement that Darebin City Council is bureaucratic and ineffective declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 2.9% to 5.33. Agreement with this statement has been observed at "mild" levels of agreement in each of the last three years.

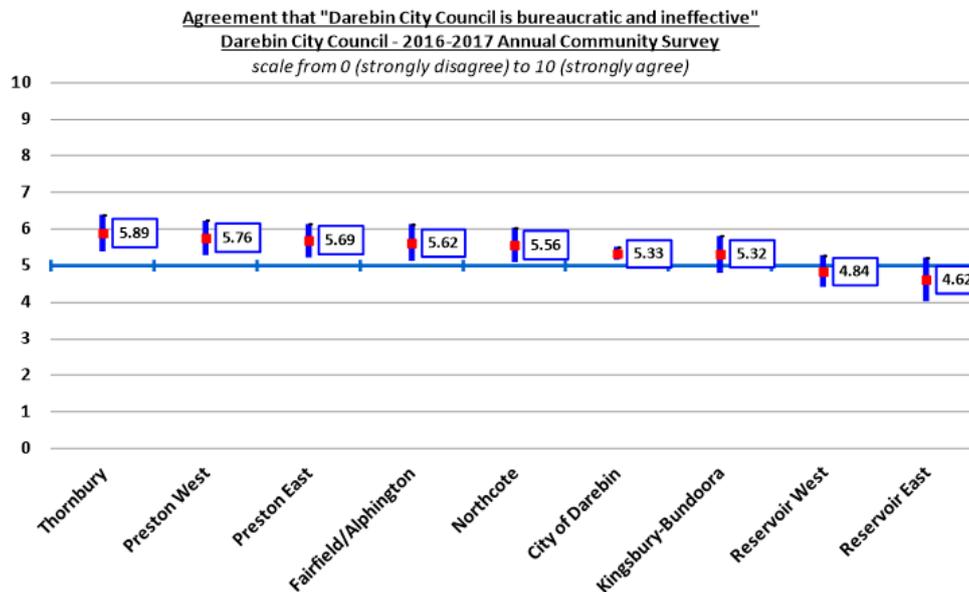


172



There was measurable and significant variation in agreement that Darebin City Council is bureaucratic and ineffective observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

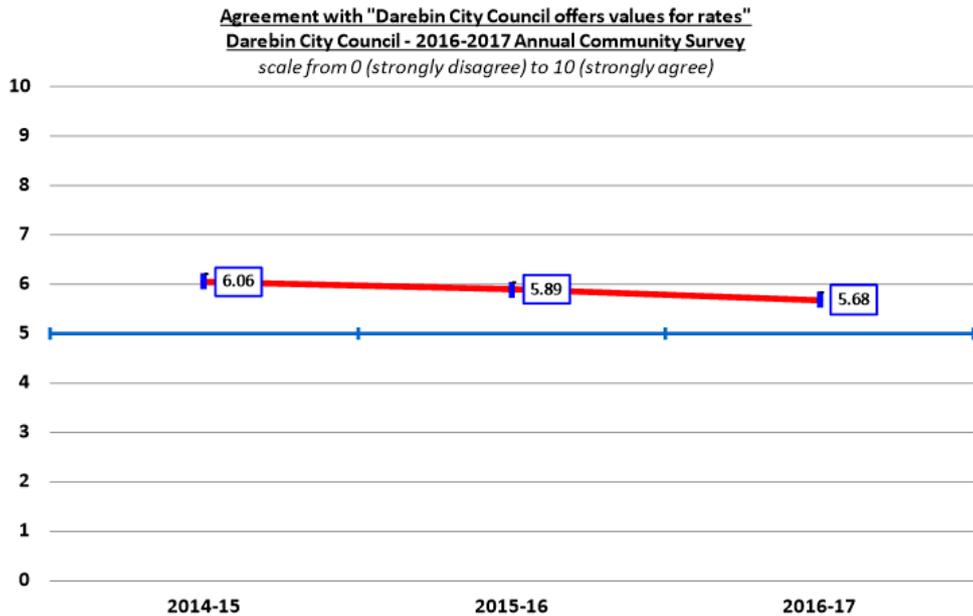
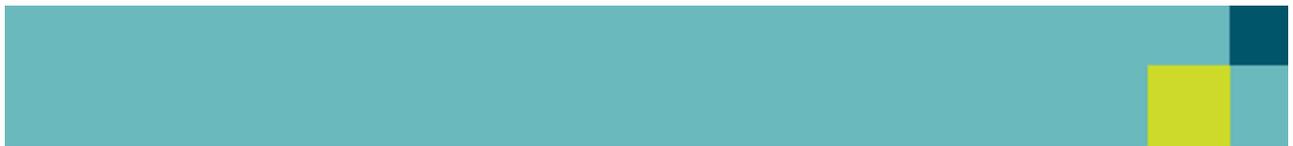
- ⊗ **Thornbury** – respondents rated agreement somewhat, albeit not measurably higher than the municipal average.
- ⊗ **Reservoir West and Reservoir East** – respondents rated agreement measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average, and at levels categorised as “mild disagreement”.



Average agreement that Darebin City Council offers value for rates has declined marginally but not measurably for the second consecutive year, down 3.6% to 5.68.

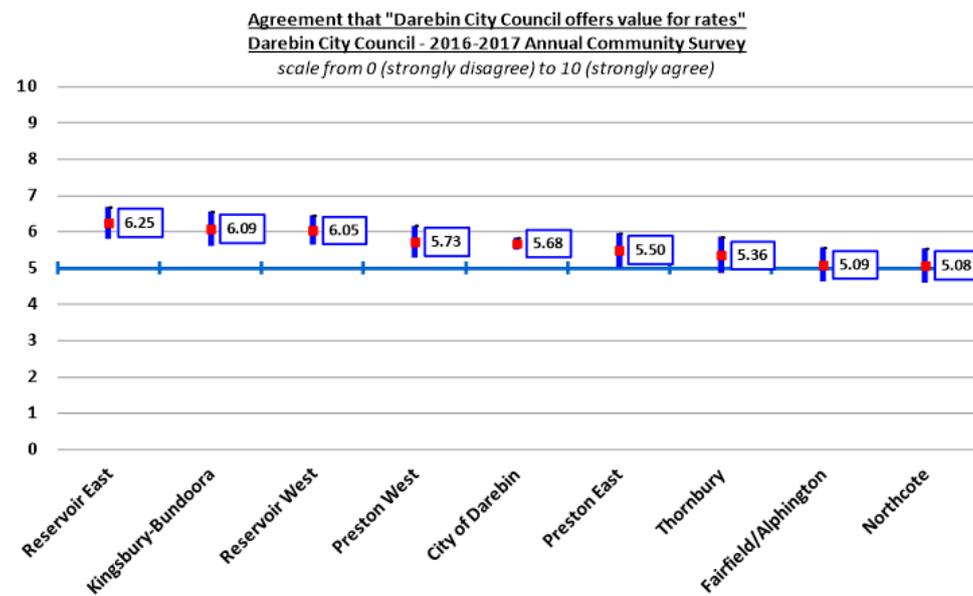
Despite this decline, average agreement with this statement remains at a level categorised as “mild agreement”.





There was significant variation in agreement that Darebin City Council offers value for rates observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

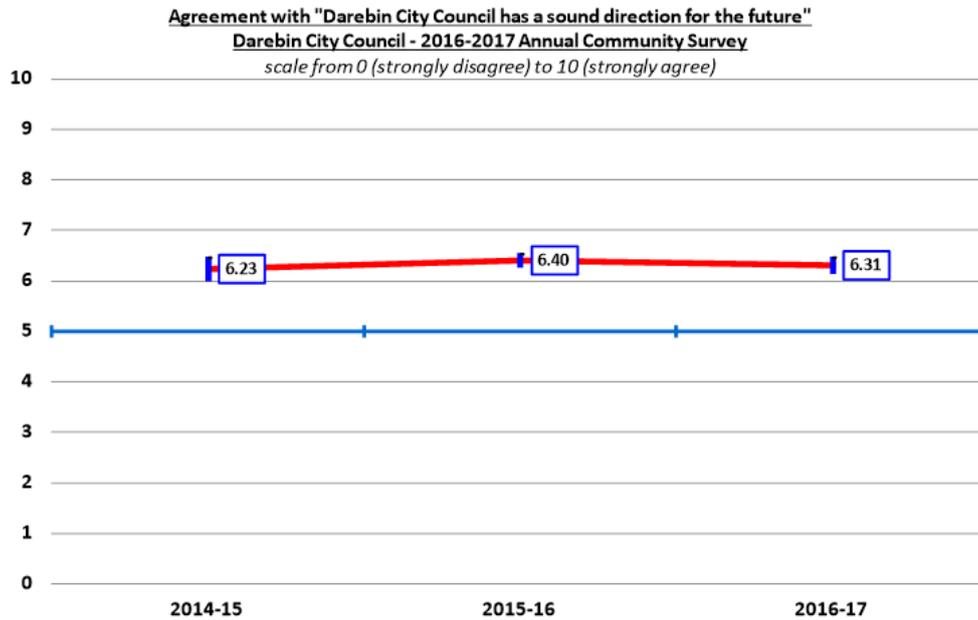
- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated agreement measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “solid agreement”.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington and Northcote** – respondents rated agreement measurably and significantly lower than the municipal average and at levels categorised as “mild agreement”.



174



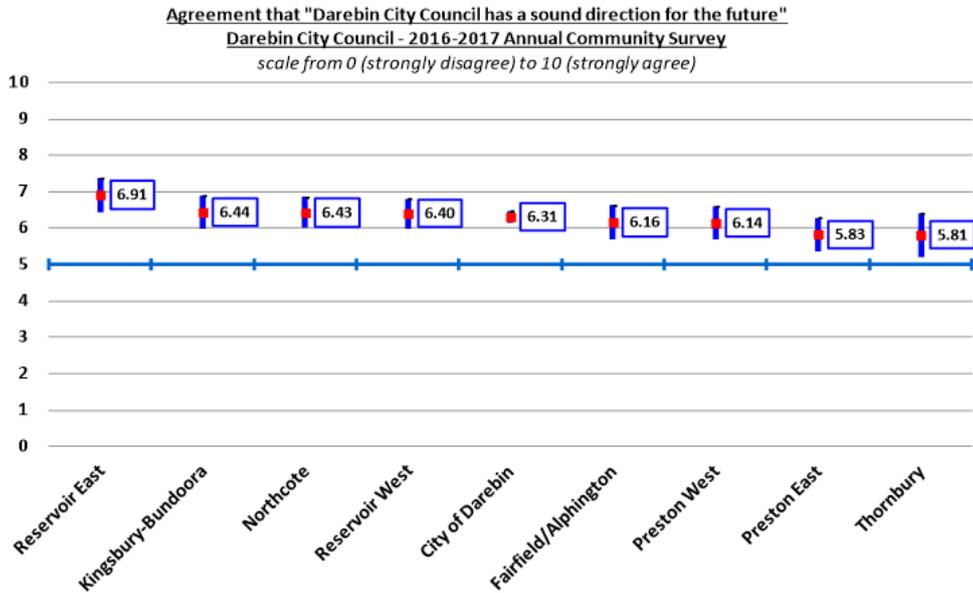
Average agreement that Darebin City Council has a sound direction for the future declined marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, down 1.4% to 6.31, although it remains at a level categorised as “solid agreement”.



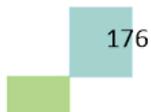
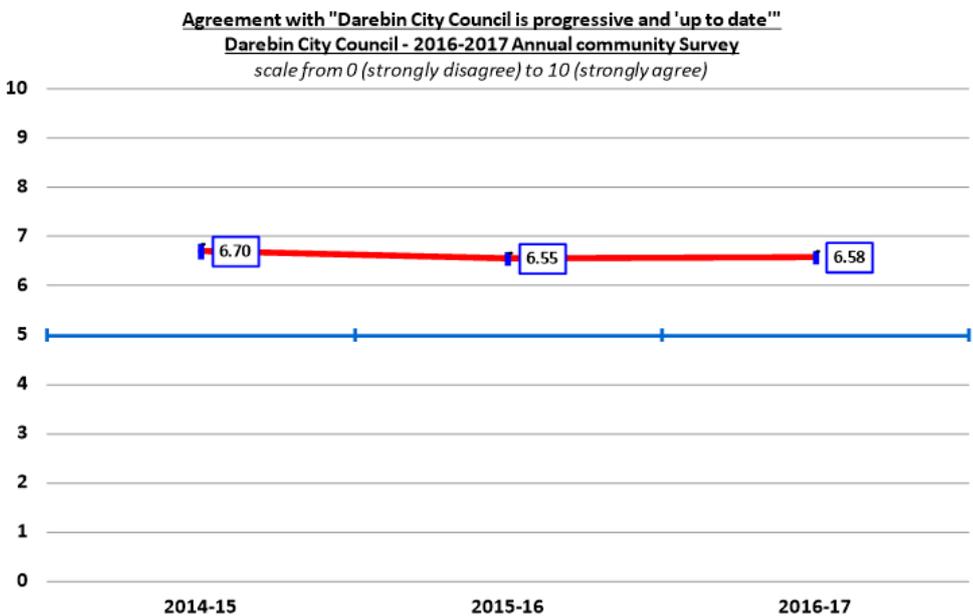
There was some measurable variation in agreement that Darebin City Council has a sound direction for the future observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the future:

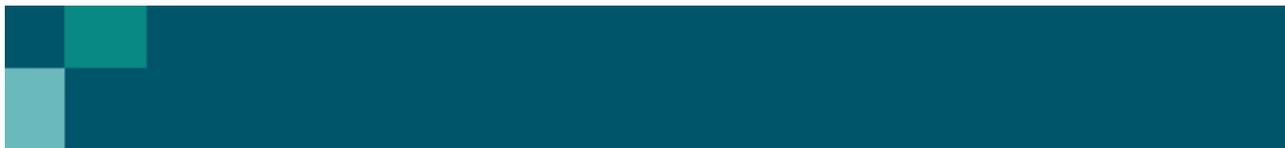
- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated agreement measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average, although still at a level categorised as “solid agreement”.
- ⊗ **Preston East and Thornbury** – respondents rated agreement somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “mild agreement”.





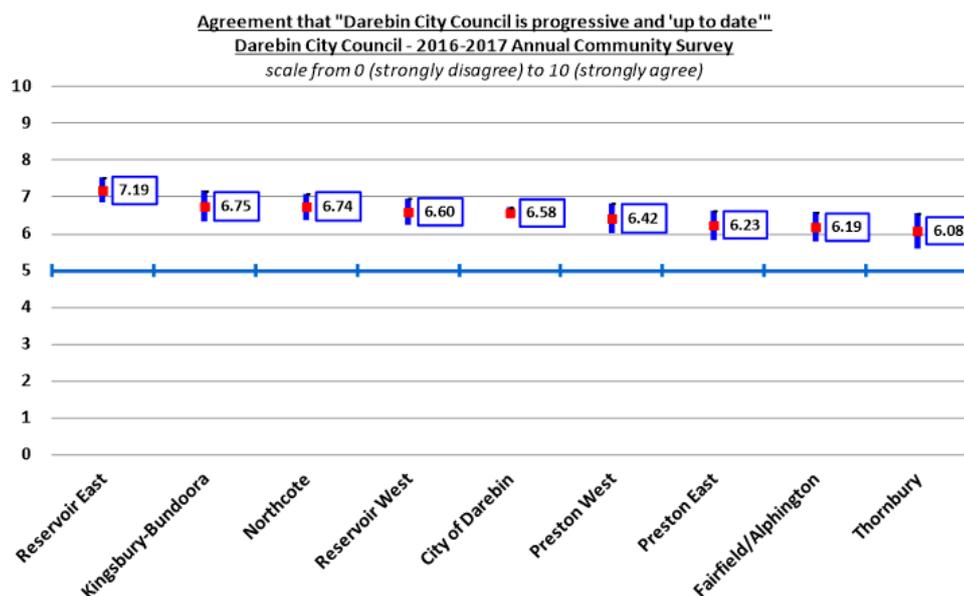
Average agreement that Darebin City Council is “progressive and up-to-date” increased marginally but not measurably in 2016-17, up by less than one percent to 6.58. Agreement with this statement has been categorised as “solid agreement” in each of the last three years.





There was measurable variation in agreement that Darebin City Council is “progressive and up-to-date” observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents rated agreement measurably and significantly higher than the municipal average and at a level categorised as “strong agreement”.
- ⊗ **Thornbury** – respondents rated agreement somewhat, albeit not measurably lower than the municipal average, although still at a level categorised as “solid agreement”.



## Issues for Council

### Council advocacy campaigns

Respondents were asked:

*“Can you please list any Council advocacy campaigns of which you are aware?”*

A total of 129 advocacy campaigns were identified by eighty-nine respondents in 2016-17, representing a little less than one percent of the total sample of one thousand respondents.

As is clearly evident in the following table, respondents identified a wide range of advocacy campaigns or topics of which they said they were aware.

The most commonly identified campaigns related to the Preston Market Redevelopment (8.5% of campaigns), Level Crossing Removal (7.7%), the Greens advocacy (4.6%), and environmental campaigns more broadly (4.6%).



**Council advocacy campaigns****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of total responses)*

<i>Response</i>	<i>2016-17</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Preston market development	11	8.5%
Level crossing removal	10	7.7%
The Green advocacy	6	4.6%
Environment campaigns	6	4.6%
Solar energy campaigns	5	3.9%
Elections / voting	4	3.1%
Advocacy for bike infrastructure	3	2.3%
Aquatic and Recreation Centre	3	2.3%
Batman Park	3	2.3%
Begin to address overdevelopment and infrastructure	3	2.3%
LGBTIQ campaigns	3	2.3%
Quality public housing	3	2.3%
Refugee issues	3	2.3%
Stadium	2	1.5%
Arts programmes	2	1.5%
Chandler Highway Bridge	2	1.5%
Climate change	2	1.5%
Campaigns against racism	2	1.5%
Diversity Action Plan	2	1.5%
Domestic violence	2	1.5%
Dumping and cleaning	2	1.5%
Gambling prevention	2	1.5%
Improve traffic flow	2	1.5%
Library	2	1.5%
Local food strategy	2	1.5%
Multicultural campaigns	2	1.5%
Sustainability	2	1.5%
Tram line extension	2	1.5%
86 tram line stop removal	1	0.7%
Advocating for Council services - to have an input on Meals on Wheels and services for new arrivals	1	0.5%
Ban the bag	1	1.0%
Campaigns to state governments	1	0.8%



**Council advocacy campaigns**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
 (Number and percent of total responses)

Response	2016-2017	
	Number	Percent
Car parking	1	0.7%
Children's Christmas	1	0.7%
Cleaning in the waterways	1	1.0%
Communal food hub for Darebin	1	0.8%
Edwards Lake Park - community involvement	1	1.0%
Encouraging people to walk	1	0.7%
Healthy Darebin campaign	1	0.8%
Help those living on poverty line	1	1.0%
Homecare services	1	0.7%
Housing quality	1	0.8%
I know about going to communication	1	0.5%
Lots of improvements to the Edwards Reserve	1	1.0%
Missing cat	1	0.8%
Picking up dog poo in the parks	1	0.7%
Pockets of land released by state - purchase of road to keep green spaces	1	1.0%
Programs to parents	1	0.8%
Purchase at Rivoli Theatre and transformation into Arts & Culture	1	1.0%
Rebuilding Mott Reserve	1	0.7%
Reservoir community advocacy group	1	1.1%
Resurfacing of roads	1	0.7%
Safety around Polarise Centre	1	0.5%
Senior citizens groups	1	1.1%
Services for kinder and childcare	1	0.8%
Small business group seem to be organised and supported	1	0.8%
Support of indigenous people	1	0.7%
Support of women in general	1	0.8%
They fixed the signs but it took a while	1	0.5%
Traffic and road surveys in 2014	1	1.0%
Upgrades to the Darebin Creek trail	1	1.0%
Welcome to asylum seekers	1	0.7%
Windsor Smith Factory	1	0.7%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Council advocacy campaigns by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
 (Number and percent of total responses)

Response	2016-17	
	Number	Percent
<i>Reservoir East</i>		
Level crossing removal	5	3.9%
Climate change	2	1.6%
Quality public housing	2	1.6%
A new stadium	1	0.8%
Campaigns against racism	1	0.8%
Elections	1	0.8%
Preston market	1	0.8%
Reservoir community advocacy group	1	0.8%
Senior citizens groups	1	0.8%
Solar energy	1	0.8%
Sustainability	1	0.8%
The Green advocacy	1	0.8%
<i>Reservoir West</i>		
Preston market	4	3.1%
Level crossing removal	2	1.6%
Voting	2	1.6%
Edwards Lake Park - community involvement	1	0.8%
Help those living on poverty line	1	0.8%
Improve traffic flow	1	0.8%
Lots of improvements to the Edwards Reserve	1	0.8%
Pockets of land released by state - purchase of road to keep green spaces	1	0.8%
Tram line extension	1	0.8%
Upgrades to the Darebin Creek trail	1	0.8%
<i>Preston East</i>		
Aquatic and Recreation Centre	2	1.6%
Solar energy campaigns	2	1.6%
86 tram line stop removal	1	0.8%
Domestic violence	1	0.8%
Encouraging people to walk	1	0.8%
Homecare services	1	0.8%
Library	1	0.8%
Overdevelopment	1	0.8%
Picking up dog poo in the parks	1	0.8%
Preston Market	1	0.8%
Rebuilding Mott Reserve	1	0.8%
Resurfacing of roads	1	0.8%
Sustainability	1	0.8%
Welcome to asylum seekers	1	0.8%

**Council advocacy campaigns by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of total responses)*

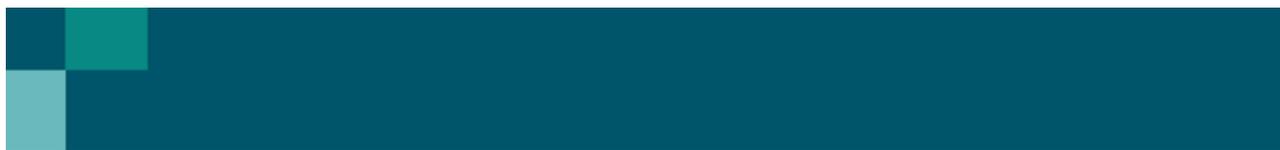
Response	2016-17	
	Number	Percent
<i>Preston West</i>		
Preston Market	4	3.1%
Bicycle infrastructure	2	1.6%
Environment campaigns	2	1.6%
Car parking	1	0.8%
Children's Christmas	1	0.8%
Dumping and cleaning	1	0.8%
LGBTIQ campaigns	1	0.8%
Multicultural campaigns	1	0.8%
Support of indigenous people	1	0.8%
Windsor Smith Factory	1	0.8%
<i>Fairfield/Alphington</i>		
Level crossing removal	4	3.1%
Chandler Highway Bridge	2	1.6%
Local food strategy	2	1.6%
Refugee issues	2	1.6%
Solar energy campaigns	2	1.6%
The Green advocacy	2	1.6%
Beginning to address overdevelopment and infrastructure	1	0.8%
Campaigns to state governments	1	0.8%
Communal food hub for Darebin	1	0.8%
Diversity Action Plan	1	0.8%
Domestic violence	1	0.8%
Environment campaigns	1	0.8%
Healthy Darebin campaign	1	0.8%
LGBTIQ campaigns	1	0.8%
Library	1	0.8%
Missing cat	1	0.8%
The Batman Park	1	0.8%
<i>Kingsbury-Bundoora</i>		
Advocating for Council services - to have an input on Meals on Wheels and services for new arrivals	1	0.8%
I know about going to communication	1	0.8%
Improve traffic flow	1	0.8%
LGBTIQ	1	0.8%
Multicultural campaigns	1	0.8%
Safety around Polarise Centre	1	0.8%
They fixed the signs but it took a while	1	0.8%

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**Council advocacy campaigns by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of total responses)*

<i>Response</i>	<i>2016-17</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
<i>Thornbury</i>		
Green advocacy	2	1.6%
Campaigns against racism	1	0.8%
Dumping and cleaning	1	0.8%
Environment campaigns	1	0.8%
Gambling prevention	1	0.8%
Multisport Stadium	1	0.8%
Overdevelopment	1	0.8%
Preston Market	1	0.8%
programs to parents	1	0.8%
Quality public housing	1	0.8%
Services fro kinder and childcare	1	0.8%
Small business group seem to be organised and supported	1	0.8%
Solar energy campaigns	1	0.8%
Support of women in general	1	0.8%
<i>Northcote</i>		
Arts programmes	2	1.6%
Batman Park	2	1.6%
The Green advocacy	2	1.6%
Advocacy for bike infrastructure	1	0.8%
Aquatic and Recreation Centre	1	0.8%
Ban the bag	1	0.8%
Cleaning in the waterways	1	0.8%
Diversity Action Plan	1	0.8%
Elections	1	0.8%
Gambling prevention	1	0.8%
Public housing	1	0.8%
Purchase at Rivoli Theatre and transformation into Arts & Culture Centre	1	0.8%
Refugee issues	1	0.8%
Traffic and road surveys in 2014	1	0.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>100%</b>



### ***Improvements in the local area***

Respondents were asked:

*“What, if any, improvements have you noticed in your local area in the last twelve months?”*

A total of 378 respondents (37.8% down from 38.9%) identified at least one improvement they had noticed in their local area in the last twelve months, identifying a total of 502 improvements.

Metropolis Research does note that respondents identified a very diverse range of improvements that they had noticed, although in relatively small numbers.

The top three types of improvements noticed by respondents in 2016-17 across the City of Darebin are broadly similar to those observed in the last few years, including:

- ⊗ ***Parks, gardens, and open space related*** – identified by 14.8% in 2016-17, down from 15.4% recorded last year.
- ⊗ ***Road maintenance and repair related*** – identified by 7.8% of respondents in 2016-17, up on the 3.9% recorded last year.
- ⊗ ***Footpath maintenance and repair related*** – identified by 3.5% of respondents in 2016-17, up on the 1.9% recorded last year.

There was relatively little meaningful variation in these results observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin.

The following section includes the top ten improvements noticed by respondents in each of the eight precincts.



**Improvements noticed in your local area in the last twelve months****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of total respondents)*

Issue	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15
	Number	Percent		
Parks, gardens and open space maintenance	148	14.8%	15.4%	9.5%
Roads maintenance and repairs	78	7.8%	3.9%	11.5%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	35	3.5%	1.9%	2.3%
Traffic management	31	3.1%	2.6%	1.0%
Street trees	22	2.2%	4.5%	4.0%
Bicycles and bike tracks	15	1.5%	2.1%	2.0%
Cleanliness and maintenance of areas	14	1.4%	0.9%	0.0%
Provision and maintenance of general infrastructure	11	1.1%	1.5%	1.3%
Library services	11	1.1%	1.4%	0.3%
Public transport	9	0.9%	2.0%	3.8%
Sports, recreation and entertainment facilities	9	0.9%	1.6%	1.0%
Aesthetics of local area	9	0.9%	1.3%	0.5%
Building, housing, planning and development	9	0.9%	1.2%	1.8%
Quality and provision of local shops	8	0.8%	1.8%	1.3%
Street lighting	8	0.8%	0.9%	1.0%
Consultation, communication and provision of info	8	0.8%	0.4%	0.5%
Parking	8	0.8%	0.1%	0.5%
Rubbish and waste including garbage collection	7	0.7%	1.0%	1.5%
Facilities and activities for children	6	0.6%	1.2%	0.0%
Environment, conservation and climate change	5	0.5%	0.3%	0.8%
Drains maintenance and repairs	5	0.5%	0.1%	1.0%
Street cleaning and maintenance	4	0.4%	0.5%	1.0%
Council management / governance	4	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Rates	3	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%
Multicultural issues / cultural diversity	3	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%
Community activities and events	3	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Promoting community atmosphere, art and culture	3	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%
Preston market	3	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%
Child care	2	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%
Activities and facilities for youth	2	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Graffiti / vandalism	1	0.1%	0.6%	0.3%
Safety, policing and crime	1	0.1%	0.4%	0.8%
Education and schools	1	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%
Recycling collection	1	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Public toilets	1	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Other	14	1.4%	0.5%	1.6%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>502</b>		<b>502</b>	<b>198</b>
<i>Respondents providing at least one aspect of improvement</i>	<i>378</i>		<i>389</i>	<i>148</i>
	<i>(37.8%)</i>		<i>(38.9%)</i>	<i>(37.5%)</i>

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**Improvements noticed in your local area in the last twelve months by precinct****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Percent of total respondents)*

Reservoir East		Reservoir West	
Roads maintenance and repairs	10.9%	Parks, gardens, open space	14.0%
Parks, gardens, open space	10.2%	Roads maintenance and repairs	7.8%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	4.7%	Street trees	3.9%
Traffic management	4.7%	Libraries	3.9%
Bicycles and bike tracks	2.3%	Quality and provision of local shops	3.9%
Cleanliness and maintenance of areas	1.6%	Cleanliness and maintenance of areas	3.1%
Community atmosphere, art and culture	1.6%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	3.1%
Street trees	1.6%	Traffic management	3.1%
Education and schools	0.8%	Consultation, comm. and prov. of info	2.3%
All other issues	6.3%	All other issues	15.5%
Preston East		Preston West	
Parks, gardens, open space	16.9%	Parks, gardens, open space	17.9%
Roads maintenance and repairs	8.1%	Roads maintenance and repairs	5.7%
Street trees	4.0%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	4.1%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	3.2%	Street trees	2.4%
Parking	1.6%	Traffic management	2.4%
Building, housing, planning and development	1.6%	Bicycles and bike tracks	2.4%
Prov. and maint. of general infrastructure	1.6%	Facilities and activities for children	2.4%
Rubbish and waste inclu. garbage collection	1.6%	Sports, recreation and facilities	1.6%
Rates	1.6%	Libraries	1.6%
All other issues	11.3%	All other issues	7.3%
Northcote		Thornbury	
Parks, gardens, open space	15.3%	Parks, gardens, open space	17.7%
Roads maintenance and repairs	7.3%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	5.6%
Traffic management	2.4%	Roads maintenance and repairs	4.8%
Aesthetics of local area	2.4%	Traffic management	3.2%
Bicycles and bike tracks	1.6%	Parking	1.6%
Drains maintenance and repairs	1.6%	Cleanliness and maintenance of areas	1.6%
Consultation, comm. and prov. of info	1.6%	Building, housing, planning and development	1.6%
Public transport	1.6%	Street trees	1.6%
Cleanliness and maintenance of areas	0.8%	Prov. and maint. of general infrastructure	1.6%
All other issues	6.5%	All other issues	
Kingsbury-Bundoora		Fairfield/Alphington	
Roads maintenance and repairs	12.1%	Parks, gardens, open space	16.9%
Parks, gardens, open space	11.3%	Roads maintenance and repairs	4.8%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	5.6%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	3.2%
Traffic management	5.6%	Street trees	2.4%
Cleanliness and maintenance of areas	1.6%	Traffic management	2.4%
Building, housing, planning and development	1.6%	Parking	1.6%
Street lighting	1.6%	Building, housing, planning and development	1.6%
Prov. and maint. of general infrastructure	1.6%	Street lighting	1.6%
Street trees	0.8%	Bicycles and bike tracks	1.6%
All other issues	7.3%	All other issues	12.1%

### ***Issues for Council to address in the next twelve months***

Respondents were asked:

*“Can you please list what you consider to be the three most important issues for Council to address in the next twelve months?”*

Respondents were provided an open-ended opportunity to identify what they considered to be the three most important issues for Council to address in the coming twelve months.

A total of 734 respondents representing 73.4% (up from 73.0%) of the total sample identified 1,492 separately categorised responses.

It is important to bear in mind when exploring these results to bear in mind that this question is not asking for a list of complaints about the performance of Council, rather it is designed to explore the range of issues of concern to residents that they believe Council should engage with in an attempt to improve outcomes for residents. This is borne out by the fact that many of the issues identified in this question are not specifically issues within the general remit of local government. Many of these are issues that the community may wish that Council would engage in lobbying and making representations to other levels of government in an attempt to improve outcomes for local residents.

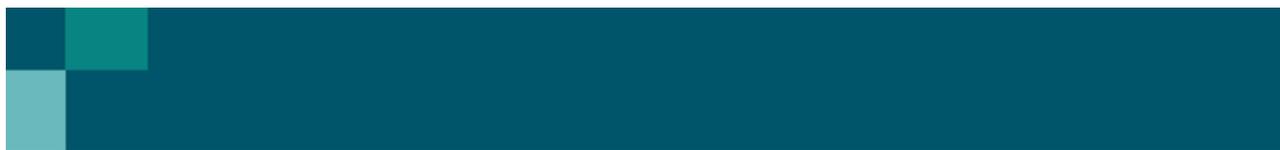
The responses have been broadly categorised for ease of interpretation, as outlined in the following tables. The individual responses which have been categorised are however available on request.

In 2016-17, the most important issue identified by respondents in the City of Darebin remains traffic management related issues. This issue was identified by a little less than twice as many respondents as the next most commonly identified issue, that being building, housing, planning and development related issues (22.8% compared to 14.1%).

In summary, the top three issues identified by respondents were as follows:

- ⊗ **Traffic management** – identified by 22.8% of respondents in 2016-17, down marginally on the 24.2% reported in 2015-16. This issue remains the most common issue for Council to address and is a significant issue in the Darebin community. Issues with the management of traffic and traffic congestion are a major theme identified in this report, including satisfaction with Council’s performance managing local traffic which is the service with the lowest level of satisfaction (6.38 compared to an average of 7.26). The section of this report that covers satisfaction with the volume and speed of traffic on both local streets and main roads showed relatively low levels of satisfaction with the volume and speed of traffic in and around the City of Darebin. Respondents that identified traffic management issues were on average somewhat less satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the municipal average (6.43 compared to 6.69). This is a finding that is not unique to the City of Darebin, and has been observed by Metropolis Research elsewhere across metropolitan Melbourne.

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- ⊗ **Building, housing, planning and development** – identified by 14.1% of respondents in 2016-17, down somewhat on the 16.9% reported in 2015-16. Issues with the nature, extent, and impact of new housing development in the City of Darebin are a significant theme developed throughout this report. This includes satisfaction with the six planning and housing development outcomes reported in this summary report. Respondents that identified this issue were on average measurably and significantly less satisfied with Council's overall performance than the municipal average (5.85 compared to 6.69). This strongly suggests that planning and housing development are a significant negative influence on the community's satisfaction with the performance of the Darebin City Council. This is a finding that is not unique to the City of Darebin, and has been observed by Metropolis Research elsewhere across metropolitan Melbourne.
- ⊗ **Parking** – identified by 10.1% of respondents in 2016-17 up marginally on the 7.5% reported in 2015-16. Dissatisfaction with the availability of parking was also discussed in the traffic and parking section of this report. Respondents identifying parking issues were on average measurably and significantly less satisfied with Council's overall performance than the municipal average (6.00 compared to 6.69). Parking issues are likely to be a negative influence on respondent satisfaction with the overall performance of the Darebin City Council.

When compared to the metropolitan Melbourne results as recorded in the 2017 *Governing Melbourne* research, some variation is observed with attention drawn to the following:

- **Higher than average in Darebin** – issues with building, housing, planning and development (14.1% compared to 10.9%), traffic management (22.8% compared to 20.8%), multicultural / cultural diversity (1.9% compared to 0.4%), parks, gardens, and open spaces (8.6% compared to 7.2%), environment, conservation and climate change (4.3% compared to 3.0%), childcare (1.4% compared to 0.2%), and consultation, communication and the provision of information (3.7% compared to 2.6%).
- **Lower than average in Darebin** – issues with cleanliness and maintenance of the area (1.2% compared to 9.2%), safety, policing and crime (6.3% compared to 15.2%), street lighting (2.8% compared to 10.4%), road maintenance and repairs (5.1% compared to 11.3%), parking (10.1% compared to 15.8%), footpath maintenance and repairs (5.4% compared to 8.5%), hard rubbish collection (1.1% compared to 2.8%), and street trees (4.6% compared to 6.0%).

Metropolis Research draws particular attention to safety, policing and crime related issues, which were significantly more commonly identified in metropolitan Melbourne than in the City of Darebin. Metropolis Research notes that community concern with safety and crime related issues increased across metropolitan Melbourne significantly in the first half of 2017, and that this may be reflected in the variation in results between the City of Darebin and the metropolitan Melbourne results.

It is also noted that the two most commonly identified issues in the City of Darebin relating to traffic management and building, housing, planning and development were both identified by a larger proportion of respondents in the City of Darebin than the metropolitan Melbourne average.

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**Top issues for Council to address in the next twelve months**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of total respondents)*

Issue	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15	2014	2013	metro. Melb.*
	Number	Percent					
Traffic management	228	22.8%	24.2%	25.9%	21.1%	23.0%	20.8%
Building, housing, planning and development	141	14.1%	16.9%	12.3%	10.3%	10.6%	10.9%
Parking	101	10.1%	7.5%	8.9%	5.5%	7.4%	15.8%
Parks, gardens, open space	86	8.6%	7.4%	6.9%	8.3%	7.8%	7.2%
Safety, policing and crime	63	6.3%	5.3%	5.5%	3.5%	3.5%	15.2%
Public transport	56	5.6%	4.1%	3.9%	4.6%	2.8%	5.2%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	54	5.4%	6.6%	4.4%	6.9%	5.3%	8.5%
Roads maintenance and repairs	51	5.1%	7.4%	4.8%	6.0%	5.5%	11.3%
Street trees	46	4.6%	5.7%	3.9%	7.8%	11.8%	6.0%
Rubbish and waste including garbage collection	44	4.4%	3.2%	5.3%	3.6%	6.6%	4.2%
Environment, conservation and climate change	43	4.3%	6.3%	6.6%	7.0%	4.8%	3.0%
Rates	40	4.0%	3.3%	4.5%	5.6%	5.6%	3.6%
Consultation, comm. and prov. of information	37	3.7%	2.7%	5.6%	4.8%	3.6%	2.6%
Bicycles and bike tracks	34	3.4%	4.6%	3.9%	2.4%	3.3%	3.8%
Street lighting	28	2.8%	3.1%	2.9%	2.9%	4.4%	10.4%
Preston market	22	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	n.a.
Sports and recreation facilities	22	2.2%	1.5%	1.5%	1.6%	1.4%	2.3%
Street cleaning and maintenance	21	2.1%	2.6%	3.1%	3.9%	7.1%	2.2%
Services and facilities for the elderly	20	2.0%	1.0%	1.5%	1.5%	2.6%	2.1%
Multicultural issues / cultural diversity	19	1.9%	2.1%	1.4%	0.9%	1.0%	0.4%
Council management and governance	18	1.8%	1.4%	1.4%	0.8%	2.1%	2.2%
Recycling	18	1.8%	0.3%	0.4%	0.8%	1.3%	0.9%
Level crossing removal	18	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	n.a.
Drains maintenance and repairs	16	1.6%	0.8%	0.9%	1.4%	4.1%	1.8%
Promoting comm. atmosphere, arts and culture	16	1.6%	1.4%	0.6%	0.4%	1.1%	1.2%
Childcare	14	1.4%	1.9%	0.6%	0.8%	0.8%	0.2%
Community activities and events	14	1.4%	1.3%	2.0%	2.0%	0.6%	2.0%
Quality and provision of local shops	13	1.3%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	2.1%	1.0%
Services for persons with a disability	13	1.3%	0.8%	0.9%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
Education and schools	12	1.2%	1.3%	0.8%	0.5%	2.0%	1.5%
Cleanliness and maintenance of area	12	1.2%	2.9%	3.3%	3.8%	2.3%	10.4%
Provision and maint. of general infrastructure	12	1.2%	1.6%	1.3%	1.0%	2.8%	2.1%
Hard rubbish collection	11	1.1%	1.5%	3.0%	3.9%	2.6%	2.8%
Graffiti / vandalism	11	1.1%	1.5%	1.1%	1.1%	0.8%	1.5%
Aesthetics of area	9	0.9%	1.1%	0.9%	0.6%	1.8%	0.2%
Quality and provision of Council services	9	0.9%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	1.8%	1.2%
Support for local business	8	0.8%	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
All other issues	112	11.2%	4.7%	4.3%	4.1%	8.3%	22.9%
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>1,492</b>		<b>1,445</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>1,089</b>	<b>1,277</b>	<b>1,525</b>
<i>Respondents providing at least one issue</i>	734		730	552	535	609	692
	(73.4%)		(73.0%)	(69.0%)	(66.9%)	(76.1%)	(85.3%)

(\*) 2017 Governing Melbourne



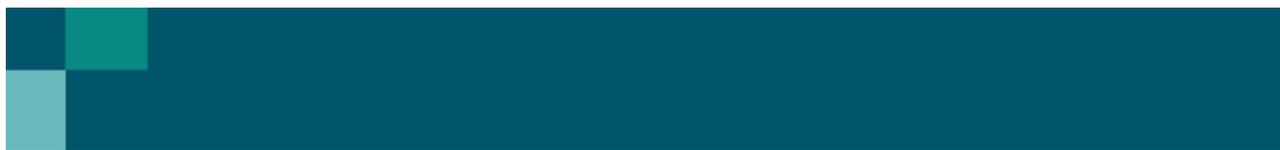
There was some notable variation in the top issues for Council to address observed across the eight precincts comprising the City of Darebin, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Reservoir East** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify level crossing removal (5.5%) and services and facilities for the elderly (4.7%) issues.
- ⊗ **Reservoir West** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify public transport (17.1%) and street lighting (4.7%) issues.
- ⊗ **Preston East** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify building, housing, planning and development (21.8%), safety, policing and crime (12.9%), parks, gardens, and open spaces (12.1%), and environment, conservation, and climate change (7.3%) issues.
- ⊗ **Preston West** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify building, housing, planning and development (20.3%), environment, conservation, and climate change (8.1%), and the Preston Market (5.7%) issues.
- ⊗ **Northcote** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify street trees (8.1%), Council rates (7.3%), and promoting community atmosphere, arts and culture (4.0%) issues.
- ⊗ **Thornbury** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify building, housing, planning and development (21.8%), rubbish and waste (including garbage collection) (8.1%), bicycle and bike tracks and paths (7.3%), and childcare (4.0%) issues.
- ⊗ **Kingsbury-Bundoora** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify parking (17.7%) and drain maintenance and repair (4.0%) issues.
- ⊗ **Fairfield-Alphington** – respondents were measurably and significantly more likely than average to identify traffic management (34.7%), and somewhat more likely than average to identify drains maintenance and repair (4.0%) issues.



**Top ten issues for Council by precinct**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Percent of total respondents)*

<b>Reservoir East</b>		<b>Reservoir West</b>	
Traffic management	22.7%	Traffic management	24.0%
Safety, policing and crime	9.4%	Public transport	17.1%
Parks, gardens, open space	7.8%	Building, housing, planning and development	14.0%
Parking	6.3%	Parks, gardens, open space	10.1%
Building, housing, planning and development	5.5%	Roads maintenance and repairs	6.2%
Public transport	5.5%	Consultation, comm. and prov. of info.	5.4%
Rubbish and waste inclu. garbage collection	5.5%	Safety, policing and crime	5.4%
Level crossing removal	5.5%	Street lighting	4.7%
Services and facilities for the elderly	4.7%	Street trees	4.7%
All other issues	50.8%	All other issues	66.7%
<b>Preston East</b>		<b>Preston West</b>	
Building, housing, planning and development	21.8%	Traffic management	26.0%
Traffic management	20.2%	Building, housing, planning and development	20.3%
Parking	12.9%	Parks, gardens, open space	10.6%
Safety, policing and crime	12.9%	Parking	8.1%
Parks, gardens, open space	12.1%	Envir., conservation and climate change	8.1%
Consultation, comm. and prov. of info.	8.1%	Roads maintenance and repairs	5.7%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	8.1%	Preston market	5.7%
Envir., conservation and climate change	7.3%	Rates	4.9%
Roads maintenance and repairs	7.3%	Public transport	4.1%
All other issues	70.2%	All other issues	65.0%
<b>Northcote</b>		<b>Thornbury</b>	
Traffic management	17.7%	Traffic management	24.2%
Parking	13.7%	Building, housing, planning and development	21.8%
Parks, gardens, open space	11.3%	Parking	12.1%
Building, housing, planning and development	9.7%	Rubbish and waste inclu. garbage collection	8.1%
Street trees	8.1%	Bicycles and bike tracks	7.3%
Rates	7.3%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	6.5%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	6.5%	Envir., conservation and climate change	5.6%
Envir., conservation and climate change	4.8%	Safety, policing and crime	4.8%
Community atmosphere, art and culture	4.0%	Child care	4.0%
All other issues	54.8%	All other issues	57.3%
<b>Kingsbury-Bundoora</b>		<b>Fairfield/Alphington</b>	
Traffic management	19.4%	Traffic management	34.7%
Parking	17.7%	Building, housing, planning and development	18.5%
Safety, policing and crime	8.9%	Parking	12.9%
Roads maintenance and repairs	8.1%	Public transport	6.5%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	8.1%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	6.5%
Rubbish and waste inclu. garbage collection	7.3%	Parks, gardens, open space	5.6%
Building, housing, planning and development	6.5%	Rates	5.6%
Parks, gardens, open space	4.0%	Street trees	5.6%
Drains maintenance and repairs	4.0%	Drains maintenance and repairs	4.0%
All other issues	51.6%	All other issues	63.7%



There was some notable variation in the top issues for Council to address in the next twelve months observed by respondent profile, with attention drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Young adults (aged 20 to 35 years)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify rubbish and waste issues (including garbage collection) (6.3%).
- ⊗ **Adults (aged 36 to 45 years)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify traffic management (26.6%) and building, housing, planning and development (18.7%) issues.
- ⊗ **Middle-aged adults (aged 46 to 60 years)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify building, housing, planning and development (17.2%), Council rates (6.9%), environment, conservation, and climate change (6.9%), and Council governance and leadership (5.7%) issues.
- ⊗ **Older adults (aged 61 to 75 years)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify traffic management (28.2%) and footpath maintenance and repair (11.4%) issues.
- ⊗ **Senior citizens (aged 76 years and over)** – respondents were somewhat more likely than average to identify public transport (8.1%), level crossing removal (4.8%), and services and facilities for the elderly (4.8%) issues.
- ⊗ **Male** – respondents were somewhat more likely than female respondents to identify parking (11.1%), road maintenance and repairs (5.9%), and Council rates (4.1%) issues.
- ⊗ **Female** – respondents were somewhat more likely than male respondents to identify building, housing, planning and development (16.3%), parks, gardens, and open spaces (10.3%), public transport (6.9%), footpath maintenance and repairs (6.2%), and street trees (6.0%) issues.
- ⊗ **English speaking households** – respondents were somewhat more likely than respondents from multi-lingual households to identify traffic management (24.6%), building, housing, planning and development (17.9%), parks, gardens, and open spaces (9.5%), and environment, conservation and climate change (5.5%).
- ⊗ **Multi-lingual households** – respondents were somewhat more likely than respondents from English speaking households to identify safety, policing and crime (9.6%), and Council rates (5.1%) issues.
- ⊗ **Disability status** – respondents from households with a member with a disability were somewhat more likely than other respondents to identify public transport (12.3%), footpath maintenance and repairs (8.5%), services and facilities for the elderly (5.4%), and street lighting (4.6%) issues.



**Top ten issues for Council by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Percent of total respondents)*

Adolescents (15 to 19 years)		Young adults (20 to 35 years)	
Traffic management	10.0%	Traffic management	16.5%
Parks, gardens, open space	10.0%	Parks, gardens, open space	9.0%
Parking	10.0%	Building, housing, planning and develop.	7.8%
Hard rubbish collection	5.0%	Consultation, commun. and prov. of info.	7.1%
Street lighting	5.0%	Parking	6.7%
Prov. and maint. of general infrastructure	5.0%	Rubbish and waste inclu. garbage collection	6.3%
Housing affordability	5.0%	Safety, policing and crime	5.9%
		Envir., conservation and climate change	5.5%
		Roads maintenance and repairs	4.7%
		All other issues	49.0%

Adults (36 to 45 years)		Middle aged adults (46 to 60 years)	
Traffic management	26.6%	Traffic management	23.8%
Building, housing, planning and develop.	18.7%	Building, housing, planning and develop.	17.2%
Parks, gardens, open space	11.5%	Parking	12.6%
Parking	9.9%	Rates	6.9%
Public transport	7.5%	Public transport	6.9%
Safety, policing and crime	6.3%	Envir., conservation and climate change	6.9%
Roads maintenance and repairs	6.3%	Parks, gardens, open space	6.5%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	6.0%	Safety, policing and crime	6.5%
Street trees	5.2%	Council management / governance	5.7%
All other issues	75.0%	All other issues	71.3%

Older adults (61 - 75 years)		Senior citizens (76 years and over)	
Traffic management	28.2%	Traffic management	19.4%
Building, housing, planning and develop.	12.8%	Building, housing, planning and develop.	14.5%
Parking	11.4%	Parking	11.3%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	11.4%	Public transport	8.1%
Parks, gardens, open space	6.7%	Parks, gardens, open space	6.5%
Safety, policing and crime	6.7%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	6.5%
Street trees	6.7%	Level crossing removal	4.8%
Roads maintenance and repairs	6.0%	Services and facilities for the elderly	4.8%
Drains maintenance and repairs	4.7%	Street lighting	3.2%
All other issues	53.0%	All other issues	45.2%

**Top ten issues for Council by respondent profile**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Percent of total respondents)*

Males		Females	
Traffic management	22.4%	Traffic management	22.8%
Building, housing, planning and develop.	11.5%	Building, housing, planning and develop.	16.3%
Parking	11.1%	Parks, gardens, open space	10.3%
Parks, gardens, open space	6.5%	Parking	9.4%
Safety, policing and crime	6.1%	Public transport	6.9%
Roads maintenance and repairs	5.9%	Safety, policing and crime	6.6%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	4.3%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	6.2%
Rates	4.1%	Street trees	6.0%
Public transport	4.1%	Envir., conservation and climate change	4.9%
All other issues	55.4%	All other issues	73.6%

English speaking		Multi-lingual	
Traffic management	24.6%	Traffic management	19.9%
Building, housing, planning and develop.	17.9%	Parking	9.8%
Parking	10.3%	Safety, policing and crime	9.6%
Parks, gardens, open space	9.5%	Building, housing, planning and develop.	7.7%
Public transport	6.0%	Parks, gardens, open space	6.6%
Roads maintenance and repairs	5.7%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	5.6%
Envir., conservation and climate change	5.5%	Rates	5.1%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	5.3%	Public transport	5.1%
Rubbish and waste inclu. garbage collection	5.2%	Roads maintenance and repairs	4.3%
All other issues	72.9%	All other issues	54.5%

Household member with a disability		Household member without a disability	
Traffic management	23.1%	Traffic management	22.8%
Public transport	12.3%	Building, housing, planning and develop.	14.8%
Building, housing, planning and develop.	10.0%	Parking	10.3%
Parking	10.0%	Parks, gardens, open space	8.9%
Footpath maintenance and repairs	8.5%	Safety, policing and crime	6.7%
Parks, gardens, open space	6.9%	Roads maintenance and repairs	5.0%
Roads maintenance and repairs	6.2%	Footpath maintenance and repairs	5.0%
Services and facilities for the elderly	5.4%	Envir., conservation and climate change	4.8%
Street lighting	4.6%	Street trees	4.8%
All other issues	58.5%	All other issues	67.4%

### ***Correlation between issues and satisfaction with overall performance***

The following graph provides a comparison of respondents' satisfaction with the performance of Council across all areas of responsibility by the main issues for Council to address in the coming twelve months.

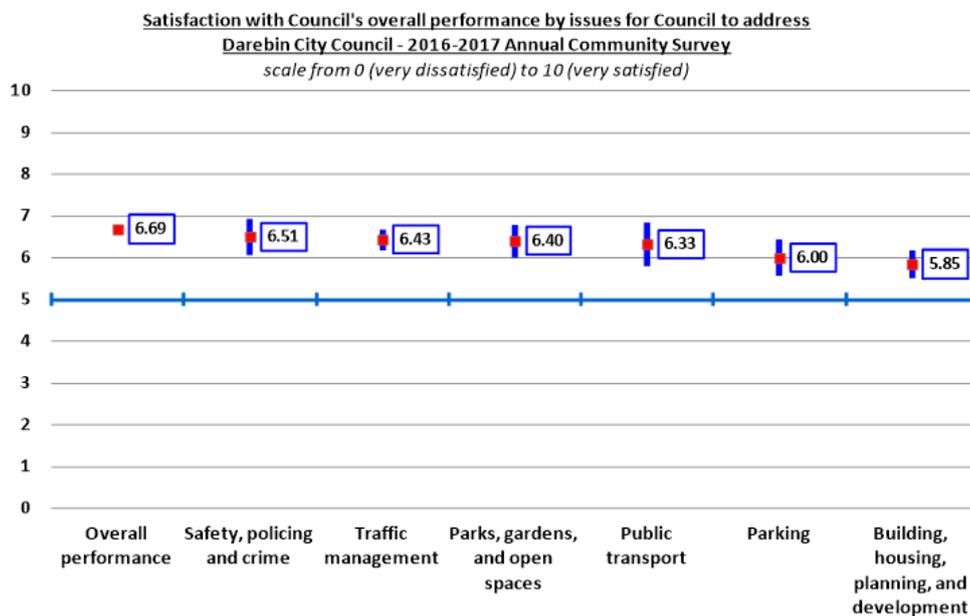




Whilst overall satisfaction with Council was rated at 6.69 out of ten (a level of satisfaction categorised as “good”, respondents that identified the top six issues on average were somewhat less satisfied than this municipal average result. Particular attention is drawn to the following:

- ⊗ **Traffic management** – respondents identifying traffic management related issues were on average significantly, albeit not measurably less satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the municipal average. This issue is likely to be a negative influence on satisfaction with Council’s overall performance.
- ⊗ **Parking and building, housing, planning and development** – respondents identifying these two issues were on average measurably and significantly less satisfied with Council’s overall performance than the municipal average. Respondents identifying parking rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “solid”, whilst respondents identifying building, housing, planning and development issues rated satisfaction at a level categorised as “poor”. These two issues are highly likely to be exerting a significant negative influence on respondents’ satisfaction with Council’s overall performance.

Metropolis Research notes that the issues of traffic management, parking, and housing development are major themes observed in numerous questions throughout this report. These are the major issues of importance to the Darebin community and are likely to be significant negative influences on the community’s’ satisfaction with the performance of the Darebin City Council.



## Respondent profile

Demographic information is collected as a means of checking the validity of the sample annually as well as providing detail by which questions can be analysed. Metropolis Research notes the extremely strong degree of stability in the sample over many years.

### Age

#### Lifecycle stage

##### Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey

(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Lifecycle stage	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15	2014	2013	2012
	Number	Percent					
15 - 19 years	20	2.0%	2.4%	2.6%	2.8%	2.5%	1.3%
20 - 35 years	255	25.5%	26.7%	28.0%	26.7%	24.1%	29.0%
36 - 45 years	252	25.2%	24.3%	24.2%	25.9%	27.2%	30.7%
46 - 60 years	261	26.1%	25.9%	26.3%	26.8%	27.4%	21.7%
61 - 75 years	149	14.9%	13.8%	15.7%	13.8%	13.9%	11.0%
76 years and over	62	6.2%	6.8%	3.1%	4.0%	4.9%	6.3%
Not stated	1		1	6	2	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>

### Gender

#### Gender

##### Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey

(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Gender	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15	2014	2013	2012
	Number	Percent					
Male	460	46.1%	48.1%	47.5%	49.6%	51.6%	49.1%
Female	534	53.5%	51.8%	52.4%	50.3%	48.4%	50.9%
Other	4	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	n.a.	n.a.
Not stated	2		7	10	6	4	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>



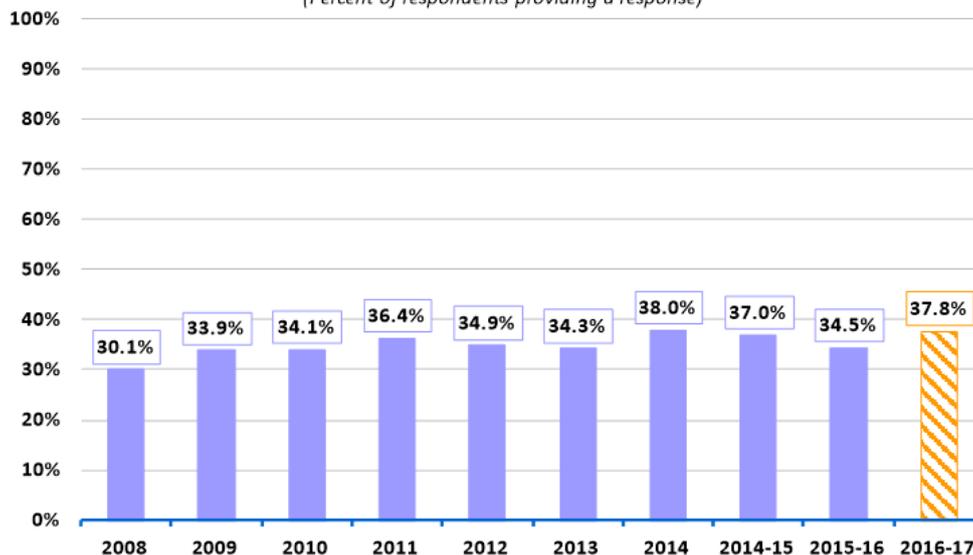
**Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander**

**Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)*

Response	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15
	Number	Percent		
Yes	13	1.3%	1.1%	0.9%
No	974	98.7%	98.9%	99.1%
Not stated	13		8	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>

**Language**

**Multi-lingual household**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Percent of respondents providing a response)*



**Language spoken at home****Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey***(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)*

Language	2015-2016		2015-16	2014-15	2014	2013	2012
	Number	Percent					
English	619	62.2%	65.6%	63.0%	61.8%	65.7%	65.1%
Italian	79	7.9%	6.7%	8.6%	9.3%	6.5%	7.4%
Greek	58	5.8%	5.2%	5.5%	5.7%	6.0%	7.2%
Macedonian	22	2.2%	1.3%	1.0%	1.0%	1.2%	1.7%
Vietnamese	21	2.1%	1.6%	1.5%	2.0%	3.0%	1.0%
Hindi	20	2.0%	1.5%	3.0%	3.2%	1.3%	2.8%
Mandarin	20	2.0%	1.5%	1.9%	1.3%	0.5%	1.5%
Arabic	16	1.6%	1.5%	1.9%	2.4%	1.7%	1.9%
German	10	1.0%	0.7%	0.3%	0.5%	0.2%	0.9%
Chinese n.f.d.	9	0.9%	1.9%	0.9%	1.7%	4.7%	1.7%
French	8	0.8%	0.5%	0.6%	0.8%	0.3%	0.0%
Spanish	6	0.6%	0.7%	1.0%	1.4%	0.5%	0.5%
Polish	6	0.6%	0.2%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%
Punjabi	6	0.6%	0.2%	0.9%	0.6%	0.0%	0.6%
Tagalog (Filipino)	5	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%
Bengali	5	0.5%	0.3%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Nepali	5	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Portugese	4	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%
Tamil	3	0.3%	0.6%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Somali	3	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Urdu	3	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Maltese	3	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Cantonese	3	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.6%	0.8%	0.9%
Hungarian	3	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Afrikaans	2	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Korean	2	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Malayalam	2	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Dutch	2	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%
Japanese	1	0.1%	0.5%	0.3%	0.1%	0.7%	0.4%
Persian	1	0.1%	0.5%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Thai	1	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%
Sinhalese	1	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
Russian	1	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%
Multiple	22	2.2%	2.4%	1.7%	1.3%	1.0%	0.6%
All other languages	23	2.3%	2.7%	2.4%	3.6%	2.2%	3.0%
Not stated	5		15	13	15	2	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>799</b>



## Disability

**Household members identified as having a disability**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)*

Disability	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15	2014	2013	2012
	Number	Percent					
Yes	130	13.1%	10.2%	9.7%	15.9%	8.1%	11.8%
No	861	86.9%	89.8%	90.3%	84.1%	90.8%	87.6%
Not stated	9		7	8	19	9	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>

## Current housing situation

**Housing situation**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)*

Situation	2016-17		2015-16	2014-15	2014	2013	2012
	Number	Percent					
Own this home	433	43.9%	42.5%	44.6%	41.2%	48.7%	43.9%
Mortgage	237	24.0%	25.5%	20.7%	26.7%	25.5%	26.3%
Renting this home	271	27.5%	28.2%	30.2%	27.6%	24.5%	28.1%
Renting ( <i>Office of Housing</i> )	35	3.5%	2.8%	3.7%	3.8%	1.0%	0.9%
Other arrangement	11	1.1%	1.0%	0.9%	0.6%	0.4%	0.8%
Not stated	13		10	11	18	15	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>

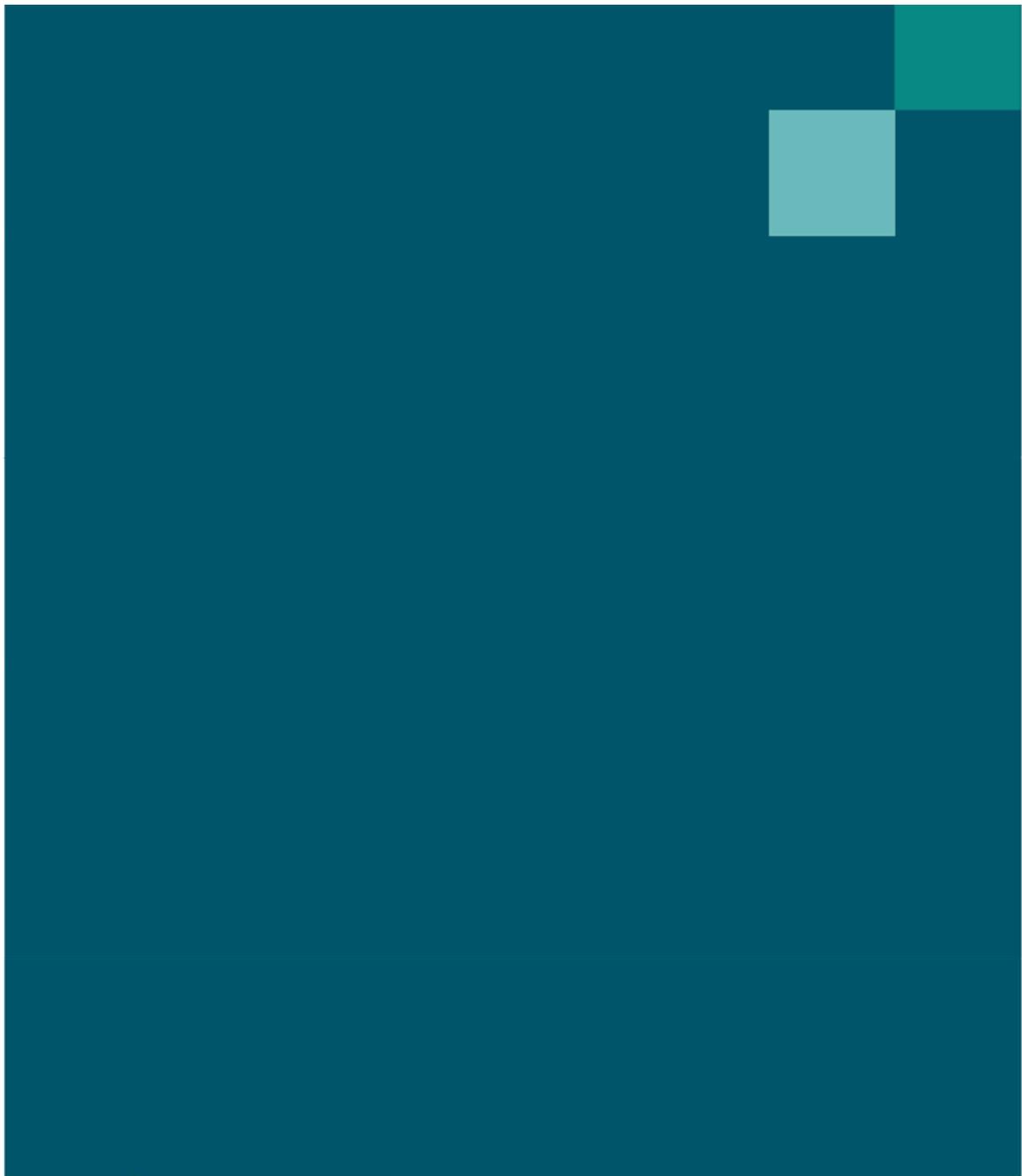


### *Period of residence*

**Period of residence in the City of Darebin**  
**Darebin City Council - 2016-2017 Annual Community Survey**  
*(Number and percent of respondents providing a response)*

<i>Period</i>	<i>2016-17</i>		<i>2015-16</i>	<i>2014-15</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2012</i>
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>					
Less than 1 year	105	10.5%	9.4%	12.2%	10.0%	7.5%	6.7%
1 to less than 5 years	225	22.6%	23.2%	23.2%	23.5%	21.0%	24.7%
5 to less than 10 years	145	14.5%	15.2%	17.0%	17.5%	14.8%	19.6%
10 years or more	522	52.4%	52.2%	47.6%	48.9%	56.7%	49.0%
Not stated	3		1	4	1	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>800</b>





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Ελληνικά Soomalii  
हिंदी Tiếng Việt



**8.3 PENDERS PARK MASTER PLAN - COMMUNITY PROJECT CONTROL GROUP****Author:** Manager Transport and Public Places**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

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**Report Background**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Penders Park Master Plan, the proposed project methodology and outline the Community Project Control Group Terms of Reference for Council's endorsement.

**Previous Council Resolution**

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

The development of the master plan and the playspace upgrade is the first stage of Council's commitment to item 2.2 of the Council Plan 2017-2021 to build an all abilities play space. The development of the master plan is in accordance with the actions identified in the following strategic documents for Penders Park:

- Open Space Strategy 2007-2017
- Playspace Strategy 2010-2020
- Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025

**Summary**

Penders Park is a major neighbourhood park bounded by Pender Street, St David Street, Tharrat Street and Collins Street in Thornbury. The park attracts residents that live in the local area and caters for informal recreation needs of the local community such as walking, using the existing playground, access for picnics, shelter and toilet facilities.

A master plan for Penders Park was developed in 2002 however 15 years on, Council recognise that the community demographic and resultant demands may have changed and it is appropriate to review and revisit the master plan to direct future works in the park.

Given the strong community interest in Penders Park, Darebin Council is keen to take a different approach to engagement with the community and stakeholders and is proposing to establish a Community Project Control Group (PCG). The PCG will be formed from community members, chaired by one Rucker Ward Councillor and will have the task of consulting the community, designing and developing the Penders Park Master Plan for adoption by Council.

This will be a community led design process that delivers a new master plan that will guide development of the park over the next four years and provide a set of actions and projects to be delivered during this time, including an implementation program and budget estimates.

**Recommendation**

**That Council:**

- (1) Endorses the Community Project Control Group Terms of Reference attached as **Appendix A**.
- (2) Appoints Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ as the chairperson of the Community Project Control Group.
- (3) Notes at the conclusion of the Expression of Interest process a further report will be submitted to Council for endorsement of the Community Project Control Group members.

**Introduction**

- Penders Park has a total area of 1.9 hectares and is owned and managed by Council. The park is subject to a Public Park and Recreation zone (PPRZ), with Heritage Overlay HO290 that applies to the entire site. The heritage overlay recognises the significance features including the existing avenue trees, layout of the park and bluestone archway entries to the park.
- The Expression of Interest (EOI) process will be developed in consultation with the councillor appointed to the Community Project Control Group. The aim of the EOI process will be to ensure the diverse community is represented.



## Issues and Discussion

A master plan for Penders Park was developed in 2002 however 15 years on, Council recognise that the community demographic and resultant demands may have changed and it is appropriate to review and revisit the master plan to direct future works in the park.

### Key Outcomes

- Form a Community PCG through an Expression of Interest process.
- PCG to develop a timeline for development of the Penders Park Master Plan.
- PCG to develop a thorough and inclusive community and stakeholder consultation process.
- PCG to develop a project scope/brief based on community and stakeholder consultation.
- PCG to develop the master plan including scope, key actions and implementation priorities.
- PCG may be called upon to provide ongoing feedback and recommendations at the various stages of the implementation phase.

### Project Parameters and Constraints

- Timeframe – the master plan is to be completed and endorsed by Council by the end of the 2017-2018 financial year (30 June 2018).
- Budget – the implementation of the actions identified in the master plan will be considered through the standard Council budget process.
- The master plan actions and recommendations are to be in accordance with the existing Heritage Overlay (HO290). Existing heritage listed park features are to be retained and protected.
- The study area is limited to within the existing park boundary.
- The master plan is expected to provide for an all abilities playspace.
- The master plan will include an upgrade to the existing toilets to provide accessible facilities.

### Governance Structure

- The PCG will consist of 8 community members selected based on the selection criteria outlined in item 5 of the Terms of Reference.
- The PCG will be chaired and facilitated by one of the Rucker Ward Councillors.
- Support by Council officers will be provided to the group subject to request by the PCG.

### Next Steps

- 24 November to 17 December 2017 – Expression of Interest period (3 weeks).
  - Advertise in local papers
  - Your Say Page
  - Social media posts
  - Council website
  - Letter drop to 500m around the park
  - Posters at the park

- Promotion of the PCG and EOI process to various community groups to ensure a broad representation through the submission process
- Drop in session at Penders Park to advertise EOI (Saturday 9 December 2017)
- 18 - 22 December 2017 - Evaluation and Selection of Community PCG members.
- February 2018 – Council Report to endorse the Community PCG members.
- February / March 2018 – Hold the first PCG meeting.

### **Terms of Reference**

The Terms of Reference are attached at **Appendix A** and provide details on the following:

- Purpose of the PCG
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Project Constraints
- Selection Criteria for Membership
- Selection Process
- Councillor Representation on the PCG
- Meetings and Reporting
- Term of the PCG
- Review of the PCG Terms of Reference
- Method of Resignation
- Relevant Documents

### **Options for Consideration**

#### **Option 1 - Support the creation of a Community PCG and the project methodology**

This option will empower the community to make decisions about the future of their local park. It is a new consultation model for Darebin and will enable Council to monitor the effectiveness of the approach. This option aligns with the Council Plan, Darebin Open space Strategy, Playspace Strategy and Toilet Strategy.

#### **Option 2 - Not support the creation of a Community PCG and the project methodology**

This option would see Council undertaking their usual consultation process which would still include the establishment of a Community Reference Groups however it would be under the management of Council officers.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

- \$50,000 has been allocated in the 2017/2018 Capital Works budget for the creation of the master plan.
- A 2018/2019 Capital Bid to the value of \$250,000 has been prepared for Year 1 implementation of the Penders Park master plan. This will be considered during the 2018/2019 budget process.
- The projects identified by the master planning process will form the basis of future Capital Works submissions and Council will be required to commit funds to the implementation programme over four years following endorsement of the master plan.

- Ongoing maintenance costs for the site would be approximately \$10,000 per year and form part of Councils operational costs.

### **Risk Management**

The risk is that the Community PCG does not deliver on the project. Council will reserve the right to discontinue the PCG at any time and take over the master planning process.

### **Policy Implications**

#### **Economic Development**

Increasing amenity, usability and accessibility of public open space will have a positive impact on the community by creating places for communities to gather and make vital connections. This has a positive impact in increasing retail traffic and visitation numbers, having a positive flow-on effect on adjacent retail centres, residential area and public transport corridors.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

Protection of the existing heritage trees and enhancement of the existing vegetation at Penders Park including possibly increasing the canopy coverage in the park will ensure that the environmental benefit of the park is retained and improved.

#### **Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

Public open spaces enhance the social and community value of this neighbourhood by improving access to open space in areas that are lacking or going through urban transition, providing much needed local space for people to gather and interact.

#### **Other**

Nil

#### **Future Actions**

- 24 November to 17 December 2017 – Expression of Interest period.
- 18 - 22 December 2017 - Evaluation and Selection of Community PCG members.
- February 2018 – Further Council report to endorse the Community PCG members.

#### **Consultation and Advocacy**

- Chief Executive Officer
- Manager Transport and Public Spaces
- Coordinator Public Places
- Landscape Architect Public Places
- Coordinator Community Engagement and Demographics
- Research Officer Community Engagement and Demographics.

#### **Related Documents**

- Penders Park Master Plan 2002

**Attachments**

- Penders Park PCG Terms of Reference (**Appendix A**)

**Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

DRAFT



## Terms of Reference

### Community Project Control Group - Penders Park Master Plan

November 2017

#### 1. BACKGROUND

Penders Park is a major neighbourhood park bounded by Pender Street, St David Street, Tharrat Street and Collins Street, Thornbury. The park attracts residents that live in the local area and caters for informal recreation needs of the local community such as walking, using the playground, access to picnic shelter and toilet facilities.

Darebin Council's Open Space Strategy categorises Penders Park as Formal Parkland. This is also recognised in the 2002 Penders Park Landscape Masterplan, which states the historic values and features of the park including the *"established mature trees in avenues, specimen trees (usually exotic), formal border planting treatments, buildings and structures, shelters, band stands, fencing, paving, garden or park layout and design"*.

15 years on from the 2002 version of the master plan, Council recognises this opportunity to review and revisit this master plan to direct future developments in the park, in light of the changing community in Thornbury.

Darebin Council is keen to take a different approach to engagement with the community and stakeholders and is proposing to establish a Community Project Control Group that includes community members for the purpose of designing and developing the Penders Park Master Plan.

The new master plan will guide development of the park over the next four years and provide a set of actions and projects to be delivered during this time including an implementation program and budget estimates.

One of the central focus of the master plan is the design and construction of an all abilities play space to replace the current play space. The development of the master plan and the playspace upgrade confirms Council's commitment to expanding and improving our network of open and green spaces, parks and natural environments (Goal 1.3 of Darebin's Council Plan) and to the implementation of an all abilities playspace (Goal 2.2 of Darebin's Council Plan).

#### 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the **Penders Park Community Project Control Group (PCG)** is to design and develop the master plan for Penders Park with the support and guidance from Council.

### 3. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The role and responsibilities of the Penders Park Community Project Control Group (PCG) are to:

- **Develop a timeline** for the preparation of the Penders Park Master Plan, taking into consideration that the master plan is to be completed and endorsed by Council **by the end of financial year 2017-2018 (30 June 2018)**.
- **Develop a thorough and inclusive community and stakeholder consultation process** that will gather feedback at key stages of the preparation of the master plan. The PCG will have to agree on the nature and timing of this consultation process. This can be done with assistance from Council Landscape Architects/ Project Managers if required.
- After the initial round of community and stakeholder consultation, the **PCG will be responsible for translating the community vision and feedback into a project scope/brief** while taking into consideration the project constraints as nominated in item 4 of this document.
- **Develop the master plan, including the scope, key actions and implementation priorities** while taking into consideration the project constraints as nominated in item 4 of this document. This can be done with assistance from Council Landscape Architects/ Project Managers if required.
- **Provide feedback and develop recommendations at the various design stages** during (1) the preparation of the master plan and (2) the project implementation phase. This includes the conceptual design of major projects identified in the Penders Park Master Plan, including - but is not limited to - the all abilities play space.

The PCG shall make recommendations based on **general consensus**. This means that **all members of the PCG must agree on the recommendations**. In the event consensus cannot be reached then resolution shall be sought via a report to Council.

**Any procurement of consultants and expenditure of funds will be done by Council officers**, in accordance with Council procurement policies & procedures, and Council budgets. The PCG shall provide input into the Council procurement process regarding suggestions for the engagement of specialist consultants and a role in the evaluation of submissions.

Support by Council officers will be provided to the group subject to request by the PCG.

Members of the PCG are expected to provide detailed input on local issues and initiatives by:

- **Attending and actively participating in meetings** which can be held at or near the park. Council can also assist with venue for meetings if required.
- **Liaising with local residents, other community organisations and community members** to distribute information about the project and gather feedback.
- **Being respectful of other PCG members** and work positively and co-operatively within the group, acknowledging the diversity of viewpoints and experiences from different stakeholders.

- **Acting as ambassadors** to share knowledge and educate others about the key projects for Penders Park.
- **Progressing the project in a timely manner** to achieve outcomes.

#### 4. PROJECT CONSTRAINTS

##### *Timeframe*

The master plan is to be **completed and endorsed by Council by the end of the 2017-2018 financial year (30 June 2018)**. Implementation of the master plan will be conducted over the four years following endorsement of the master plan.

##### *Budget*

A budget of **\$50,000** has been assigned to the development of the master plan in 2017-2018 and a Capital Works Bid for **\$250,000** for proposed initial upgrade works at Penders Park for the 2018-2019 financial year has been submitted to Council for consideration. These proposed works were identified as a priority by the Council Landscape Architect and include:

- Preliminary upgrade works to the existing park furniture and garden beds.
- Repairs to the park shelter.
- Tree assessment and arboricultural works.
- Concept Design, Design Documentation and procurement for an all abilities play space for construction in the 2019-2020 financial year.

**The implementation of the projects identified by the master plan will be subject to Council funding.** The priority actions will form the basis of future Capital Works Submissions over the course of the next four years following endorsement of the master plan.

##### *Project requirements*

- Existing Heritage Overlay (HO290) applies to the park and several features in the park are of historical significance and will need to be protected.
- The path layout is part of the original layout of the park and therefore has historic value and will be maintained. Additional paths may be added so long as they do not impact the character of the current layout.
- The study area is limited to within the park boundary.
- Existing underground services such as power cables, water mains or Telstra cables. The exact location of underground services is to be confirmed.
- Provision of an all abilities playspace.
- Upgrade of existing toilets to provide accessible facilities.

**Deliverables**

- A master plan document that clearly and graphically represents the actions and recommendations.
- An implementation plan that clearly outlines the actions and their respective priorities.
- An estimate of cost for each action. This can be prepared with assistance from Council Landscape Architects/ Project Managers if requested.

Council can supply examples of the documents above for the PCG's reference.

**5. SELECTION CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Membership will evenly reflect key stakeholder groups, local community groups and local residents and reflect the balance of gender, age range and cultural diversity for a total of eight members.

Selection of the Project Control Group members will be based on:

- Knowledge of local issues.
- Ability to contribute ideas for improving the park.
- Ability to represent a broad cross section of views and understand the diverse needs of the local community.
- Availability to attend all meetings.
- Desire to serve or act as a local ambassador or leader for the local Thornbury community.

**6. SELECTION PROCESS**

Membership to the PCG will be appointed by Council officers following the selection process.

Selection will occur through the following process:

- A drop-in session will be organised at Penders Park to initiate the Expression of Interest (EOI) process and invite applications for membership to the community project control group.
- Advertisements in local media and through Council's website and social media inviting applications from interested community members, for a three week period.
- Formal invitations will be sent to individuals or community groups known to have an interest in the park and/or the surrounds of the park.
- Applications will be assessed by a selection panel consisting of at least two Council Officers and a nominated Director or Manager. This selection panel will determine the group membership.
- If the membership of the project control group is not filled through the advertising process or if the applications received are deemed by the selection panel to not fulfil the requirements of the project control group, Council may target potential members.
- Council will seek a broad representation of Darebin's community that reflects Darebin's diverse community – based on balance of gender, age range and cultural diversity.

**7. COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION**

Ruckers Ward Councillors will be invited to be members of the PCG. The PCG will be chaired and facilitated by one of the Rucker Ward Councillors, to be nominated by Council.

**8. MEETINGS & REPORTING**

- The PCG is required to meet for at a frequency determined by the group to support the effective management of the project.
- Members are required to attend ALL of the meetings.
- Meeting dates and times to be set at the initial PCG meeting by the group.
- There will be no quorum for meetings.
- Meetings are to be held at a place to be decided by the PCG. It is recommended that meetings are held at or near the park however Council may assist with securing a venue at Council offices if required.
- The PCG will be chaired and facilitated by one of the Rucker Ward Councillors, to be nominated by Council.
- Meeting minutes will be the responsibility of the PCG and will need to be recorded by a designated member of the PCG at each meeting. Meeting minutes will be checked by the chair and PCG members as a true and accurate record at the commencement of the following meeting.
- Agenda and meeting minutes will be forwarded to the Council Project Manager/ Landscape Architect and circulated to all Councillors.

**9. TERM OF THE PCG**

- The PCG shall be in place for the duration of the master planning process with the opportunity to extend by a decision of the council. Council would retain the right to revisit at that time, the future need (if any) for the continued use of the group.
- The PCG can be discontinued at any time at the discretion of Council.

**10. REVIEW OF THE PCG TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- Council will be required to approve any changes to the Penders Park Community Project Control Group Terms of Reference.
- Members may propose changes to the Terms of Reference however Council will be required to approve the proposed changes.

**11. METHOD OF RESIGNATION**

- Members will automatically resign after their membership period.
- Retiring members are eligible for re-appointment.
- If a member retires during the course of their term invitations will be sent out to those people who registered interest in being members in the most recent call for members. If there are no such people the position will be advertised for the remainder of the term.

**12. RELEVANT DOCUMENTS**

The following relevant documents will be made available to the PCG for reference:

- Open Space Strategy 2007-2017 (Currently under review)
- Playspace Strategy 2010-2020
- Public Toilet Strategy 2015-2025
- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Pender Park Landscape Master Plan 2002
- Heritage Overlay HO290 and the Heritage Significance of the park

**13. FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information please contact Council's Public Places Unit on 8470-8888, email [public.places@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:public.places@darebin.vic.gov.au) or visit [www.yoursaydarebin.vic.gov.au](http://www.yoursaydarebin.vic.gov.au)

**8.4 PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE OF DRAINAGE RESERVE  
ADJOINING 20 PELLEW STREET AND REAR 7 TO 13  
TAYLOR AVENUE, RESERVOIR****Author:** Property Manager**Reviewed By:** Executive Manager City Plan and Transformation

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**Report Background**

This report provides Council with information regarding the outcome of statutory procedures relating to the proposed discontinuance and sale of the 1.83m wide drainage and sewerage reserve adjoining 20 Pellew Street and the rear of 7 to 13 Taylor Avenue, Reservoir, as shown hatched in the site plan in **Appendix A** (Reserve), and recommends that the Reserve be discontinued and sold.

**Previous Council Resolution**

At its meeting held on 1 May 2017 Council resolved:

*“That Council:*

- (1) Commence the statutory procedures under Part 4 of the Planning and Environment Act, 1987 and section 24A of the Subdivision Act, 1988 to vest the Reserve in itself and remove ‘reserve status’ from the land shown hatched on **Appendix A**.*
- (2) Gives public notice under sections 189, 82A and 223 of the Act of the proposed sale of the land in the appropriate newspapers and on Council’s website and such notice state that Council proposes to sell the land to the owner of 20 Pellew Street, Reservoir by private treaty.”*

**Previous Briefing(s)**

23 October 2017

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

**Summary**

This report provides the history and background relating to the 1.83m wide drainage and sewerage reserve adjoining 20 Pellew Street and the rear of 7 to 13 Taylor Avenue, Reservoir, shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A**, as well as the outcome of the statutory procedures into its proposed discontinuance and sale.

In 2016, Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner requesting the discontinuance and sale of the Reserve. Initial investigations identified that the Reserve, which is contained within Certificate of Title Volume 04103 Folio 493, appears to have been enclosed and used for access and egress by the adjoining owners at 20 Pellew Street for many years.

At its Ordinary Meeting on 1 May 2017, Council resolved to commence the statutory procedures to remove the ‘reserve’ status from the land and give public notice of the proposed sale of the land from the Reserve.

Public notice of the proposal was given in the Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 13 June 2017 and 14 June 2017 respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website. The notice period ended on 14 July 2017 with no submissions received.

This report recommends that following the completion of the statutory procedures for the proposed discontinuance and sale of the Reserve and having received no submissions, that the Reserve be discontinued and sold by private treaty in accordance with Council policy.

### Recommendation

#### That Council:

Having given public notice of the proposal to sell the land from the 1.83m wide former drainage and sewerage reserve adjoining 20 Pellew Street and the rear of 7 to 13 Taylor Avenue, Reservoir, shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A** to this report, and having received no submissions in respect of this proposal under section 189, 82A (2)(a) and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

- (1) Directs that the land from the reserve be sold by private treaty to the owner of 20 Pellew Street, Reservoir in accordance with section 189 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council's Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy and the signed 'in-principle' agreement; and
  - (2) Signs and seals all documents relating to the sale of any land from the reserve to the owner of the adjoining properties.
- 

## Introduction

In 2016, Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner for the discontinuance and sale of the 1.83m wide drainage and sewerage reserve shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A** and coloured yellow on the aerial photo in **Appendix B** (Reserve).

The Reserve appears to have been enclosed by the adjoining owner at 20 Pellew Street for many years.

Once initial investigations confirmed the feasibility of discontinuing and selling the Reserve, Macquarie Lawyers were commissioned to undertake the statutory procedures to facilitate the possible discontinuance and sale of the Reserve.

## Issues and Discussion

### Statutory Procedures

Public notice of the proposal to sell the land from the Reserve was given in the Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 13 June 2017 and 14 June 2017 respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website.

Owners and occupiers of the adjoining properties were notified in writing and were advised that written submissions would be considered by Council as per the provisions of section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Internal departments and service authorities were consulted regarding the proposal and, whilst no objections were received, Council's Engineering department advised that an easement would be required to provide for existing assets within the land. Yarra Valley Water has advised that it does not require an easement over the land.

The notice period ended on 14 July 2017. No submissions were received.

### **Removal of Reserve Status**

Should Council proceed to discontinue the Reserve under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and section 24A of the *Subdivision Act 1988* to vest the Reserve in itself and remove 'reserve' status from the land, the draft Plan of Subdivision PS633073R in **Appendix C** would need to be certified by Council and registered at Land Victoria. A separate title would then be issued for the land.

### **Land Allocation**

All adjoining owners have been consulted regarding the proposal. The dimensions and proposed allocation/division of the land from the Reserve are shown in the draft Plan of Subdivision PS633073R in **Appendix C**.

The owner of 20 Pellew Street Reservoir, has entered into an 'in-principle agreement' confirming their interest in acquiring the land at current market value as well as meeting their share of the reasonable costs associated with Council discontinuing the Reserve. Following discontinuance, it is proposed that Council would take title to any land from the Reserve that remains unsold.

### **Options for Consideration**

#### **Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing**

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the Reserve would continue to vest in Council and the status quo would remain with the adjoining property owner continuing to occupy the Reserve and use it for access and egress to the property.

Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other reserves, roads or rights-of-way within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Additionally Council may lose future rights to the Reserve if adjoining property owners are able to accrue possessory rights.

Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to commence the discontinuance process.

#### **Option 2 – Discontinuance and Sale Process (Recommended)**

Council could proceed with the discontinuance and sale of the land from the Reserve in accordance with the signed 'in-principle' purchase agreement. This would be consistent with the statutory procedures which have been completed with no submissions received. Further, it would formalise the current occupation of the Reserve by the adjoining property owner.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

At the commencement of the negotiations with the property owners, the City Valuer placed a rate per square metre for the land of \$588.50/m<sup>2</sup> (including GST) for the land adjoining 20 Pellew Street. This rate takes into account the Reserve's relationship to the purchaser and the fact that the land would be encumbered with easements in favour of Council.

Given the area of 87m<sup>2</sup> for the land to be sold to 20 Pellew Street, market value for the land to be sold has been assessed at \$51,199.50 including GST. Costs associated with the statutory procedures and sale of the Reserve would be recovered from the purchaser.

Should Council decide not to proceed with either the discontinuance or the sale, then the costs associated with conducting process would be funded from existing budget allocations.

The land from the Reserve, once sold, would attract additional Council rates.

### **Risk Management**

Risks associated with each option are covered under the analysis of each option.

### **Policy Implications**

#### **Economic Development**

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

#### **Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

Consultation with adjoining owners has been undertaken. The statutory procedures involve giving public notice of the proposal to the whole community and providing the opportunity for anyone to make a formal submission to, and be heard by Council regarding the proposal.

#### **Other**

This report has been prepared having regard to Council's Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy.

### **Future Actions**

Arrange for the land to be sold and transferred to the owner of the adjoining property at 20 Pellew Street, Reservoir by private treaty in accordance with Council policy once the procedures for vesting in council, removing the reserve status and subdividing the land into 1 lot under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and section 24A of the *Subdivision Act 1988* have been finalised.

### **Consultation and Advocacy**

- Council departments
- Darebin community
- Macquarie Local Government Lawyers
- Owners and occupiers of adjoining properties
- Statutory authorities

**Related Documents**

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy, Darebin City Council, 2015
- *Subdivision Act 1988*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- Council Minutes – 26 April 2017

**Attachments**

- Site Plan (**Appendix A**)
- Aerial View (**Appendix B**)
- Plan of Subdivision PS633073R (**Appendix C**)

**Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.



RESERVE ADJOINING 20 PELLEW STREET AND REAR 7 TO13 TAYLOR AVENUE,  
RESERVOIR



<b>PLAN UNDER SECTION 24A OF THE SUBDIVISION ACT 1988</b>		<b>EDITION 1</b>	<b>PS633073R</b>	
LOCATION OF LAND PARISH JIKA JIKA CROWN PORTION 147 (PART) TITLE REFERENCES VOL.3466 FOL.015 VOL.4103 FOL.493 VOL.5844 FOL.661 LAST PLAN REFERENCE LOT 5 ON TP831144C POSTAL ADDRESS 20 PELLEW STREET, (AT TIME OF SUBDIVISION) RESERVOIR 3073 MGA CO-ORDINATES E 323 765 ZONE 55 (APPROX. CENTROID) N 5 823 026 GDA 94		COUNCIL NAME: DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL		
<b>VESTING OF ROADS AND/OR RESERVES</b>				
IDENTIFIER	COUNCIL/BODY/PERSON			
NIL	NIL			
PURPOSE OF PLAN TO VEST THE DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE RESERVE ON LP8679, SHOWN AS LOT 1 ON THIS PLAN, IN THE DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL. REMOVAL BY THE DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL OF THE RESERVE STATUS FROM THE DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE RESERVE ON LP8679, SHOWN AS LOT 1 ON THIS PLAN. GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL AS DIRECTED IN DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL PLANNING PERMIT No.		<b>NOTATIONS</b>		
		DEPTH LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY		
		SURVEY: THIS PLAN IS NOT BASED ON SURVEY		
		THIS SURVEY HAS NOT BEEN CONNECTED TO PERMANENT MARKS AND IS NOT IN A PROCLAIMED SURVEY AREA.		
<b>EASEMENT INFORMATION</b>				
LEGEND E- ENCUMBERING EASEMENT OR CONDITION IN CROWN GRANT IN THE NATURE OF AN EASEMENT OR OTHER ENCUMBRANCE A- APPURTENANT EASEMENT R- ENCUMBERING EASEMENT (ROAD)				
EASEMENT REFERENCE	PURPOSE	WIDTH (METRES)	ORIGIN	LAND BENEFITED/IN FAVOUR OF
E-1	DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE	1-83	LP8679	LOTS ON LP8679
E-1	ANY EASEMENTS	1-83	LP8679	UNSPECIFIED
E-1	DRAINAGE	1-83	THIS PLAN	DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL
REF 13697      VERSION 01 COMPUTER FILE: 3697-24A.DWG      DATE 15/11/2016		SCALE 1:400      0 5 10 15 20 LENGTHS ARE IN METRES		
<b>BARKER MONAHAN</b> A.C.N. 085 314 885 SURVEYORS, DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONSULTANTS 581 GILBERT ROAD, PRESTON 3072 P.O. BOX 2546 REGENT WEST 3072 TELEPHONE 9478 4133 FAX 9470 5189 EMAIL: survey@barkermonahan.com.au		ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3		SHEET 1 OF 1 SHEET
DAVID JOHN MONAHAN, VERSION 01				

**8.5 PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE REAR OF 1 AND 3 MCCARTEN STREET AND ADJOINING 25 SOUTHERNHAY STREET, RESERVOIR****Author:** Property Manager**Reviewed By:** Executive Manager City Plan and Transformation

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**Report Background**

This report provides Council with information relating to the outcome of preliminary investigations into the proposed discontinuance and sale of part of the right-of-way and reserve at the rear of 1 and 3 McCarten Street and adjoining 25 Southernhay Street, Reservoir, shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A (Road)**.

**Previous Council Resolution**

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

**Previous Briefing(s)**

23 October 2017

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

**Summary**

This report provides the history and background relating to the right-of-way at the rear of 1 and 3 McCarten Street and adjoining 25 Southernhay Street, Reservoir, shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A (Road)**, and a 0.2 metre wide reserve shown in red on **Appendix A (Reserve)** as well as the outcome of the preliminary investigations into its proposed discontinuance.

In 2009, Council resolved to discontinue and sell part of the nearby section of right-of-way adjoining the side and rear of 5 McCarten Street, Reservoir. The section of the right-of-way adjoining rear of 1 and 3 McCarten Street and adjoining the side of 25 Southernhay Street was not discontinued at that time.

In 2014, Council received an enquiry from an adjoining property owner requesting the discontinuance and sale of the Road. Initial investigations identified that the Road, which is contained within Certificate of Title Volume 4508 Folio 493, is not constructed or used for access and appears to have been enclosed within the property boundary of 25 Southernhay Street for many years. Whilst the Road is not listed on Council's Register of Public Roads, it remains a 'road' on title.

The discontinuance process would, if completed, enable Council to take title to the land in question and continue to negotiate with the property owners involved.

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

**That Council:**

- (1) Commences the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the *Local Government Act 1989* (“the Act”) to discontinue the road at the rear of 1 and 3 McCarten Street and adjoining 25 Southernhay Street, Reservoir shown hatched on **Appendix A**.
  - (2) Gives public notice under sections 207A and 82A (2)(a) and 223 of the Act of the proposed discontinuance in the appropriate newspapers and on Council’s website and such notice state that if discontinued, Council proposes to sell the land from the road to the adjoining property owners by private treaty and transfer to itself any land from the road not sold to the adjoining property owners.
- 

## Introduction

In 2014, Council received an enquiry from an adjoining owner requesting the discontinuance and sale of the right-of-way shown hatched on the plan in **Appendix A** and coloured yellow on the aerial photo in **Appendix B** (Road).

Part of the Road at the rear and side of 5 McCarten Street, shown cross-hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A**, had been previously discontinued and sold to the owner of the property.

Investigations have identified that the Road is not constructed or used for access, is enclosed within the property boundary of 25 Southernhay Street and appears to have been occupied for many years with a shed built on some of the land. The Road is not listed on Council’s Register of Public Roads, though it remains a ‘road’ on title. The investigation further found that a 0.2 metre wide reserve (Reserve) adjoined the Road.

Once initial investigations confirmed the feasibility of the proposed discontinuance, Macquarie Lawyers were commissioned to undertake further consultation with a view to Council commencing the statutory procedures to facilitate the possible discontinuance and sale of the 3.05m wide section of Road and 0.2 metre wide section of Reserve.

## Issues and Discussion

### Consultation with owners / purchase price / land allocation

All the immediate adjoining owners have been consulted regarding the proposal and no objections have been received. The dimensions and proposed allocation/division of the land from the Road and Reserve are shown in the Title Plan provided in **Appendix C**.

The owner of 3-5 McCarten Street has confirmed their interest in acquiring the land shown as Lot 1 in the Title Plan provided in **Appendix C** at current market value as well as meeting all of the reasonable costs associated with Council discontinuing the Road and Reserve.

Despite extensive consultation with the adjoining owners of 25 Southernhay Street, who are in occupation of the land, no agreement has been able to be reached for the proposed sale of the land from the Road and the Reserve. Given this, it is proposed that should Council proceed with the discontinuance of the Road and Reserve that it take title to the land in the first instance, with a view to undertaking further negotiations with the adjoining owners in the future.

### **Service Authorities / Council Departments**

Internal departments and external service authorities were consulted regarding the proposal and whilst no objections were received, both Yarra Valley Water and Council engineering department have advised that easements would need to be saved over the land, if it were to be discontinued. Yarra Valley Water has existing underground assets within part of the Road and Reserve and Council would require an easement to cater for any future installation of underground drainage.

### **Implementation**

The statutory procedures require Council to give public notice of its intention to discontinue and sell the Road and Reserve and invite submissions from affected parties. All abutting property owners would be advised of the proposal in writing and informed of their right to make a submission. Submitters may request to be heard by Council prior to a decision being made to proceed or otherwise with the proposal. Following which, a report would be presented to Council for a decision whether to discontinue the Road/Reserve, part of the Road/Reserve or not to discontinue the Road/Reserve.

### **Options for Consideration**

#### **Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing**

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the Road would continue to vest in Council and the status quo would remain with 25 Southernhay continuing to occupy the Road and Reserve.

Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other roads or rights-of-way within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Additionally, Council may lose future rights to the Road and Reserve if adjoining property owners are able to accrue possessory rights.

Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to commence the discontinuance process.

#### **Option 2 – Commence the Statutory Procedures (Recommended)**

Council could resolve to commence statutory procedures to potentially discontinue the Road and the Reserve. This would extend the consultation to the wider community and enable all affected property owners a formal opportunity to make a submission. This option would assist Council in obtaining further insight into the overall consensus of surrounding property owners and the community in relation to the Road and the Reserve. It would also enable Council to make an informed assessment on the future of the Road/Reserve, to potentially open part or all of the Road/Reserve, discontinue part or all of the Road/Reserve and sell the land from the Road/Reserve (if discontinued) to the adjoining property owners and/or take title to any land not sold.

Benefits of commencing the statutory procedures depend on Council's decision on the future of the Road and the Reserve, and the ongoing protection of a public asset, the asset being open to the public and used for its prescribed purpose, and potential revenue from the sale of part or all of the land from the Road and the Reserve.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

There are no financial or resource implications as a result of commencing the statutory procedures as contained in this report.

Costs associated with undertaking the statutory process would be recoverable from the purchaser should Council decide in future to discontinue the Road/Reserve and sell the land. Should Council decide not to proceed with either the discontinuance or the sale, then the costs associated with conducting the statutory process would be funded from existing allocations.

Council's City Valuer has placed a value of the land at \$687.50 per square metre (including GST). For the land area of 61m<sup>2</sup>, the approximate value of the income to Council would be \$41,937.50 (including GST).

### **Risk Management**

Risks associated with each option are covered under the analysis of each option

### **Policy Implications**

#### **Economic Development**

Risks associated with each option are covered under the analysis of each option.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

#### **Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

There are no factors in this report which impact on human rights, equity and inclusion.

#### **Other**

This report has been prepared having regard to Council's Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy.

#### **Future Actions**

Arrange for the statutory procedures for the discontinuance and sale of the section of Road to be undertaken pursuant to the provisions of section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 and section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

#### **Consultation and Advocacy**

- Council departments
- Macquarie Local Government Lawyers
- Owners of adjoining properties
- Statutory Authorities

#### **Related Documents**

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- *Road Management Act 2004*
- Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy, Darebin City Council, 2015

#### **Attachments**

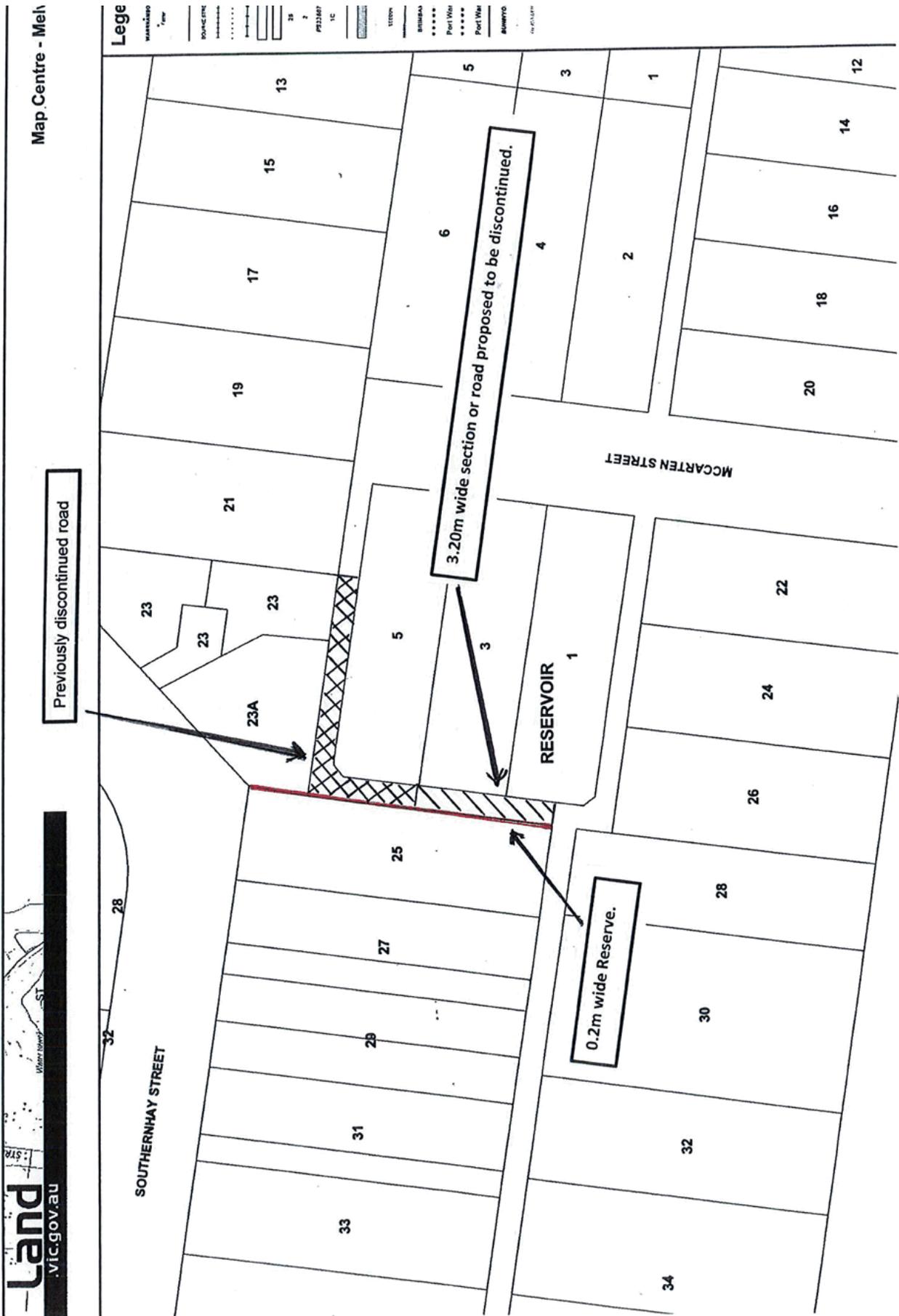
- Site Plan (**Appendix A**)

- Aerial View (**Appendix B**)
- Title Plan TP960002C (**Appendix C**)

**Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.







**8.6 ADOPTION OF JOHN CAIN MASTER PLAN****Author:** Manager Leisure and Community Facilities**Reviewed By:** Director Community Development

---

**Report Background**

On 17 July 2017 Council endorsed the commencement of a community consultation and information process for development of a master plan for the John Cain Memorial Park (JCMP) sporting precinct. This consultation process has now been completed and a master plan is presented for Council adoption that includes a plan for the future of the precinct as well as a series of realistic actions prioritised and laid out over 5 to 10 years, including indicative costings for implementation.

**Previous Council Resolution**

At its meeting held on 17 July 2017, Council resolved:

*'That Council*

- 1. Endorses commencement of a community consultation and information process for development of a master plan for the John Cain Memorial Park sporting precinct.*
- 2. Reconfirms their commitment to construction of the Darebin Multi Sports Stadium at John Cain Memorial Park Thornbury, within the area proposed per Appendix B.*
- 3. Endorses submission of an application for the Darebin Multi Sports Stadium project to Sport and Recreation Victoria's Better Indoor Stadiums Fund 2017-2018.*
- 4. Notes that stage one of the Multi Sports Stadium development will commence with construction of outdoor netball courts, with expected completion of this component by October 2018.'*

**Previous Briefing(s)**

Councillor Briefing – 26 June 2017

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 2 - Healthy and Connected Community

Darebin Leisure Strategy 2010 – 2020 and Darebin Leisure Action Plan 2015 - 2020

**Summary**

- This report discusses the process behind the development of a new master plan for the JCMP sporting precinct to guide development of the site and future Council financial investment.
- This report presents the JCMP master plan (see **Appendix A**) for Council adoption that has been developed following consultation with existing site tenants, local residents, other key stakeholders and the broader Darebin community.
- An endorsed master plan for the JCMP sporting precinct is an essential step towards construction of the Darebin MSS.

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

**That Council:**

- (1) Endorses the adoption of the John Cain Memorial Park master plan attached as **Appendix A**.
  - (2) Endorses officers to commence negotiations with the Victorian State Government on matters relating to the lease and licence conditions that are currently in place under the State Funding Agreement.
- 

**Introduction**

- JCMP is a 17.34 hectare sporting reserve named after John Cain Senior, a former Premier of Victoria. The park was redesigned in 2004 to accommodate for improved lawn bowls, cycling and football facilities and is a major state sporting precinct.
- JCMP is situated at 281 Darebin Road, Thornbury and is zoned as a Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ). The zoning of the JCMP allows for commercial activity in the park subject to this activity being compatible to the use of the park.
- JCMP is the home of the state lawn bowls, cycling and football centres. As a result the venue is one of the most significant multi-sport precincts in Melbourne and was utilised during the Melbourne Commonwealth Games in 2006.
- JCMP is a highly utilised sporting precinct however a number of issues related to useability and functionality limit current use and future growth of the site.
- JCMP is a busy sporting precinct that is currently the state home of three sports, Darebin's local National Premier League (NPL) soccer club and the future home of the Darebin multi sports stadium complex.
- A community consultation process to gather community and stakeholder feedback took place from 21 July to 17 August 2017. High level acceptance for the draft master plan was indicated during this process. More details on feedback and submissions received as part of the consultation process is included below.
- The JCMP master plan is presented for Council adoption that includes a plan for the future of the precinct as well as a series of realistic actions prioritised and laid out over 5 to 10 years, including indicative costings for implementation.

**Issues and Discussion****Background**

The purpose of the JCMP master plan is to identify options to improve current sporting opportunities at JCMP; identify the future needs and development opportunities for the precinct including additional sporting and leisure options; and ensure local sporting user requirements are considered.

Development and adoption of a new master plan is timely as the previous master plan was adopted in 2008 and is out-dated.

Current tenants, sport users, the Victorian State Government and community members have all expressed a range of needs and demands consistent with the current situation of their sport and facilities at the precinct through the consultation process. These have been reflected in the presented master plan.

**Outcomes of the consultation process**

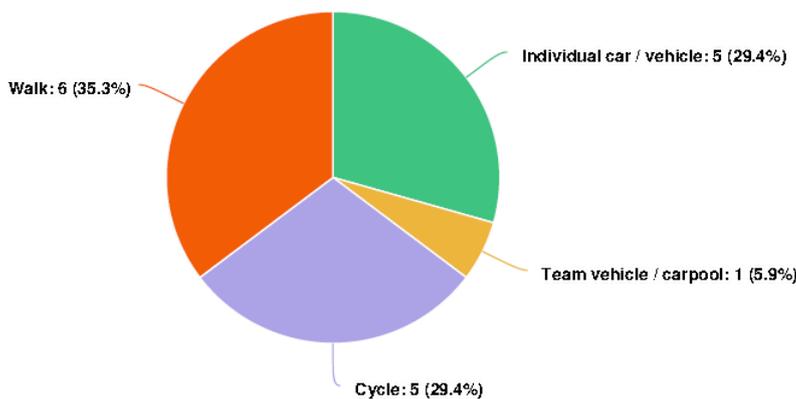
Following a consultation process with existing site tenants and other key stakeholders with an interest in the John Cain Memorial Park in May 2017 a draft master plan was developed which formed the basis for starting conversations with the broader community as part of the consultation process that took place from 21 July to 17 August 2017. The draft plan was well received with minor amendments made to the plan following the consultation process..

In line with the communications and consultation plan (see **Appendix B**) responses and feedback was as follows:

1. Your Say Darebin survey portal:
  - 271 visits to portal
  - 19 visitors left written feedback
  - 35 visitors completed the survey

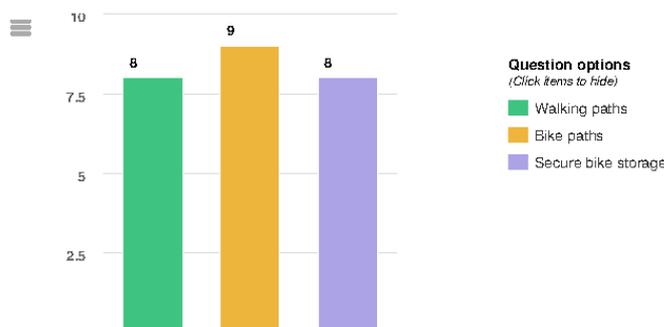
Some interesting information was provided that highlighted the key importance of improving active transport links to and through the precinct:

**Encouraging active transport:** How will you **mainly** travel to this site?



What would encourage you to get more sustainable transport to this site? Please select all that apply.

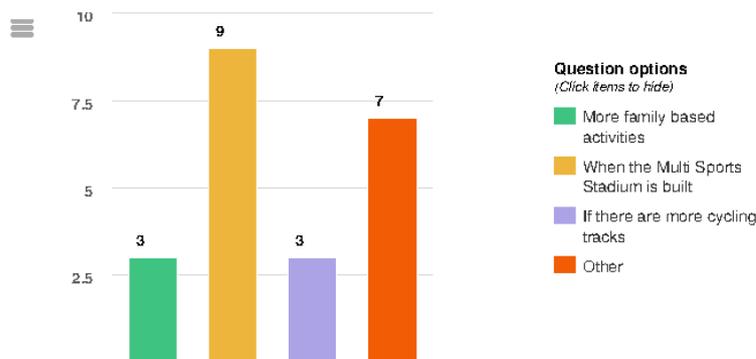
*Optional question*



The community conversations held indicated a high level of support for the construction of the Darebin Multi Sport Stadium at the site, which was also evidenced through feedback received on the survey portal (see figure below).

88 percent of survey respondents were aware that Council intends to build the MSS at JCMP and 47.1 per cent of respondents plan to use this facility once it is constructed.

What would make you use these sporting facilities more? Select all that apply:



## Feedback received

Some of the main themes heard through the consultation process included:

- **Precinct functionality**
  - The poor functionality and connectedness of the site at present limits Darebin community use and restricts engagement in the precinct.
  - Site currently feels elitist and not welcoming to the local community.
  - Way-faring and precinct signage would be beneficial.
  - Rest points throughout precinct to create better accessibility for people with mobility needs.
  - Maintain some passive open space for community use.
- **Car parking and access**
  - Current inadequacy of car parking; poor access and egress from Darebin Road.
  - Lack of signalisation and turning lane from Darebin Road. Dangerous intersection.
  - Accessibility throughout precinct is poor; no accessible pedestrian access from Clarendon Street into precinct.
  - Darebin Road is dangerous for cyclists. Need a safe designated route beyond the precinct.
  - Provision of accessible / disabled car parks in precinct needs to be addressed.
  - Poor public and active transport links to site. The development of a north to south pedestrian spine with links onto other pedestrian / cyclist routes is important.
  - Green theme throughout the car park. Green screening to Agg Street and western side of car park to create a buffer to houses.
- **Clarendon street:**
  - Current anti-social behaviour issues regularly occurring in Clarendon St and Clarendon St car park (west end).
  - Lighting or locked gates to deter anti-social behaviour to be considered.

- Relocation of NCFC car park entrance to western end of Clarendon St to prevent increased traffic in street.
- Discontinuation of access road through precinct may increase traffic into Clarendon Street.
- Soccer balls kicked onto Clarendon Street create a hazard for wheelchair users.
- **General feedback**
  - High level of local community support for development of the MSS at this site.
  - Concerns about current litter and rubbish at the site. Council needs to work more closely with site tenants.
  - Proposed playground needs to be larger and possibly in two locations; family play space is important; location of a BBQ area in proximity to Clarendon Street.
  - Advocate to Public Transport Victoria to increase buses frequently along Darebin Rd and Station St to 10 minutes and better align with train arrivals (Croxtton, Fairfield and Ivanhoe Stations).
  - Use of Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) initiatives in the precinct is important.
  - Local community members want the opportunity to be involved in future MSS design.
  - Several conditions of the existing state funding lease and licence agreements in place with the Victorian State Government and site tenants prevent the site from functioning efficiently as the state home for soccer, bowls and cycling. These should be addressed with the Victorian State Government and other interested parties.

**Feedback themes from current site tenants:**

- DISC is not functioning as it was originally designed to as the State Bowls and Track Cycling facility.
- The indoor green located in the centre of the velodrome should be removed and replaced with a covered synthetic green outside of the velodrome footprint.
- The professional agencies located within the velodrome need their accommodation needs addressed.
- Significant redesign is required to the internal administration areas in DISC to accommodate expending professional agencies.
- DISC facilities require a comprehensive maintenance and renewal plan to ensure it has the capacity to function as a state centre.
- There are a number of key functional issues at DISC affecting operations including location of indoor bowling-green, function space use, current catering provider and insufficient tenant accommodation / configuration.
- Current inadequacy of car parking.
- Bowls Australia would like a High Performance Centre of Excellence based in Melbourne.

No formal feedback on the draft master plan design was received from Football Federation Victoria.

### Final JCMP master plan document presented for adoption

The recommendations made in the master plan are as a result of consultation with Darebin community members, State Government, tenants and stakeholders at JCMP. The master plan is included at **Appendix A**.

The finalised master plan consists of three parts including:

- A document containing discussions/documentation of values and principles (set through consultation process), existing conditions, present uses and opportunities/constraints.
- Visual Master Plan showing areas for upgrade/actions.
- Series of realistic actions prioritised and laid out over 5 to 10 years, with indicative costings for implementation.

### Options for Consideration

- Council does / does not endorse JCMP master plan for adoption.
- Council does / does not endorse officers to commence negotiations with the Victorian State Government on matters relating to the lease and licence conditions that are in place under the existing State Funding Agreement.

### Financial and Resource Implications

As per the attached master plan indicative costings have been provided for elements relating to general precinct upgrades; State facilities licenced areas; and Darebin Multi Sport Stadium. The total investment of all identified works over the next 10 years has been indicatively costed at \$76,182,306. Sources of funding for these upgrades could include the Victorian State Government, Australian Government, State and National Sporting Associations, Council, local clubs and other interested parties. A breakdown of these costs is as follows:

ITEM	INDICATIVE COSTING
General precinct upgrades	\$15,083,924
State facilities licenced areas	\$28,676,382
Darebin Multi Sport Stadium	\$32,422,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$76,182,306</b>

Refer to the detailed master plan (**Appendix A**) for further information on items and cost breakdown. Please note that these costings are indicative as of October 2017. ESD and internal Council project management costs have not been considered – an additional 10% should be allowed in addition to the total costs shown above; with exception of MSS for which these costs have already been considered.

Funds to undertake the identified upgrades will be considered as part of the capital budget process from 2018/2019 onwards.

Further it is the intention to enter discussions with the State Government in relation to the current lease and license conditions that are in place under the State Funding agreement to address both operational and facilities maintenance and upgrade issues.

## Risk Management

Several risks currently exist mainly relating to the ageing facility and poor accessibility design. Alternatives to address these are included in the masterplan actions.

## Policy Implications

### Economic Development

The JCMP sporting precinct has significant potential to provide improved economic benefits to the city. Additional sporting infrastructure including the Darebin MSS will provide increased economic benefits to the Darebin community and broader sporting community.

### Environmental Sustainability

A number of Environmental sustainability considerations and inclusions have been made as part of the master plan. The Darebin Multi Sport Stadium will be constructed to a 5 star Green Star rating.

### Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

The Darebin Equity and Diversity team provided input into the master plan process. Consultation session was also undertaken with the Supported Residential Service located in Clarendon St, Thornbury.

### Other

In its present condition JCMP sporting precinct presents an underutilised and deteriorating sporting asset. Upgrades to amenity and functionality outlined in the master plan will have immense benefits to the overall useability and functionality of the precinct.

## Future Actions

- JCMP masterplan to be implemented over the course of 10 years at an indicative cost of \$76,182,306; which includes implementation of items related to construction of the Darebin multi-sport stadium, general precinct upgrades and State facilities licenced areas. Funding sources for items related to this plan are to be identified.
- The first items identified for implementation will be included as part of capital works budget bids for 2018/2019.

## Consultation and Advocacy

- Consultation and information period took place between 21 July and 17 August 2017.
- Overall there was a low level of community engagement with this process.
- Completed consultation and communications plan included at **Appendix B**
- Your Say Darebin survey porta attracted:
  - 271 visits to portal
  - 19 visitors left written feedback
  - 35 visitors completed the survey

## Related Documents

- Council Minutes – 17 July 2017

**Attachments**

- John Cain Reserve Master Plan Final Report PDF 18 October 2017 (**Appendix A**)
- Consultation and communications plan - JCMP master plan consultation June 2017 alias (**Appendix B**)
- Online consultation summary report JCMP (**Appendix C**)

**Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.



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# JOHN CAIN MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN FINAL REPORT

OCTOBER 2017



Prepared by  
Otium Planning Group Pty Ltd



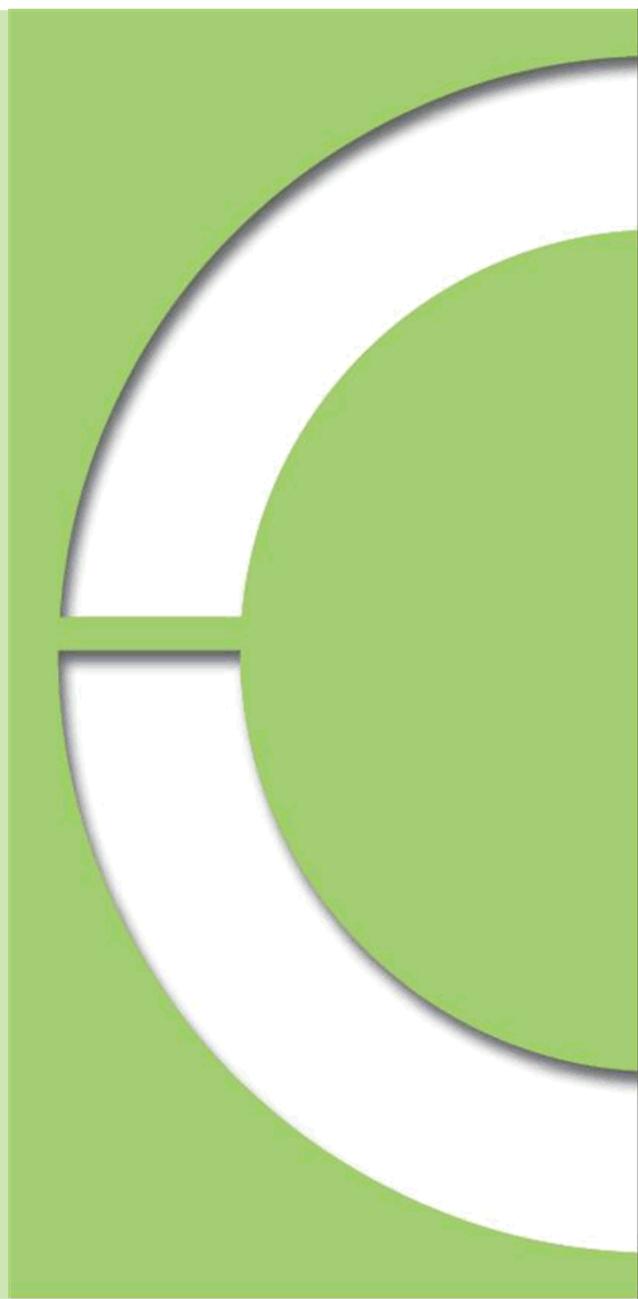
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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Background

John Cain Memorial Park is a major sporting precinct within the southern part of the City of Darebin. The precinct is a 17.34ha park and its primary purpose is sporting, with parkland as its secondary purpose.

In 1998, the Darebin City Council adopted a Master Plan for the development of John Cain Memorial Park. This Master Plan identified major development for both sporting facilities and informal recreation. As a result of this, Darebin City Council successfully bid for and obtained funding to develop Darebin International Sports Centre (DISC) at John Cain Memorial Park. DISC is currently the state headquarters for lawn bowls, cycling and football (also known as soccer).

John Cain Memorial Park is located on a major arterial road, Darebin Road in Thornbury and is surrounded by residential, industrial and bulk retail outlets.

DISC is owned and maintained by the Darebin City Council. It was seen as a pioneering sporting facility that was originally developed to support a range of sporting activities and was the lawn bowls competition venue for the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games. The precinct is the state home of Cycling Victoria and Football Federation Victoria; as well as home of Darebin's National Premier League (NPL) club Northcote City Football Club.

The original aim of DISC was to provide cycling, football and lawn bowls facilities capable of hosting elite competitions and creating opportunities that are attractive, accessible and responsive to Darebin's diverse community. Over the past 4 to 5 years the use of DISC has changed from the original intent. The Australian Lawn Bowls Championships were moved from DISC to the Broadbeach Bowls Club on the Gold Coast. Since that time the facility has not been used for any major events with much of state events being held in regional townships. The synthetic soccer pitches have been well used since they were opened in 2004 and require replacement.

The aim of this Master Plan is to consolidate the various master plans and studies at John Cain Memorial Park into a single report; and to identify and scope further options to improve the sport and leisure opportunities at this precinct. This is timely as the precinct licensees Cycling Victoria, Darebin City Bowls Club, Football Federation Victoria and the Northcote City Soccer Club have all expressed a range of needs and demands consistent with the master plan outcomes. In addition to the sporting user groups Bowls Australia operate their administration from DISC.



## 2. John Cain Memorial Reserve

John Cain Memorial Park is a 17.34-hectare sporting reserve named after John Cain Senior, former Premier of Victoria. The Park was redesigned in 2004 to accommodate improved lawn bowls, cycling and football facilities and is now a major sporting venue.

John Cain Memorial Park is situated at 277 Darebin Road, Thornbury and is zoned as Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ)4. The purpose of this zoning is as follows:

To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.

- To recognise areas for public recreation and open space.
- To protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate.
- To provide for commercial uses where appropriate.

The zoning of the John Cain Memorial Park allows for the conduct of commercial activity in the park subject to this activity being compatible to the PPRZ reservation. No site overlays are in place at the John Cain Memorial Park.





## 2.1 Current Usage

John Cain Memorial Park is the home of the State Lawn Bowls Centre, the State cycle training velodrome and the State Football (soccer) Centre. As a result, this venue is one of the most significant multi-sport precincts in Melbourne.

The key facility user groups have specific management obligations for defined aspects of facility operation including under a thirty year arrangement with the state government:

- Darebin City Bowls Club - bowls operations, bar/bistro and function room management
- Cycling Victoria - velodrome track programming and maintenance
- Football Federation Victoria - football operations and centre reception management
- Bowls Australia

In addition the Northcote City Football Club have a licence with Council for the - use of their stadium, west end soccer pitch and associated amenities.

DISC is a major community sporting facility within the municipality and beyond. Darebin City Council's primary objectives for DISC relates to the community, health and wellbeing; and economic development commitments stated in their Council Plan.

The Darebin City Council has existing Licence Agreements with the JCMP Home Tenants of:

- Cycling Victoria
- Darebin City Bowls Club
- Football Federation Victoria
- Bowls Australia
- Northcote City Soccer Club

These agreements outline the Council and licensees' responsibilities for the overall management and maintenance of the facilities at JCMP, and generally include:

### 2.1.1 Council Responsibilities

- Cleaning of shared areas, security and asset maintenance.
- Facility marketing and promotion.

### 2.1.2 Tennant Responsibilities

- Cleaning of licenses areas
- Sport administration
- Bookings management (except NCFC)
- Sport development

## 2.2 Existing Facilities

The facilities at the John Cain Memorial Park Memorial Park include:

### 2.2.1 Cycling

- An indoor velodrome with a 250 metre timber cycling track
- Spectator seating for:
  - 484 on the front straight (permanent)



- 389 on the back straight (temporary)
- Administration offices for approximately 10 staff
- A meeting room shared with the Darebin City Bowls Club

#### 2.2.2 Lawn Bowls

- Four grass international standard lawn bowls greens
- One indoor synthetic bowls green
- 300 m2 bar/bistro with a commercial kitchen
- 350 m2 function room with bar
- Administration office area for approximately 2 staff
- Meeting room shared with CycleSport Victoria
- Greenkeepers shed including pump house

#### 2.2.3 State Soccer Centre

- Three Synthetic FIFA standard football pitches with 100/15 lux sports field lighting
- Two grass football pitch “bases” adjacent to Darebin Road
- A central pavilion (approximately 35m x 20m) for football with amenities including:
  - Six change rooms
  - One referees room
  - A canteen
  - Female and male public toilets
  - Six small store areas of varying sizes
  - 450 m2 of administration office with meeting rooms and retail space

#### 2.2.4 Northcote City Soccer Club

- A football stadium in the north west corner comprising of:
  - One main turf football pitch suitable for state level Football Federation Victoria competitions
  - 500 seat spectator grandstand
  - Social Club, function room and kitchen
  - Office and storage areas
  - Player change rooms and amenities block
  - Temporary water storage capacity of approximately 10,000 litres
  - One senior football pitch
  - A smaller turf training area

#### 2.2.5 Other Facilities

- Bowls Australia Administration base
- 330 m2 of change rooms (DISC)
- Shared storage space beneath the DISC grandstand for DISC licensees
- The following car-parking areas:



- 96 car-parks on the south-west corner of the site
- Approximately 180 car-parks adjacent to DISC and the synthetic football pitches (including disabled).
- Approximately 180 car-parks north of the Northcote City Soccer Club
- Additional to this, several areas of the Park are also used for overflow parking
  - Car-parking is also available on Darebin Road
  - Unstructured open space in the north-east corner
  - Un-signalised intersection onto Darebin road

Note: These areas are not specifically designated or designed for this purpose)





### 3. Demographic Profile

This section provides a review of the project area including a demographic profile of the Darebin City Council area.

#### 3.1 Area Profile

The City of Darebin covers an area of 53 square km and is located north east of Melbourne's CBD. The City of Darebin is bounded by the City of Whittlesea in the north, the City of Banyule and Darebin Creek in the east, the City of Yarra in the south and the City of Moreland and Merri Creek in the west. Suburbs include Alphington (part), Bundoora (part), Fairfield (part), Kingsbury, Macleod (part), Northcote, Preston, Reservoir and Thornbury.

The City of Darebin is socially, economically, culturally and demographically diverse. These factors have a major impact on the way services are planned and delivered for the community. There has been an increase in population over the last few years placing the population at 155,022 people, with a population density of 29.25 persons per hectare making Darebin one of the largest municipalities in Victoria.

#### 3.2 Demographic Profile

The following section summarises the key population and demographic characteristics and trends likely to impact future participation in sport and recreation. The population and demographic profiles are based wherever possible on the 2016 ABS Census data and has been sourced from .id, an online company that analyses the ABS Census data.

#### 3.3 Current Population Profile

##### 3.3.1 Age Profile

The City of Darebin area age profile is summarised in Table 3.1 for residents of the total municipality. The following table provides an overview of the changes in population between 2006 and 2011 and includes a comparison to the Greater Melbourne population profile.

Table 3.1 City of Darebin Area Resident Age Profile (2016 ABS)

	2016		2011			Change 2011 to 2016	
	Number	%	Greater Melbourne %	Number	%		Greater Melbourne %
0 to 4	8,836	6.0	6.4	8,860	6.5	6.5	-24
5 to 9	7,881	5.4	6.2	7,284	5.3	6.0	+597
10 to 14	6,723	4.6	5.7	6,101	4.5	5.9	+622
15 to 19	6,937	4.7	6.0	6,475	4.7	6.3	+462
20 to 24	11,345	7.7	7.4	10,738	7.9	7.5	+607
25 to 29	14,201	9.7	8.1	12,905	9.5	7.9	+1,296
30 to 34	14,265	9.7	8.2	12,410	9.1	7.5	+1,855
35 to 39	11,928	8.1	7.3	11,650	8.5	7.5	+278
40 to 44	11,002	7.5	7.0	11,075	8.1	7.5	-73
45 to 49	10,501	7.2	6.9	9,024	6.6	6.9	+1,477
50 to 54	8,612	5.9	6.2	7,932	5.8	6.4	+680
55 to 59	7,592	5.2	5.7	6,490	4.8	5.6	+1,102
60 to 64	6,001	4.1	4.9	5,542	4.1	5.1	+459
65 to 69	5,175	3.5	4.4	4,649	3.4	3.9	+526
70 to 74	4,236	2.9	3.3	4,551	3.3	3.0	-315
75 to 79	4,184	2.9	2.5	4,195	3.1	2.4	-11
80 to 84	3,566	2.4	1.9	3,519	2.6	2.0	+47
85 and over	3,736	2.5	2.0	3,074	2.3	1.8	+662



	2016			2011			Change
<b>Total population</b>	<b>146,721</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>136,474</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>+10,247</b>

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

Analysis of the five year age groups of the City of Darebin in 2016 compared to Greater Melbourne shows that there was a lower proportion of people in the younger age groups (under 15) and a similar proportion of people in the older age groups (65+). Overall, 16.0% of the population was aged between 0 and 15, and 14.2% were aged 65 years and over, compared with 18.3% and 14.0% respectively for Greater Melbourne.

The major differences between the age structure of the City of Darebin and Greater Melbourne were:

- A larger percentage of persons aged 25 to 29 (9.7% compared to 8.1%)
- A larger percentage of persons aged 30 to 34 (9.7% compared to 8.2%)
- A smaller percentage of persons aged 15 to 19 (4.7% compared to 6.0%)
- A smaller percentage of persons aged 10 to 14 (4.6% compared to 5.7%)

The largest changes in age structure in this area between 2011 and 2016 were in the age groups:

- 30 to 34 (+1,855 persons)
- 45 to 49 (+1,477 persons)
- 25 to 29 (+1,296 persons)
- 55 to 59 (+1,102 persons)

### 3.3.2 Population Forecast

It is expected that there will be an overall trend of an increasing population for the Darebin area. In 2041 it is projected that there will be an extra 70,069 people living within the municipality from the 2016 figure.

**Table 3.2 City of Darebin - Country of Birth**

	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036	2041
Population	154,144	170,409	185,689	199,020	211,587	224,213
Change in population		16,265	15,280	13,331	12,567	12,626
Average annual change		2.1%	1.8%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

It should be noted that the 2016 population figure is higher than the population figure identified in the 2016 Census as it takes into residents that may not have been counted during the ABS Census. Whilst it is difficult to determine by exactly how much the population will increase, any increase is likely to come from increased urban density which will continue to place increasing importance on public open space and community leisure facilities.

### 3.3.3 Ethnicity

Darebin has a culturally diverse community, with almost one third of residents being born in a non-English speaking country.

56.3% or 82,621 residents speak English only meaning that 37.0% speak a language other than English.

Table 3.3 shows the main countries of birth of Darebin residents.



Table 3.3 City of Darebin - Country of Birth

Birthplace	2016			2011			Change 2011 to 2016
	Number	%	Greater Melbourne %	Number	%	Greater Melbourne %	
Australia	86,907	59.2	59.8	81,889	60.0	63.3	+5,018
Italy	6,130	4.2	1.4	7,166	5.3	1.7	-1,036
China	4,821	3.3	3.5	4,335	3.2	2.3	+486
India	4,561	3.1	3.6	4,445	3.3	2.7	+116
Greece	4,553	3.1	1.0	4,998	3.7	1.2	-445
United Kingdom	3,443	2.3	3.6	3,223	2.4	4.1	+220
Vietnam	2,798	1.9	1.8	2,330	1.7	1.7	+468
New Zealand	2,197	1.5	1.8	1,854	1.4	1.7	+343
Lebanon	1,170	0.8	0.4	1,273	0.9	0.4	-103
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1,150	0.8	0.4	1,322	1.0	0.4	-172
<b>Total born overseas</b>							
Non English speaking backgrounds	41,409	28.2	27.0	39,588	29.0	24.2	+1,821
Main English speaking countries	7,308	5.0	6.8	6,442	4.7	7.2	+866

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

Analysis of the country of birth of the population in Darebin in 2016 compared to the Greater Melbourne region shows that there were a similar proportion of people born overseas and a slightly higher proportion of people from a non-English speaking backgrounds.

Overall, 33.2% of the population was born overseas compared to 33.8% in Greater Melbourne. The dominant non-English speaking country of birth in Darebin was Italy, where 4.2% of the population, or 6,130 people, were born, followed by China, India and Greece.

#### 3.3.4 Other Leisure Related Statistics

Two major constraints, which limit people's participation in leisure activities, are the availability of private transport to access facilities and the cost of participating in activities. A review of income levels and the vehicle ownership of Darebin residents appear below.

#### Income Levels

Table 3.4 Household Weekly Income Levels

	2016		
	Number	%	Greater Melbourne %
Negative Income/ Nil income	11,593	9.4	11.2
\$1 - \$149	5,127	4.2	4.5
\$150 - \$299	9,630	7.8	7.0
\$300 - \$399	11,263	9.1	7.7
\$400 - \$499	9,938	8.1	7.4
\$500 - \$649	8,353	6.8	7.0
\$650 - \$799	8,634	7.0	7.3
\$800 - \$999	9,749	7.9	8.3
\$1,000 - \$1,249	10,278	8.3	8.6
\$1,250 - \$1,499	7,334	5.9	6.0
\$1,500 - \$1,749	6,216	5.0	5.0
\$1,750 - \$1,999	4,147	3.4	3.4
\$2,000 - \$2,999	6,192	5.0	5.1



	2016		
\$3,000 or more	3,398	2.8	3.4
Not stated	11,434	9.3	8.2
<b>Total persons aged 15+</b>	<b>123,286</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

The table above details the household weekly income levels of Darebin residents. The review of the income levels of Darebin residents indicates:

- Residents in Darebin are more likely to earn a lower income than those residents in Greater Melbourne (those earning less than \$500 per week). 38.6% of households in Darebin were low income earners compared to 37.8% in Greater Melbourne.
- There are a smaller proportion of high income earners (those earning \$1,750 per week or more). Overall 11.1% of residents in Darebin earn a high income, compared to 11.9% of Greater Melbourne residents.

### Vehicle Ownership

Vehicles garaged at home by residents based on the 2016 ABS statistics are detailed in the following table:

**Table 3.5 Vehicle Ownership (ABS 2016)**

	2016		
	Number	%	Greater Melbourne %
No motor vehicles	7,167	12.3	8.5
1 motor vehicle	23,970	41.0	33.2
2 motor vehicles	16,281	27.9	34.8
3 or more motor vehicles	5,730	9.8	15.9
Not stated	5,266	9.0	7.6
<b>Total households</b>	<b>58,414</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.

The review of the Vehicle ownership of Darebin residents indicates:

- 12.3% of residents have no vehicle and 78.7% have at least one vehicle per household compared to 8.5% and 83.9% for the Greater Melbourne, respectively.
- Darebin vehicle ownership is lower than Greater Melbourne indicating that many residents may not have the ability to independently access leisure facilities. This highlights the reliance of many residents on public transport which indicates the need to consider this in future facility development.

### Disability

The Australian Bureau of Statistic has developed a “Core Activity Need for Assistance” variable that measures the number of persons with a profound or severe disability. These people are defined as needing help or assistance in one or more of the three core activities of self-care, mobility and communication because of a disability, long-term health condition (lasting six months or more), or old age.

The table below provides a summary of people in need of assistance

**Table 3.6 Persons in Need of Assistance with Core Activities (ABS 2016)**

Category	2016		
	Number	Darebin %	Greater Melbourne %
Total persons needing assistance	8,774	6.0	4.9
Total persons not needing assistance	127,155	86.7	88.8
Not stated	10,795	7.4	6.3
<b>Total population</b>	<b>146,724</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented in profile.id by .id, the population experts.



A review of a person's need for assistance shows that Darebin has 1.1% more people in need of assistance compared to Greater Melbourne.

### 3.4 Summary of Demographic Review

The following provides a summary of the key findings from the project area's demographic review.

- The City of Darebin Local Government area covers an area of 53 sq. km. and had a total population of 155,022 people (2016).
- More than 6 out of 10 people (64.6%) are aged in their most active years of 5 - 49 years. This indicates that the current pressure and demands being placed on Council to provide a range of leisure activities and facilities to meet the needs of residents will continue.
- The top five overseas countries of birth are Italy, China, India, Greece and the United Kingdom. The impact of this is that leisure activities will need to be aware of cultural issues and coordinate both the programs and promotional campaigns to these markets.
- The review of annual income levels indicated that a significant proportion of the population had limited access to disposable income and therefore recreation and leisure facilities and activities need to be set at an affordable fee level to encourage their participation. 38.6% of households have access to less than \$500 weekly income.
- Approximately 12% of Darebin residents do not have access to a private vehicle, which could be used to travel to leisure activities and facilities. This indicates that many residents are reliant on public transport systems to access facilities.
- When planning for future sporting and leisure facilities, the need for facilities to be located with access to public transport, is very important due to the high number of young people as well as high numbers of those who do not have access to private vehicles.



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## 4. Sports Facilities Trends

The following provides a review of the key sports facilities and participation trends that may impact on this master plan. Implications from these trends have been considered in completing the overall demand assessment and facility development requirements presented later in this report.

### 4.1.1 General Recreation and Sports Trends

The study's key findings combined with the consultant team's previous leisure research experience, current industry trends and latest research findings indicate the following trends may impact upon the Study area.

#### Factors Affecting Recreation Participation and Facility Provision

Current trends that affect the sport and recreation industry are being driven by several wider trends in Australian society being:

- A gradual ageing of the population as life expectancy increases, birth rates stay low and the baby boomers grow older. Therefore, an increase in masters/seniors programs is being experienced by a number of sports.
- Broad mix of different times when people participate in leisure, as demands on people's time continues to increase and work practices change.
- Increased variety of leisure options means change in traditional participation
- Constraints on Government spending together with a new degree of entrepreneurs in the Australian economy.

#### Participation

There is a slow reduction in participation in competitive and traditional sports, with people becoming increasingly unwilling to commit themselves to play 'for a whole season' or available to play and train a number of days a week.

Due to daily time constraints, people are cutting back their leisure and recreation activities and are more demanding about those that remain. To remain viable, the quality of facilities and variety of services will have to continually improve.

There will be a greater demand in the future for indoor facilities (available all year/every day) and higher quality outdoor playing surfaces.

With increased age longevity and larger numbers of fit, healthy older people, the demand for exercise, and for conveniently located facilities, is expected to increase.

Because of their reliance on young players, many sports will grow more slowly than the adult population as a whole.

With new technologies and commercial interests investing in leisure, a wide range of activities, particularly those targeting teenagers, will continue to undergo cyclic popularity.

Sports clubs dependent on voluntary labour and support will be required to provide greater incentives and better management to attract volunteers. The cost to sports clubs of equipping, insuring and managing players and administering games is expected to continue to increase.



### Facility Trends

With ongoing Government economic constraints and limited capital and operational budgets, many new sports facilities may have to be joint venture arrangements between private and public sectors and sports clubs.

The reduction in commitment to curriculum based school sports in State Government Schools will have impacts on the local availability of school sports facilities while also discouraging public sector investment in new facilities at these sites.

Due to restricted rate and other revenue bases, local Councils may have to encourage greater private investment in leisure facilities and services. A mix of rate concessions, payback loans, management rights in return for investment, provision of land and planning concessions may achieve this.

Facility provision is changing from single-purpose to multi-purpose. However there is an emphasis on ensuring facilities are designed to meet the specific needs of the key user groups. A great deal of infrastructure expenditure is now being directed to the development of larger public and private complexes providing aquatic, health, fitness and indoor sports facilities because of the higher utilisation which can be achieved. There is less emphasis on the development of traditional single purpose outdoor sports facilities.

More flexible designs are being created and there is a growing expectation that facilities will need to be renovated/upgraded on a periodic basis. There is a realisation that facilities have a “customer interest life-span” which is much less than the facility life-span.

The planning process for new facilities has improved significantly with the conduct of effective feasibility studies being the norm. These studies have generally included management/marketing/financial plans with demand projections based on sophisticated survey data.

There has been considerable improvement in the management of leisure facilities, with increased expectations of managers to produce better financial outcomes and generate higher attendance. Public sector facility managers now need higher skill levels, face broader roles, need access to better training and professional networks and improved financial reporting systems.

As competition increases there will be an increased emphasis on programming and target marketing based on adopting consumer driven strategies and performance evaluation techniques. This indicates a greater resourcing of local area planning, knowing who are your customers and how to attract them.



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## 5. Community Consultation and Key Stakeholder Interviews

Discussions were held with key stakeholder and users of the sporting precinct to identify any key issues and needs that would impact the ongoing use and development of the site; which has informed the development of the master plan. These included:

- Key stakeholders and reserve tenant workshop
- Internal Council officers focus group
- Interviews with State Sporting Associations
- Local residents
- General Darebin community
- Darebin City Council Councillors

The section provides a summary of the key issues and opportunities identified:

### 5.1 Cycling Victoria

#### 5.1.1 General

Cycling Victoria (CV) is the peak body for the administration of cycling in Victoria. The purposes of the association are.

- To provide leadership for the effective development and management of cycling in Victoria covering both recreation riding and grass roots to elite levels of racing;
- To promote, encourage, foster, develop, extend, govern, and control cycling in Victoria;
- To co-ordinate, encourage, assist and support the legitimate activities of Member Clubs and Affiliates and their co-operation with each other.

The administration base and velodrome are based within the Darebin International Sports Centre

#### 5.1.2 Key Issues

The key issues identified by Cycling Victoria include:

- The facility is not functioning as it was originally designed, as the State Bowls and Track Cycling facility.
- The indoor green located in the centre of the velodrome should be removed and replaced with an indoor synthetic green outside of the velodrome footprint.
- The current office functionality, size and resources does not meet the needs of Cycling Victoria, nor will it meet the needs as the organisation grows in staff capacity. Cycling Victoria expect to have 18 staff onsite 9am - 5pm in the next few years.
- There is limited car parking available for events and traffic movement throughout the site specifically onto Darebin Road is challenging.
- Facilities are currently not appropriate for Cycling Victoria to run two major events per year in July and December catering for approximately 1000/1300 spectators.
- John Cain Sports precinct does not provide opportunities for other cycling disciplines, such as BMX.



### 5.1.3 Future Priorities

- Resurface track
- Upgrade audio system
- Lighting to support live streaming
- Scoreboard replacement
- Access to storage to replace shipping containers

## 5.2 Bowls Australia

### 5.2.1 General

Bowls Australia is the National peak body responsible for the administration of bowls in Australia

The key objectives of BA is:

- To act as the Australian affiliated member of World Bowls Limited in accordance with the Statutes and Regulations;
- To encourage, promote, advance and administer all levels of bowls in Australia interdependently with members and others;
- To encourage the provision and development of appropriate facilities for participation in bowls;
- To promote the sport of bowls for commercial, government and public recognition and benefits;

The administration base is based within the Darebin International Sports Centre

### 5.2.2 Key Issues

The key issues identified by Bowls Australia were:

- The lack of services, space and opportunities to grow the sport of Lawn Bowls
- The current provision of four outdoor and one indoor green is not a viable proposition given the current club numbers and the lack of events held at the venue.
- The indoor green located within the Centre of the Velodrome does not suit the needs of bowls or cycling
- Two thirds of the bowlers are regionally based which impacts the location of major events.
- There is a stigma about the quality of the bowling greens and the support facilities.
- There may be an opportunity for Bowls Australia to operate the café and access the greens

### Administration Area

- The Bowls Australia administration area is a capacity. There are currently 15 staffing positions which will increase by 5 to 10 over the next 10 years due to the centralisation of staff
- Technology at the Centre is a problem - systems not current. There is a need for a larger auditorium/conference space (capacity for up to 30 people).
- The current function room is too large and not appealing and doesn't have the required audio equipment.
- Parking is not a major problem except when there is an event for one of the other tenants. Dedicated car parking spaces for tenants should be considered.



### 5.2.3 Future Priorities

- Cover one of the outdoor greens and provide an all weather surface
- Locate the Centre of Excellence at DISC. This would require access to:
- A Centre excellence would require
- Theatrette
- Indoor facility - green with roof structure
- Video analysis
- Lighting
- Gym
- Workstation for coach
- Access to the greens
- Access to artificial surface that is enclosed

## 5.3 Darebin City Bowls Club

### 5.3.1 General

Darebin City Bowls Club is the key tenant at the bowls facility that is part of the Darebin International Sports Centre.

- The club has a current membership of 80 people. There has been a change in membership over the past two years with a number of new members. The change in committee structure has made the club more inclusive.
- The club has achieved some success as runners up in the division two competition resulting in promotion to division one.
- Competition includes three teams on a Saturday and two teams during the week
- Winter pennant on the indoor green runs for an eleven week season on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 6.30pm to 9.30pm. The competition attracts approximately 48 people.
- Social bowling operates on Saturdays and Tuesdays on the indoor green.
- The club run approximately 6 events per year. Event requires parking of between 100/150.
- Weekly usage requires approximately 60 spaces at maximum

### 5.3.2 Key Issues

- The Club identified a concern with the co use of the indoor bowls green by cycling and bowls
- The committee would consider access to three outdoor greens and 1 indoor green.
- Bistro/café area a key source of revenue for the club. The current operators True Blu have a lease, which expires in 2019 with a further 5-year option.

### 5.3.3 Future Priorities

- Improving the front of the facility to improve the marketing of the bistro has been identified as a priority.
- The club would encourage Council to consider working with Club on funding major events
- There is a need to improve the relationship between the club and Bowls Victoria.



## 5.4 Bowls Victoria

### 5.4.1 General

Bowls Victoria (BV) is the peak body for the administration of bowls in Victoria. The purposes of the association are.

- Create a uniform entity through and by which Bowls in Victoria can be encouraged, conducted, promoted and administered and to be the governing body of Bowls in Victoria;
- Promote and encourage Bowls within Victoria and the conduct of competition as an affiliated member of Bowls Australia;

### 5.4.2 Key Issues

The key issues identified by Bowls Victoria were:

- Current membership of Bowls Victoria is 42,486 as at March 2017. The traditional pennant membership is decreasing however the social participation is increasing.
- The lack of supporting infrastructure or accommodation within close proximity for major events is the key reason the facility is not used for major events. For example there is no stand alone club house
- There is sufficient land to develop a clubhouse on the site if Council wishes to consider further major events.
- The facility is not well suited for public transport access
- Two thirds of the membership resides in regional areas. Therefore BV schedules the majority of major events in a location near the main catchments. Accommodation to support events is also more accessible in regional areas. Over the last few years the main event locations were:
  - Bendigo
  - Swan hill
  - Echuca
  - Shepparton
  - Corowa

### 5.4.3 Future Priorities

- Bowls Victoria would be interested in moving to John Cain as their home base if Council paid for an area of 450m<sup>2</sup> and 30 car parking spaces.
- Consideration should be given to provision of 3 turf greens and one all weather enclosed green

## 5.5 Football Federation Victoria

### 5.5.1 General

Football Federation Victoria (FFV) is the peak body for the administration of football (soccer) in Victoria. The key objectives of the association are.

- To be the member of FFA in respect of the State and to comply with the constitution and by-laws of FFA;
- To govern, administer and regulate Football throughout the State, prevent infringement of the constitution and by-laws of FFA and protect Football from abuse;



- To foster friendly relations among the officials and players of Football by encouraging Football games in the State;
- To promote, provide for, regulate and ensure effective management of Football competitions, tournaments and games in the State under the control of or authorised by the Association,
- There are approximately 70,000 soccer players in Victoria.
- 80% of registered players are based in metropolitan Melbourne.
- Approximately 1500/1600 soccer players in the Darebin area.
- Each pitch can accommodate approximately 116 players.
- Strategic Plan looking at more regional planning

#### 5.5.2 Key Issues

The key issues identified by Football Federation Victoria were:

- The demand for access to quality football pitches in Darebin is increasing.
- The priority for FFV is to relocated the administrative base back to John Cain Memorial Reserve.

### 5.6 Northcote City Soccer Club

#### 5.6.1 General

- Northcote City Soccer Club is the key tenant of the turf soccer pitch at John Cain Memorial Reserve. Through agreement with FFV the club also has access to the synthetic pitches
- The Club have a membership of approximately 500 people

#### 5.6.2 Key Issues

- The main soccer pitch requires a total redevelopment
- The club requires a minimum of three pitches to accommodate current demand. The preference would be to have all of these pitches at the one site.
- There is the potential to increase membership by 160 players which will result in a membership of approximately 650 players
- There is a concern about the parking particularly if the new facility is constructed.

### 5.7 Sport and Recreation Victoria

The state government support the development of the master plan including the location of the proposed indoor stadium and outdoor netball courts and the proposed development of the 5 soccer pitches.

The opportunity to consider the relocation of the Centre bowling green may be considered as part of the proposed State Facilities Plan.

### 5.8 Stakeholder Feedback

A draft Master Plan was circulated to key stakeholders and tenants to seek their comments and feedback to enable the final Plan to be developed.

The following table provides a summary of the key issues identified via the consultation.



Table 5.1 Persons in Need of Assistance with Core Activities (ABS 2016)

Response Received From	Summary of Response
<p><b>RB</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortage of appropriate parking during multiple sports being conducted</li> <li>• A need for cycling competitor parking within a reasonably close location to the DISC entrance to allow for the significant amount of equipment that needs to be carried in</li> <li>• The soccer pitch near the DISC entrance appears unused for competition with only youths playing amongst themselves or people playing with dogs. A reduced half size pitch would allow for current needs and supply additional space for a car park adjacent to the entrance to DISC</li> <li>• Requirement for parking of large sized vehicles with team buses up to 22 seater and vans for bikes and equipment. Defined walkways in the car parks would increase safety for pedestrians and moving vehicles.</li> <li>• If the new Multi-Sports stadium was moved further west it would mean the car park would be more central to all sports, particularly the main football pitch. The present proposal means the car park at the western boundary is rather isolated, predominantly serving only the new stadium</li> <li>• The area between the bowling green and Darebin Rd is presently waste space. The proposal to improve the frontage with Darebin Rd is commendable and could be achieved whilst also utilising it as car park for bowlers. The long area could accommodate 2 rows of parking and the number of bowlers and attendance frequency likely means the present surface would be satisfactory. The bowler, using the walkway between the greens, would then have direct access to the south door of DISC or the south door of the café where they presently congregate.</li> <li>• Moving the main entrance to a traffic light controlled intersection at Sparks Avenue will be a great entry/exit safety improvement</li> <li>• Any pedestrian crossing placed opposite the old entrance will be a potential added interruption to the high volume traffic flow in Darebin Rd</li> <li>• The lighting around existing car parking at night is inadequate.</li> <li>• Entry façade is uninviting, uninspiring and not befitting an international venue</li> <li>• All cycling facilities, admin, proposed expansion etc should be within DISC. Bowls Australia could be located within the new stadium or with the Football Federation</li> <li>• Upstairs Function Room is underutilised. Could be shared with cycling die to overlooking of velodrome</li> </ul>
<p><b>Internal Council Session</b></p>	<p>Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limited bike access</li> <li>- Increase number of pedestrian access gates in fence on north side of pitch; improve pedestrian access into and through site</li> <li>- Alternative access than Darebin Road</li> <li>- Clarendon St residents have issues with traffic</li> <li>- Bus access to site problematic</li> <li>- Access from front to back of site for maintenance vehicles</li> <li>- Safety at night time</li> </ul> <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not community friendly particularly for those people with a disability</li> <li>- Explore opportunities as an event venue/conference facility/ corporate days Explore other community engagement activities at the site</li> <li>- Non-specialised sporting activity welcome too, missing passive open space</li> <li>- Limited facilities for children, playground in wrong spot</li> <li>- Increase seating and water throughout the site, assist to encourage older people</li> </ul> <p>Parking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parking is a major problem:</li> <li>- Albert St car park lease</li> <li>- Albert St car park under utilised</li> <li>- Poor parking provision</li> <li>- Parking on non-asphalt areas</li> <li>- Investigate parking arrangements with Diana Ferrari Issues with velodrome building</li> <li>- Store of track wood</li> <li>- Velodrome roof leaking</li> <li>- Lack of storage for nets</li> <li>- Existing services capacity (sewer, power), problems with sewer from pavilion</li> </ul>



Response Received From	Summary of Response
<p><b>Council Officer stakeholder discussions 9/08</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car parking                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Lighting (in Clarendon St) to deter anti-social behaviour</li> <li>– Allocate car parks for disability, parents with prams</li> <li>– FFV INCFC to promote central car park only</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Access                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Turning lane at entrance</li> <li>– Accessible path for Clarendon St residents</li> <li>– Advocate PTV to increase frequency of buses along Darebin Rd and Station St to 10 minutes, and align with train arrivals (Fairfield and Ivanhoe stations)</li> <li>– Paths within park to link cohesively, importance of north/south link through precinct</li> <li>– Wheelchair/elderly rest points throughout precinct</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Upgrade to site                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Increase planting across site</li> <li>– Installation of security cameras</li> <li>– Climate controlled buildings</li> <li>– Solar panels, underwater tanks, recycled water</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Local Resident</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher fencing required to stop soccer balls going over the fence</li> <li>• Improve pedestrian access from Clarendon Street</li> <li>• Accessibility to and parking for playground to be addressed</li> <li>• Improve access to, location, size and lighting of accessible car spaces for wheelchair users</li> <li>• Consideration that speed humps installed in the precinct are accessible for electric wheelchair users</li> <li>• Improve/increase site lighting for safety of park users</li> <li>• General safety in the area is a concern to local residents</li> <li>• VASS (Ventilator Accommodation Support Service) would like DCC to engage Disability Access Consultants to undertake a site audit.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Darebin City Wheelchair Handball Club (DCWHC)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of full size handball courts in the undercover stadium, suitable for wheelchair and able-bodied handball.</li> <li>• This is a growing sport and access to suitable courts would raise participation and community involvement, and would allow DCC to be well placed as the leading municipality in this sport.</li> <li>• This would also support Handball Victoria and provide a potential venue for annual Australasian Open Club Championships.</li> <li>• There is also an opportunity to host the World Wheelchair Handball Championships in Victoria, should a suitable venue be available.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cycling Victoria Paul Jane (CEO)</b></p>	<p>DISC is noted at a State Venue for track cycling however does not represent a contemporary offering for the sport and fails to recognise sporting pathways within Cycling. In order to fulfil this sporting need consideration should be given to BMX, MTB and Road Cycling within the venue and elite facilities that complement the State Venue role.</p> <p>Current issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is significant conflict with the Darebin City Bowls club regarding the indoor green as it provides for a poor outcome for cyclist and bowler alike and should be decommissioned.</li> <li>• Venue food and beverage offerings are of a poor standard and the lease arrangements exclude venue users from maximising the sites usage. The design of the bistro further inhibits centre usage being poorly located, oriented towards bowls and no 'grab and go' offering in the facility for velodrome events.</li> </ul> <p>Future Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administration- capacity should be made for up to 20 staff - at 10m2 per member 200m2</li> <li>• Meeting/training rooms - 1 small meeting room @12 m2 and a larger board room 40m2</li> <li>• Storage room @12m2</li> <li>• Change rooms - the current facilities at DISC are substandard and should be redeveloped</li> <li>• Media room 30 m2 can be a shared space</li> <li>• Elite testing and coaching space - recommend a conversion of the current office space</li> <li>• Historical space 50M2 - I believe that you have a proposal from the historical committee</li> <li>• Men's shed space - focusing on restoring bikes and donating back to families in need - this can be a cage facility with storage</li> <li>• Hard pad training space - see traffic school and beginner bike skills course - related to the site</li> <li>• Kiosk - 'Grab and go' facilities for events trackside</li> </ul>



Response Received From	Summary of Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An active transport plan to and from the site (walking, cycling and public transport should be a priority)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Darebin City Bowls Club</b>  <b>Jane Edgcumbe</b>  <b>(President)</b></p>	<p>Darebin is noted at the State facility however has not hosted an event that would be required to engage the full range of infrastructure on the site for some time. The removal of its State status and associated infrastructure requirements would produce a significantly better community outcome and reduce the asset maintenance burden on Darebin City Council</p> <p>Current Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The designation of the facility as a State facility and the agreements between the State and Darebin City Council need to be addressed.</li> <li>• The exterior stadium seating is redundant and should be removed.</li> <li>• The conflict with cyclist using the indoor green is significant and the environment for bowling is poor.</li> <li>• The club has no social space.</li> </ul> <p>Future Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two enclosed synthetic greens</li> <li>• 160 sqm club house, bar, kitchen, toilets, office</li> <li>• Existing green 4</li> <li>• Greenkeeper's shed</li> <li>• Use of Arthur Street car park</li> </ul>
<p><b>Bowls Australia</b>  <b>Neil Dalrymple</b>  <b>(CEO)</b></p>	<p>Bowls Australia is the national body responsible for the Sport of Bowls in Australia.</p> <p>Current Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BA would like a High Performance Centre of Excellence based in Melbourne and this would require the following:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Theatrette</li> <li>– Indoor facility - green with roof structure</li> <li>– Video analysis capacity</li> <li>– Lighting</li> <li>– Gym equipment or an area that could be shared</li> <li>– Workstation for a Head coach</li> <li>– Access to the greens - both synthetic and grass</li> <li>– Access to artificial surface that is enclosed/covered</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Administration areas are substandard</li> </ul> <p>Future Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resolve the Centre of Excellence opportunity</li> <li>• Space for an additional 5 staff at our Head Office</li> <li>• Auditorium / conference space (capacity for up to 30 people).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Local Residents</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher fencing required to stop soccer balls going over the fence</li> <li>• Improve pedestrian access from Clarendon Street</li> <li>• Accessibility to and parking for playground to be addressed</li> <li>• Improve access to, location, size and lighting of accessible car spaces for wheelchair users</li> <li>• Consideration that speed humps installed in the precinct are accessible for electric wheelchair users</li> <li>• Improve/increase site lighting for safety of park users</li> <li>• General safety in the area is a concern to local residents</li> </ul> <p>VASS (Ventilator Accommodation Support Service) would like DCC to engage Disability Access Consultants to undertake a site audit.</p>
<p><b>City of Darebin - Your Say Responses</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area is generally drab new stadium should be well designed so that people don't think it's just an industrial 'drive through' area.</li> <li>• Playgrounds for older children to relax with their friends, rather than only very young children.</li> <li>• The proposed play space needs to be much larger to replace the area being removed.</li> <li>• Given the increased traffic from enlarging the facilities there is a need to ensure a traffic management plan is developed</li> <li>• The masterplan indicates that the access road that currently runs from Darebin Rd to Clarendon St. significant concern about cars accessing the park from Clarendon Street.</li> </ul>



Response Received From	Summary of Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures need to be put in place to ensure that rubbish is cleaned up? There are often is highly littered already and this will only get worse with more people attending the area.</li> <li>• How much is this whole thing costing ratepayers?</li> </ul>



## 6. John Cain Memorial Park Master Plan

This section brings together the study's findings under a recommended Master Plan for John Cain Reserve. This study has been guided by the:

- Project objectives
- Darebin Open Space Strategy
- Peak bodies requirements and standards (where available)
- Results from the extensive consultation with key stakeholders, community members and tenant user groups.

### 6.1 Master Plan Vision, Principles and Framework

This plan is in line with a number of Council strategies and plans including:

The City of Darebin Council Plan 2017 - 2021. The plan articulates the following priorities:

- Goal two - to 'improve the wellbeing of people in our community by providing opportunities for them to live their lives well'.
- Action - 2.2 we will expand opportunities for participation and social connection through sport, physical activity, arts, culture and other leisure activities. We support sport and physical activity through the management of nearly 150 sport grounds and facilities and programs such as free exercise in the park, programs run in our leisure centres, pram walking groups and disability access programs
- One of 16 stated 'Big Actions' stated in the plan is to: Build a multipurpose sports stadium – a premier facility for women's sport – at John Cain Memorial Park.

The Darebin Leisure Strategy 2010-2020 identifies that Council will continue to support the role of women in sport and leisure through the development of policy, facility design and programs. It also specifies to investigate and manage the development of a high ball sports stadium in Darebin.

Councils Open Space Strategy 2007 -2017 identified the following vision for the provision of public open space. The vision was drawn from the consultation and sought to capture the community and stakeholder aspirations for open space provision, management and development in Darebin

*The Vision for the next ten years for open space in the City of Darebin is:*

*A well-connected network of accessible open spaces that meets the diverse needs of the community and provides a range of social and environmental benefits.*

The key priorities for identified for the open space included the following themes:

- Linkages and connections (including those used for active transport)
- Physical accessibility
- Sustainability - standards, maintenance and acquisition
- Increase activation and appeal of existing spaces
- Way-finding signage
- Enhance what we already have
- Improve service / maintenance levels
- Additional car parking



Based on the above the following principles and strategic framework has been developed to guide the John Cain Reserve Master Plan process:

**a) Principles:**

- Increased opportunities and participation for all
- A diverse range of open space, sport and recreation choices
- Great places for people to recreate
- Building the health and wellbeing of the Darebin community
- Responsive to identified open space, sport and recreation needs of the community
- Inspiring and empowering people to recreate and
- Delivering economic outcomes for the community through sport and recreation

**b) Strategy Framework:**

- **Facilities:** What we will do to provide safe, liveable, sustainable and usable assets to improve opportunities for residents to participate in active and healthy lifestyles.
- **Programs:** What we will do to provide safe, accessible and usable programs to improve opportunities for residents to participate in active and healthy lifestyles.
- **Services:** What we will do to provide safe, accessible and usable services to improve opportunities for residents to participate in active and healthy lifestyles

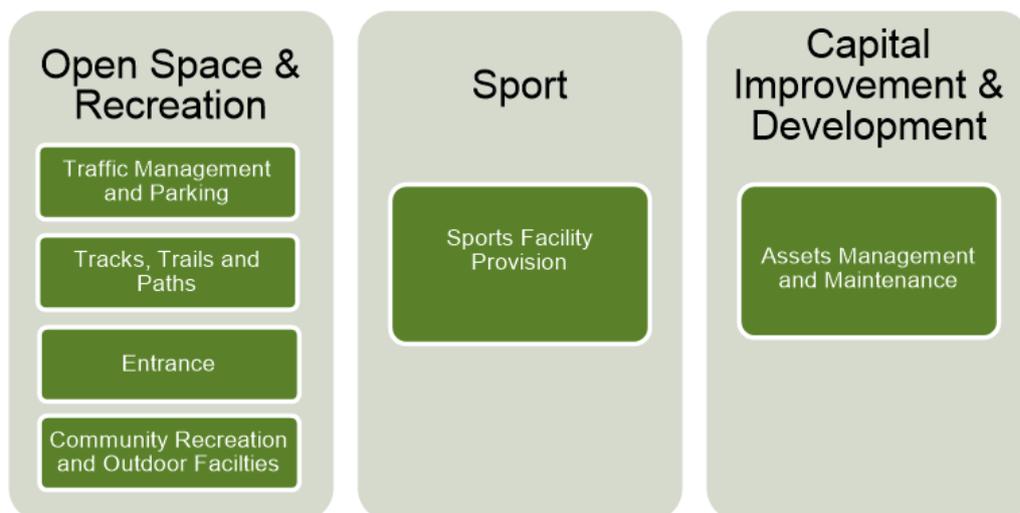
This is presented in the following graphic that links together the key strategy areas.





## 6.2 Facilities Development Framework

The proposed John Cain Reserve Master Plan framework is based on the key areas of Open Space and Recreation, Sport and Capital Improvement and Development as listed in the graphic below.



## 6.3 John Cain Memorial Park Master Plan

Based on the study's key findings a detailed facility component brief for future development and direction for the John Cain Reserve to achieve the vision and design principles was developed. The component brief was divided the following zones:

- General Precinct Upgrades
- State Facilities Licenced Areas
- Darebin Multi-Sport Stadium

The following provides a summary of the key directions identified for the reserve within the draft master plan.

### 6.4 General Precinct Upgrades

The following details the identified general precinct upgrades:

#### 6.4.1 Car Park

Develop new and upgrade existing car parking areas to service weekly competition and training needs, and events across the precinct including:

- Develop central car park area to service MSS
- Reseal and line mark car-parking area off Clarendon Street
- Consider installation of traffic calming measures as appropriate
- Relocate the entrance of the Clarendon Street car park to the western end of the car park
- Develop dedicated car parking on Clarendon Street to the north east of the precinct
- Potential car parking area along frontage of Darebin Road



#### 6.4.2 Traffic Management/site access

Improve the overall traffic management and access to the precinct including:

- Expansion and upgrade to main entry/exit point
- Pedestrian crossing across Darebin Road
- Signalised entrance to improve safe access/egress
- Works to Darebin Road and potential traffic calming measures
- Improved public transport access opportunities

#### 6.4.3 Pedestrian/cycle Pathways

Develop a series of pathways throughout the site as a means of improving access across the precinct and encouraging unstructured recreational opportunities including:

- Link pathways to existing Darebin pathway/cycle network including Darebin Creek Trail
- Create new Darebin Road “off road” bicycle path from Station Street to Darebin Creek
- Provide wide north south pedestrian precinct link, with capacity for emergency vehicles.
- Provide seating around pathway network as rest stops

#### 6.4.4 Landscaping

Upgrade the landscaping across the precinct to improve the overall amenity of the site including:

- Provide green screening to Agg Street and western side of car park to provide buffer
- Improve frontage/planting along frontage on Darebin Road
- Provide avenue of trees along central access road
- Provide tree planting throughout central car park area
- Provide landscaped area to the rear of the velodrome (location of current shipping containers)

#### 6.4.5 Play Spaces

Develop two play space/outdoor exercise areas within the precinct to service both local residents and visitors to the sporting precinct

- Play space to be located adjacent to Clarendon Street
- Play space to be located adjacent to outdoor netball courts

#### 6.4.6 Way Finding Signage

Provide way finding signage throughout the precinct to ensure users are aware of facility locations including:

- New signage at entrance to the precinct to improve street visibility
- Provide way finding signage across the precinct
- Provide distance marker signage around the pathway system to support unstructured use of the tracks and paths

#### 6.4.7 Soccer Infrastructure

Redevelopment of community soccer precinct including:

- Resurface main pitch - Northcote City Soccer
- Upgrade existing grand stand to accommodate the future needs of the North City Football Club



- Upgrade the current change rooms facility
  - Provide new ticket booth at entrance to Northcote City pitch
  - Provide updated lighting to improve safety / access across the entire precinct
- State Facilities Licenced Areas
- Complete proposed underground water storage facility and reinstate full size senior football pitch to west of existing NCFC stadium pitch

## 6.5 State Facilities Licensed Areas

Develop a plan to upgrade and refurbish the internal facilities and administration areas of DISC to improve functionality as a base this would include:

### 6.5.1 Facilities

- Upgrade of the café to better service all facility users
- Upgrade and expansion of the existing administration areas for bowls Australia and Cycling Victoria
- Upgrade front entrance to the facility to create a more welcoming and efficient entrance
- Resurfacing of the velodromes wooden track
- Development of additional storage area to the west of the building to replace the external shipping containers
- Consolidation of storage areas and landscaping to replace current storage (shipping) containers
- Consider the relocation of the indoor bowls green to one of the outdoor greens and develop all weather cover bowls area on one of external greens.
- Develop state level football facilities (soccer) including up to two additional pitches in the future one of which could be of international standard
- Develop new clubrooms/administration area to support the use of the Darebin International Sports Centre Football pitches

### 6.5.2 Occupancy Agreements

- Execution of updated tenancy agreement for Darebin City Bowls Club
- Execution of updated tenancy agreements for State Sporting Association tenants

## 6.6 Darebin Multi Sports Stadium

Development of the proposed Darebin Multi Sports Stadium including:

- 4 indoor sports courts
- Change rooms and amenities
- Function room
- Four outdoor netball courts
- Upgrade or develop new club amenities to support structured outdoor netball
- Develop new netball amenities building to support users of outdoor netball courts
- Additional car parking to serve requirements of this facility



1. **Clarendon St Car Park**
  - Sealed car park with formalisation of car parking including lined bays
  - Only open on match days and for club activities
  - Traffic calming measures
2. **NFC Change Rooms**
  - Proposed upgrade of existing change rooms
3. **New Stadium Entrance**
  - New Stadium Entrance with new ticket booth
4. **Proposed Underground Water Storage**
  - Proposed resurfacing and improved drainage of football pitch
  - Proposed lighting
  - Proposed underground water storage below football pitch
5. **Proposed Additional Car Parking**
  - Resurface and formalise existing over flow car parking
  - Include additional shade trees and rain gardens to help treat run off from car park
  - Additional accessible car parks
6. **Upgraded Grand Stand and Club Rooms**
  - Proposed upgrade to include tiered seating, post-match BBQ area, proposed canteen, change rooms, WC and storage
7. **Pedestrian Pathway/ Emergency Vehicle Access**
  - Proposed bollards between Clarendon access road and central car park
  - Wide north – south pedestrian precinct link with access for emergency vehicles
  - Landscaping and fencing
  - Improved precinct safety lighting
  - Rest points and seating
8. **Consolidation of Storage Area**
  - Potential to incorporate storage into existing building
9. **Darebin International Sports Centre Velodrome**
  - 250m UCI sanctioned indoor banked timber cycling track
  - Home to Cycling Victoria
  - Spectator area with space for 1000 seated and 300 standing
  - Resurface velodrome timber track
  - Refurbish cafe to improve access for all facility users
10. **Darebin City Bowls Club**
  - Four existing outdoor bowling greens and one indoor synthetic bowls green in Velodrome centre
  - Lighting
  - Stadium seating
  - Conference and private room hire
  - Proposed enclosure over one of existing outdoor bowling greens
11. **Improved Frontage Along Darebin Rd**
  - Additional tree planting and landscaping
  - Improved path connection
  - Possible additional car parking
12. **Improved Bike and Pedestrian Connections**
  - Possible future designated bike path along Darebin Rd
  - Opportunities for extra bike racks within John Cain Reserve
  - North-South pedestrian / bike link through precinct
  - Creation of new Darebin Road off road bike path from Station street to Darebin Creek
  - Improved linkages to Darebin Creek trail
  - Improved cycling linkages
  - Improved precinct lighting to increase perceptions of safety
  - Safe provision of off road cycling / walking path to link with other neighbourhood shimmy and active transport routes
  - Improved path networks around sporting facilities accessible routes from Clarendon street
13. **Main Entrance**
  - Expansion and upgrade of main entry exit point
  - New signage to improve street visibility
  - Opportunity for signalled entrance to improve access egress
  - Pedestrian light crossings over Darebin Rd
14. **Public Transport**
  - Bus stops on Darebin Road at entrance to park
  - Accessible path from bus stop to sports facilities
  - Advocate for improved public transport access to precinct including linkages between train services and local buses
  - Explore opportunities for PT buses to enter precinct as a designated drop off point

15. **Proposed Plaza Area**
  - Potential to resurface between Darebin International Sports Centre and proposed new car park
  - Potential for traffic calming devices to slow traffic and improve pedestrian connection
16. **Clarendon St Car parking**
  - Formalise car parking including provision of accessible car parks
17. **Proposed cafe upgrade**
  - Proposed upgrade to front of existing cafe to create improved connections to precinct and provide outdoor dining option
18. **Proposed Playspace**
  - Potential future opportunity to move play space to more central location and upgrade existing equipment
19. **Darebin Creek Trail**
  - Pedestrian and bike path along Darebin Creek
  - Connecting paths to John Cain Reserve
20. **Path Network Upgrade**
  - Upgrade to path network improving accessible connections throughout the John Cain Reserve
  - Exercise stations and distance markers along path network
21. **Avenue of Trees**
  - Shade trees planted along central access road and throughout central car park to be retained where ever possible and missing trees replaced
  - Screening trees to create buffer to residential areas
  - Screening trees to create buffer to residential areas
22. **Darebin International Sports Centre**
  - State level football facilities including up to four synthetic grass pitches and sports field lighting
  - Possible new international standard grass pitch
23. **Proposed New Darebin International Sports Centre Pavilion**
  - Proposed demolition of existing pavilion from central car park
  - Proposed new pavilion located adjacent to the proposed Darebin Multi-sports stadium
24. **Proposed Darebin Multi-sports Stadium**
  - Proposed new Darebin Multi- sports stadium to include 4-6 indoor courts, change rooms, toilets, kitchen and function room
  - Proposed additional car park
  - Proposed future court expansion option
  - Accessible facilities capable of servicing the broader precinct (Changing room facilities)
25. **Proposed Outdoor Netball Courts**
  - Proposed 4 additional outdoor courts
26. **Possible Future Pitch**
27. **New Outdoor Netball Pavilion and Amenity**
28. **Consolidation of car parking**
  - Possible consolidation or disposal of asset
29. **Improved Precinct Wayfinding Signage**

**John Cain Reserve**  
 DRAFT Opportunities Plan Rev D  
 Plan for discussion purposes only

October 2017

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## 6.7 Strategic Actions and Indicative Capital Cost Estimate

The following table provides a summary of the recommended strategic actions and indicative capital cost for the implementation of the John Cain master plan.

Area	Objective	Actions	Indicative Capital Cost \$			
			Cost	Contingency 20%	Fees 6%	Total
<b>General precinct upgrades</b>						
Car parking	Upgrade car parking areas to service weekly competition and training needs, and events across the precinct including	Reseal and line mark car parking area off Clarendon Street Car	906,240	181,248	65,249	1,152,737
		Relocate the entrance of the Clarendon Street car park to the western end of the car park	261,000	52,200	18,792	331,992
		Develop dedicated car parking on Clarendon Street to the north east of the precinct	276,000	55,200	19,872	351,072
		Potential car parking area along frontage of Darebin Road	276,000	55,200	19,872	351,072
Traffic Management/site access	Improve traffic management and access/egress to the precinct	Expansion and upgrade to main entry/exit point	Included in QS for Multi Sports Stadium			
		Pedestrian crossing across Darebin Road				
		Signalised entrance to improve safe access/egress				
		Works to Darebin Road and potential traffic calming measures				
Pedestrian/cycle Pathways	Develop a series of pathways throughout the site as a means of improving access across the precinct and encouraging unstructured recreational opportunities	Link pathways to existing Darebin pathway/cycle network including Darebin Creek Trail Create new Darebin Road "off road" bicycle path from Station Street to Darebin Creek	808,400	161,680	58,205	1,028,285
		Provide wide north south pedestrian precinct link with capacity for emergency vehicles.	261,000	52,200	18,792	331,992
		Provide seating around pathway network as rest stops	356,000	71,200	25,632	452,832
Landscaping	Upgrade the landscaping across the precinct to improve the overall amenity of the site. This includes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide green screening to Agg Street and western side of car park to provide buffer</li> <li>• Improve frontage/planting along frontage on Darebin Road</li> <li>• Provide avenue of trees along central access road</li> <li>• Provide tree planting throughout central car park area</li> </ul>	2,270,000	454,000	163,440	2,887,440
Playgrounds	Develop two play space areas within the precinct to service both local residents and visitors to the sporting	Play space to be located adjacent to Clarendon Street	375,400	75,080	27,029	477,509
		Play space to be located adjacent to outdoor netball courts	84,900	16,980	6,113	107,993

	precinct:					
Way Finding Signage	Provide way finding signage throughout the precinct to ensure users are aware of facility locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New signage at entrance to the precinct to improve street visibility</li> <li>Provide way finding signage across the precinct</li> <li>Provide distance marker signage around the pathway system to support unstructured use of the tracks</li> </ul>	500,000	50,000	33,000	583,000
Soccer infrastructure Lighting	Redevelopment of community soccer precinct	Resurface main pitch - Northcote City Soccer	300,000	60,000	21,600	381,600
		Develop second pitch on top of water storage unit	Works currently being undertaken			
		Upgrade existing grand stand to accommodate the future needs of the North City Football Club	3,000,000	600,000	252,000	3,852,000
		Upgrade the current change room	1,200,000	240,000	86,400	1,526,400
	Ticket booth	Provide new ticket booth at entrance to Northcote City pitch.	80,000	16,000	6000	102,000
	Lighting	Provide updated lighting to improve safety / access across the entire precinct	1,000,000	100,000	66,000	1,166,000
SUBTOTAL						15,083,924
<b>State facilities licenced areas</b>						
Darebin International Sports Centre Velodrome	Develop a plan to upgrade and refurbish the internal areas of the DISC Velodrome and administration area to improve functionality	Repositioning café to better service all facility users	200,000	40,000	14,400	254,400
		Upgrade existing administration areas	480,000	96,000	34,560	610,560
		Upgrade front entrance to the facility to create a more welcoming and efficient entrance	766,500	153,300	55,188	974,988
		Resurfacing of wooden track	112,500	22,500	8,100	143,100
		Upgrading office accommodation for key tenants to improve overall functionality	1,600,000	320,000	115,200	2,035,200
		Develop additional storage area to the west of the building to replace the external shipping containers	786,000	157,200	56,592	999,792
		Landscaping to replace current storage (shipping) containers	315,900	63,180	22,745	401,825
Under cover lawn bowls green		Develop all weather cover bowls area on one of external greens	1,920,000	384,000	138,240	2,442,240
State soccer centre	Development new FFV pavilion and administration headquarters	Develop new clubrooms/administration area to support the use of the Darebin International Sports Centre Football pitches	11,500,000	2,300,000	828,000	14,628,000
	Soccer pitches	Develop state level football facilities (soccer) including up to three additional pitches in the future one of which could be of international standard	4,200,000	840,000	302,400	5,342,400
	Car parking provision	Further development of car parking to service increased patronage to state soccer centre	634,586	158,646	50,644	843,877
SUBTOTAL						28,676,382

Darebin multi sport stadium						
Darebin Multi Sports Stadium		Development of the proposed Darebin Multi Sports Stadium including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 indoor sports courts</li> <li>• Change rooms and amenities</li> <li>• Function room</li> <li>• Four outdoor netball courts</li> </ul>	24,577,000	3,996,000	3,849,000	32,422,000
Club rooms/Change rooms	Upgrade or develop new club amenities to support structured outdoor netball	Develop new netball amenities building to support users of outdoor netball courts.	Covered in MSS above			
<b>Sub Total</b>						<b>32,422,000</b>
<b>ALL WORKS TOTAL</b>						<b>76,182,306</b>

Please note that these costings are indicative as of October 2017. ESD and internal Council project management costs have not been considered - an additional 10% should be allowed in addition to the total costs shown above; with exception of MSS for which these costs have already been considered in the price stated.



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## 7. Warranties and Disclaimers

The information contained in this report is provided in good faith. While Otium Planning Group has applied their own experience to the task, they have relied upon information supplied to them by other persons and organisations.

We have not conducted an audit of the information provided by others but have accepted it in good faith. Some of the information may have been provided 'commercial in confidence' and as such these venues or sources of information are not specifically identified. Readers should be aware that the preparation of this report may have necessitated projections of the future that are inherently uncertain and that our opinion is based on the underlying representations, assumptions and projections detailed in this report.

There will be differences between projected and actual results, because events and circumstances frequently do not occur as expected and those differences may be material. We do not express an opinion as to whether actual results will approximate projected results, nor can we confirm, underwrite or guarantee the achievability of the projections as it is not possible to substantiate assumptions which are based on future events.

Accordingly, neither Otium Planning Group, nor any member or employee of Otium Planning Group, undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any persons other than client in respect of this report, for any errors or omissions herein, arising through negligence or otherwise however caused.

## Consultation and communications plan

<b>Project name</b>	<b>John Cain Memorial Park master plan community consultation</b>	
<b>Key dates</b>	<p>Four week consultation period runs from: <b>21 July 2017 to 17 August 2017</b></p> <p>Two Community information sessions to be held at DISC in the foyer area of the velodrome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Saturday 22 July 2017 1030 am</li> <li>- Wednesday 9 July 2017 600 pm</li> </ul>	
<b>Department</b>	Leisure and Community Facilities	
<b>Project managers</b>	AS, GD, NE	
<b>Comms contact</b>	MD	
<b>Target audience</b>	Existing and future users of precinct	Future MSS users
	Current DISC tenants	Darebin Councillors
	Local sports user residents	All Darebin Residents
<b>Relevant Council Plan goals</b>	<p>Goal 2 - Healthy and Connected Community</p> <p>Darebin Leisure Strategy 2010 – 2020 and Darebin Leisure Action Plan 2015 - 2020</p>	
<b>Key stakeholders</b>	<p>The recommendations made in the master plan will be a result of consultation with Darebin community members, and crucially the main tenants and stakeholders at JCMP including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Darebin City Bowls Club</li> <li>- Football Federation Victoria</li> <li>- Cycling Victoria</li> <li>- Northcote City Soccer Club</li> <li>- Royal Victorian Bowls Association</li> <li>- Bowls Australia</li> <li>- Sport and Recreation Victoria</li> <li>- Netball Victoria and Basketball Victoria (and other high ball sports state bodies) due to development of MSS complex</li> <li>- Darebin City Council internal departments</li> <li>- Darebin Council</li> <li>- Darebin residents, sports users and sporting clubs</li> </ul>	
<b>Context</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council undertook previous consultation in 2015 regarding the location to build a proposed multi- sports stadium within the city. There was broad level community support for this project being constructed at JCMP.</li> <li>- Council passed a resolution in September 2015 endorsing the development of the Darebin Multi-Sports Stadium at John Cain Memorial Park, Thornbury by</li> </ul>	

	<p>June 2020. There is broad level anticipation for construction to commence on this project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In order to proceed with this project, it is recognised as good practice to ensure the broader site usability / functionality and links through adoption of a master plan for the JCMP / DISC site</li> <li>- The DISC precinct is the state home to three sports – soccer, lawn bowls and cycling.</li> <li>- Two community tenants exist at this busy sporting site including Darebin City Bowls Club and Northcote City Soccer Club</li> <li>- Council appointed a consultant in 2015 to undertake the development of a master plan for this site. Due to a number of externally driven reasons this plan was drafted and placed in hold in mid-2016 pending the outcome of several political discussions</li> <li>- As of May 2017 the master plan process has recommenced and re-engagement has begun with key stakeholders</li> <li>- The finalised master plan will consist of three parts:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o A document containing discussions/documentation of values and principles (set through consultation process), existing conditions, present uses and opportunities/constraints</li> <li>o Visual Master Plan showing areas for upgrade/actions</li> <li>o Series of realistic actions prioritised and laid out over 5 years.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Council is seeking community feedback and input on the components of the proposed master plan</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key messages</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- John Cain Memorial Park is a 17.34 hectare sporting reserve named after John Cain Senior, former Premier of Victoria. The Park was redesigned in 2004 to accommodate improved lawn bowls, cycling and football facilities and now is major state sporting venue.</li> <li>- John Cain Memorial Park is situated at 277 Darebin Road, Thornbury and is zoned as Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ). The zoning of the John Cain Memorial Park allows for commercial activity in the Park subject to this activity being compatible to the use of the Park.</li> <li>- John Cain Memorial Park is the home of the State Lawn Bowls, Cycling and Football Centres. As a result, the venue is one of the most significant multi-sport precincts in Melbourne and was utilised during the Melbourne Commonwealth Games in 2006.</li> <li>- The purpose of the Master Plan is to investigate, scope and evaluate options to improve current sporting and leisure opportunities at John Cain Memorial Park, future needs and development of the precinct including additional sporting and leisure options, all in conjunction with local community needs. This is timely as current tenants and sport users have all expressed a range of needs and demands consistent with the current situation of their sport and facilities at the precinct.</li> <li>- Council voted unanimously for a new multi-sport stadium to be built at John Cain Memorial Park. The Master Plan must now consider the development of the new sporting facility and future impacts on current operations at JCMP.</li> <li>- The recommendations made in the Master Plan must be a result of consultation with Darebin community members, and crucially the main tenants and stakeholders at JCMP including but not limited to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Darebin City Bowls Club</li> <li>o Football Federation Victoria</li> <li>o Cycling Victoria</li> <li>o Northcote City Soccer Club</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Royal Victorian Bowls Association</li> <li>○ Bowls Australia</li> <li>○ Sport and Recreation Victoria</li> <li>○ Netball Victoria and Basketball Victoria (and other high ball sports state bodies) due to development of MSS complex</li> <li>○ Darebin City Council internal departments</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">-</p>		
<b>Risks and opportunities</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Risks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investment in significant sporting infrastructure at this site could be seen as a waste of resources / not required</li> <li>• Consultation seen as waste of money</li> <li>• Residents may be opposed to our proposed proponents or specific elements of the design</li> <li>• We could face criticism if the feedback we gather doesn't tangibly impact the project.</li> <li>• Political influences</li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A chance to engage with the community, build trust with them and ensure we gather plenty of ideas and views from residents before we begin implementation of the masterplan items to create an exciting and innovative sporting hub at this site</li> <li>• Better understand the useability and precinct design limitations / opportunities so we can ensure a more vibrant site for the future</li> <li>• Inform the community about the importance of providing local sports facilities – and the critical shortage we're currently experiencing.</li> <li>• Get a sense of what the community's priorities are regarding sports infrastructure.</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Risks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investment in significant sporting infrastructure at this site could be seen as a waste of resources / not required</li> <li>• Consultation seen as waste of money</li> <li>• Residents may be opposed to our proposed proponents or specific elements of the design</li> <li>• We could face criticism if the feedback we gather doesn't tangibly impact the project.</li> <li>• Political influences</li> </ul>	<p><b>Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A chance to engage with the community, build trust with them and ensure we gather plenty of ideas and views from residents before we begin implementation of the masterplan items to create an exciting and innovative sporting hub at this site</li> <li>• Better understand the useability and precinct design limitations / opportunities so we can ensure a more vibrant site for the future</li> <li>• Inform the community about the importance of providing local sports facilities – and the critical shortage we're currently experiencing.</li> <li>• Get a sense of what the community's priorities are regarding sports infrastructure.</li> </ul>
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## Tasks and timing

### External communications

What	When	Who is responsible
<b>Media release</b>	Text: GD Approvals by: 12 July Send by: 7 July	Leisure Services (GD / AS) <span style="background-color: cyan;">Not needed at this stage</span>
<b>Consultation letter</b>  Send to – 500m radius of JCMP precinct	Text: GD Approvals by 14 July Send by: 19 July <span style="background-color: green; color: black;">COMPLETED</span>	Leisure Services (GD)

<p><b>DCN story</b></p>	<p>Text by: 18 June <b>COMPLETED</b></p> <p>To appear in July / August edition</p>	<p>Leisure Services (AS / GD)</p>
<p><b>A4 poster</b></p>	<p>Text: GD</p> <p>Approvals by: 14 July</p> <p>Send by: 21 July</p> <p>Display at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Onsite @ DISC</li> <li>- Darebin customer service centres</li> </ul> <p><b>Did not go ahead</b></p>	<p>Leisure Services (GD)</p> <p><b>Need to check with Comms on content</b></p>
<p><b>Website text</b></p>	<p>Text sent to digital team: 18 July</p> <p>Up on website by: 19 July <b>COMPLETED</b></p>	<p>Leisure Services (GD)</p>
<p><b>Social media</b></p>	<p>Text sent to digital team: 18 July</p> <p>First post on: 19 July <b>COMPLETED</b></p> <p>Second Post : 2 August <b>COMPLETED</b></p> <p>Reminder Post: 8 August</p>	<p>Leisure Services (GD)</p>
<p><b>Follow up messages on survey outcomes</b> (via Mayor’s Message, Social Media and website)</p>	<p>Text sent to communications by: 18 July</p> <p>Messaging as required from: 21 July</p> <p><b>COMPLETED</b></p>	<p>Leisure Services (GD) / Communications (MD)</p> <p>Facebook Posts dates:</p> <p>19, 24 and 30 July</p> <p>2 and 8 August</p>
<p><b>Direct emails to key interested stakeholders</b></p>	<p>Approvals by: 18 July</p> <p>Send by: 19 July <b>COMPLETED</b></p>	<p>Leisure Services (GD)</p> <p>Who – target audience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Darebin sports clubs</li> <li>- Key State sporting associations</li> <li>- Tenants of DISC</li> <li>- Internal service units</li> <li>- Managers Council sport and leisure facilities</li> </ul>
<p><b>‘Have your say’ Darebin via Bang the</b></p>	<p>Portal designed by: 14 July</p>	<p>Leisure Services (GD) and Community Engagement and Demographics</p>

<b>Table</b>	Portal live by: 19 July <b>COMPLETED</b>	
<b>Darebin Clubs Including netball and basketball clubs</b>	Text: GD Approvals by: 19 July Send by: 19 July <b>COMPLETED</b>	Leisure Services (GD)

## Internal communications

<b>Staff-to-staff message</b>	Text by: <b>13 July</b> Send to digital team by: <b>17 July</b> Sent by: w/c <b>19 July</b> <b>COMPLETED</b>	Leisure Services (GD)
<b>Councillor E-bulletin</b>	Text sent to governance by: 18 July To be sent: 21 July <b>COMPLETED – MM 24 July</b>	Leisure Services (GD / AS)
<b>Internal stakeholders email and workshop</b>	Email To be sent: 21 July Email sent 19 July Workshop w/c 24 July <b>COMPLETED</b>	Leisure Services (GD / AS)
<b>QandAs list developed</b>	Text by: <b>14 July</b> <b>COMPLETED</b> Send to Customer Service by: <b>18 July</b>	Leisure Services (GD) Provide QandA list to customer service and on website pages Letter sent to customer service
<b>Councillor workshop</b>	Monday 26 June 2017 <b>COMPLETED</b>	Director Assets and Business Services / Director Community Development

# Project Report

10 July 2017 - 28 August 2017

# Your Say Darebin

## John Cain Memorial Park Feedback



### Visitors Summary

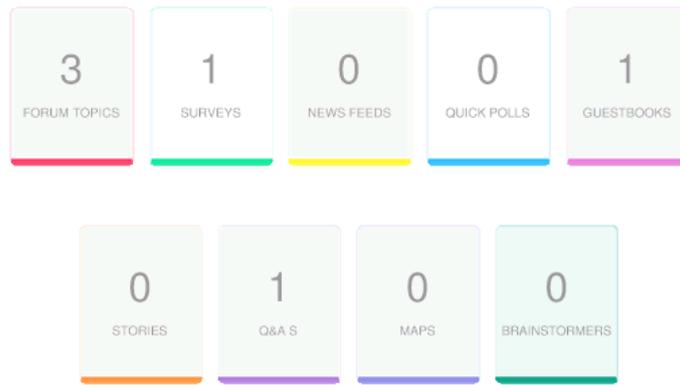


### Highlights

TOTAL VISITS	271	MAX VISITORS PER DAY	23
NEW REGISTRATIONS	10	ENGAGED VISITORS	19
		INFORMED VISITORS	96
		AWARE VISITORS	187

<b>Aware Participants</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>Engaged</b>	<b>19</b>		
Aware Actions Performed	Participants	Engaged Actions Performed	Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Visited a Project or Tool Page	187	Contributed on Forums	2	1	0
<b>Informed Participants</b>	<b>96</b>	Participated in Surveys	8	1	7
Informed Actions Performed	Participants	Contributed to Newsfeeds	0	0	0
Viewed a video	0	Participated in Quick Polls	0	0	0
Viewed a photo	0	Posted on Guestbooks	0	0	0
Downloaded a document	36	Contributed to Stories	0	0	0
Visited the Key Dates page	5	Asked Questions	1	2	0
Visited an FAQ list Page	28	Placed Pins on Maps	0	0	0
Visited Instagram Page	0	Contributed to Brainstormers	0	0	0
Visited Multiple Project Pages	76				
Contributed to a tool (engaged)	19				

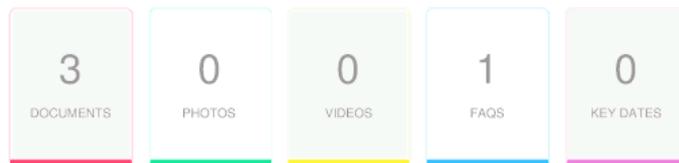
### ENGAGEMENT TOOLS SUMMARY



Tool Type	Engagement Tool Name	Tool Status	Visitors	Contributors		
				Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Forum Topic	Playground equipment	Archived	13	2	1	0
Forum Topic	Barriers to using the facilities and accessing the site	Archived	13	1	1	0
Forum Topic	Sports and Activities	Archived	4	0	0	0
Qanda	Q&A	Archived	43	1	2	0
Survey Tool	John Cain Memorial Park Survey	Archived	35	8	1	7

Your Say Darebin : Summary Report for 10 July 2017 to 28 August 2017

### INFORMATION WIDGET SUMMARY



Widget Type	Engagement Tool Name	Visitors	Views/Downloads
Document	John Cain Memorial Park Proposed Master Plan	32	37
Document	John Cain Memorial Park Today	15	16
Document	John Cain Memorial Park Masterplan Proposal	5	6
Faqs	faqs	28	39
Key Dates	Key Date	5	6

Your Say Daredin : Summary Report for 10 July 2017 to 28 August 2017

## FORUM TOPIC

### Barriers to using the facilities and accessing the site

VISITORS <b>13</b>	CONTRIBUTORS <b>2</b>	CONTRIBUTIONS <b>2</b>
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29 July 17			I think the area generally is pretty drab and I hope this new stadium is well designed so that people don't think its just an industrial 'drive through' area. This will help more people come to the site if there are other things to do in the area
<b>BK</b>			
AGREES	DISAGREES	REPLIES	
0	0	1	

01 August 17 <b>GD</b>			Hello Thank you for your comment, the new stadium will hopefully attract more users to the park and increase the range and number of activities at the site.
AGREES	DISAGREES	REPLIES	
0	0	0	

**FORUM TOPIC**

**Playground equipment**

VISITORS <b>13</b>	CONTRIBUTORS <b>3</b>	CONTRIBUTIONS <b>4</b>
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29 July 17 <b>BK</b>	It would be nice to see playgrounds for older children to relax with their friends, rather than only very young children.		
AGREES	DISAGREES	REPLIES	
0	0	1	

01 August 17 <b>GD</b>	Hello Thank you for your feedback, we will definitely consider your suggestion. Gabrielle.		
AGREES	DISAGREES	REPLIES	
0	0	0	

13 August 17 <b>C</b>	The proposed play space needs to be much larger to replace the area being removed. Currently there is an ok playground, with equipment suitable for ages 3 - 10. There is also a large open grass area, direct access to the bike trail, a bbq and picnic tables. It would be great to see an enlarged, well planned family play space included in this proposal. The current plans show an area for equipment that is smaller than 1/2 a basketball court. Given the increased traffic from enlarging the facilities, I honestly do not understand how that is meant to function. Malahang reserve in West Heidelberg is a fantastic example of a well planned, family friendly play space, with activities catering to all ages. There are multiple play equipment areas, a skate park, biking paths, covered bbqs and picnic tables, and large open grass areas. As someone who uses the current playground facilities most days with my family, I am very concerned the current proposal will decrease the family play space available locally.		
AGREES	DISAGREES	REPLIES	
0	0	1	

15 August 17 <b>GD</b>	Hi Cheryl Thank you , we will be taking your comments back to the design team and working with them to create a space which will work for all users at John Cain Memorial Park. The playground size, location and type of equipment is still in the planning stages, therefore your feedback is of great assistance in this early design phase. Thanks Gabrielle		
AGREES	DISAGREES	REPLIES	
0	0	0	

## QANDA

## Q&amp;A

VISITORS <b>43</b>	CONTRIBUTORS <b>3</b>	CONTRIBUTIONS <b>4</b>
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**Q** Ds.H.E  
21 July 17

The masterplan indicates that the access road that currently runs from Darebin Rd to Clarendon St. is discontinued. Entrance to the Clarendon St car park will be via Clarendon St. The drawing implies that the car park will be accessed from the entrance towards the end of Clarendon St. There is an entrance from the start of Clarendon St (just after entering from Station St), which is currently blocked off with boulders. As a resident of Clarendon St, I do not understand why cars need to drive all the way down our street to enter the car park. Why can they not enter from the start of the street? What is the reasoning behind this please.? Your Masterplan foresees 800 cars accessing the precinct, you can appreciate my concern then at the increase in traffic thoroughfare down my street. Ds. H.E.

**A** Publicly Answered

Thank you for your feedback on the proposed parking and access arrangements for the precinct, we understand the concern you have regarding the proposed changes. The discontinuation of the road has been proposed to permanently remove the existing rat-running issue that is happening through the site. The Clarendon St entrance will not be the main entry point and will only be open on match days. The majority of traffic will enter via the Darebin Road entrance, which will be moved to align with the intersection at the corner of Darebin Road and Sparks Avenue. Please let us know if you have any further questions or concerns. Thanks G

**Q** GC  
29 July 17

Will there be any measures put in place to ensure that rubbish is cleaned up? There area often is highly littered already and this will only get worse with more people attending the area.

**A** Publicly Answered

Hi G, We will be working closely with the environment and sustainability team to ensure the improvements proposed at John Cain Memorial Park will overcome the rubbish and littering issues the area has had in the past. Warm regards G

**QANDA****Q&A**

**Q** **BK**  
29 July 17

How much is this whole thing costing ratepayers? I saw in the Herald Sun that some funding was received externally?

**A** Publicly Answered

Hi Thank you for your enquiry, the multi sports stadium will cost approximately \$16.1 million with the overall cost of the John Cain Memorial Park upgrade to be estimated at \$25 million. Darebin Council will contribute \$6.5 million, with further funding sourced from the State Government grants program. Warm regards G

**Q** **Ds.H.E**  
14 August 17

Thank you for your response. You state that the Clarendon st car park entrance will only be open on match days.. every weekend???? You have still not answered my question as to why the car park cannot be accessed from the start of the street? Ds.H.E.

**A** Publicly Answered

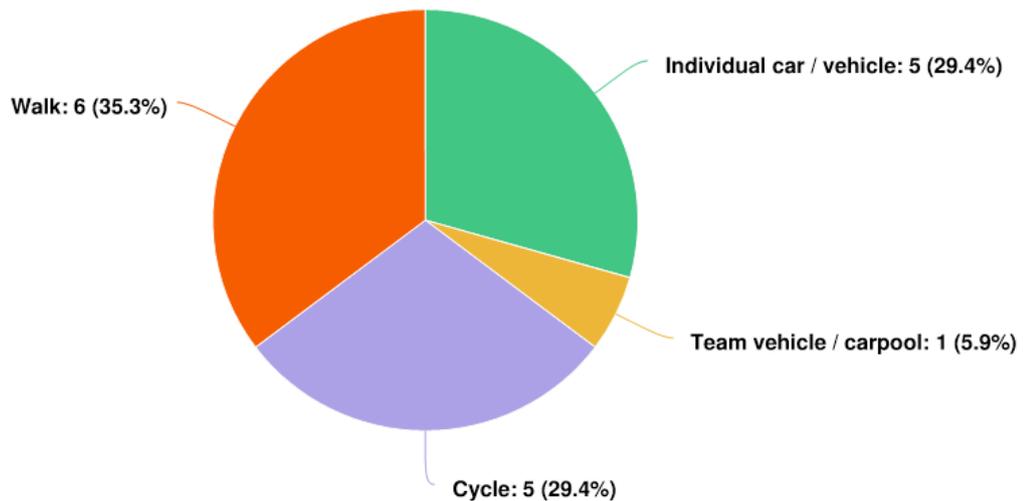
Hi The Clarendon st car park entrance will be primarily used by Northcote City Football Club and all other users of the precinct will be directed to the main entrance on Darebin Rd. Thank you for the feedback on the entrance point to the car park, we will take this back to the design team to discuss the option of accessing the car park from the beginning of Clarendon st, at the Station st end. Thanks G

### ENGAGEMENT TOOL: SURVEY TOOL

Tool title/name: John Cain Memorial Park Survey

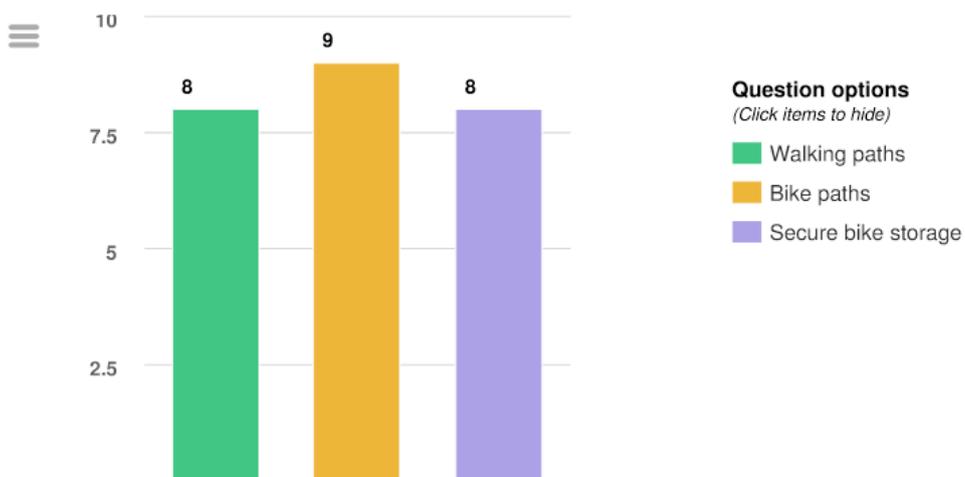
VISITORS <b>35</b>	CONTRIBUTORS <b>16</b>	CONTRIBUTIONS <b>17</b>
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**Encouraging active transport:** How will you **mainly** travel to this site?

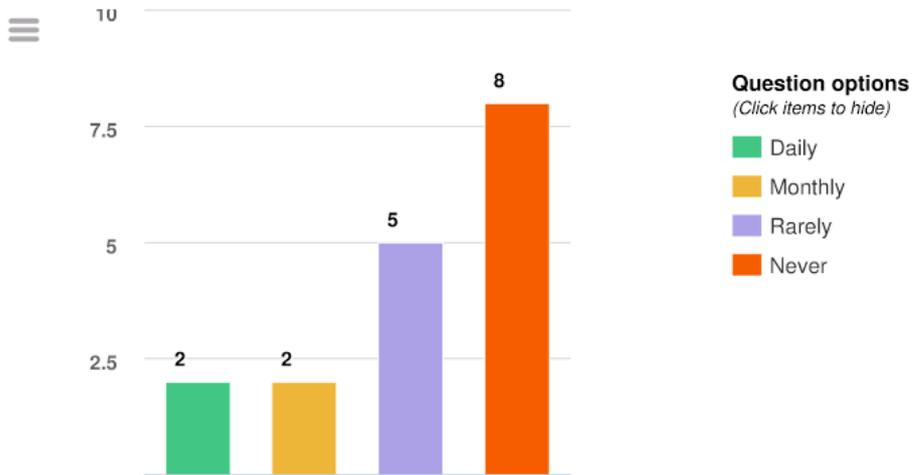


What would encourage you to get more sustainable transport to this site? Please select all that apply.

*Optional question*

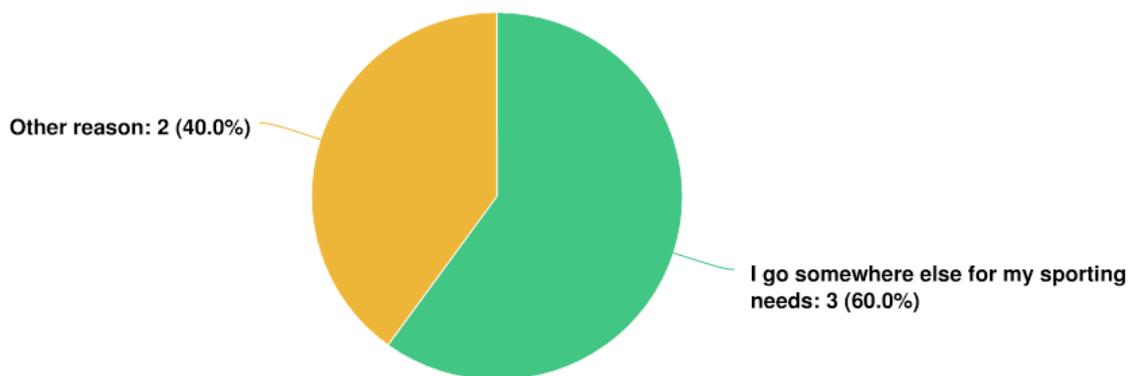


**Precinct usability:** How often do you use the facilities at John Cain Memorial Park?

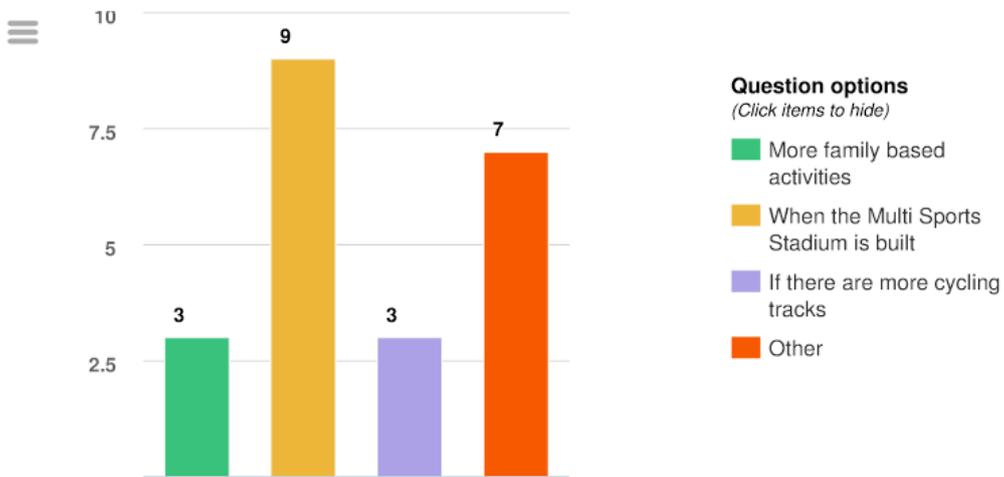


If you use the facilities and John Cain Memorial Park rarely what are some of the reasons for you not using these facilities more often? Please select all that apply

*Optional question*

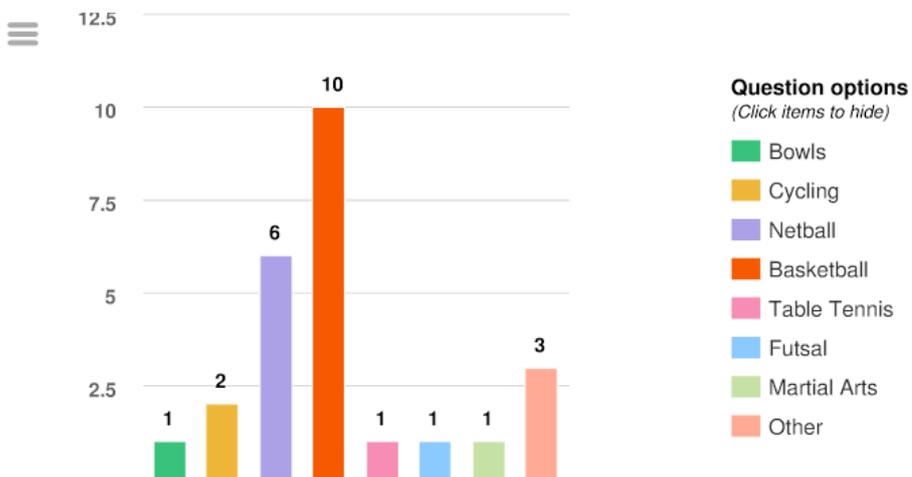


What would make you use these sporting facilities more? Select all that apply:

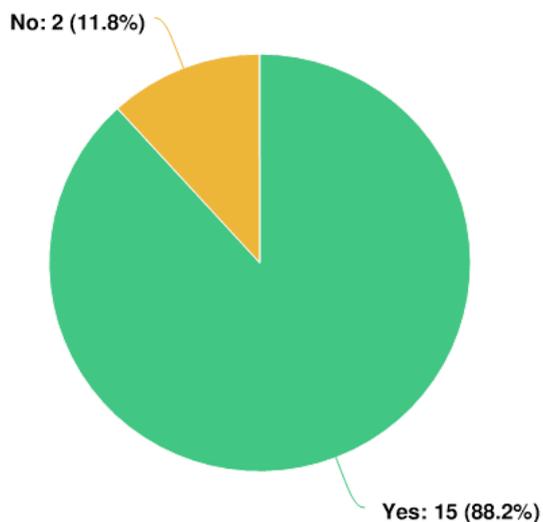


Which of the following sports would you participate in at the John Cain Memorial Park facilities? Choose all that apply:

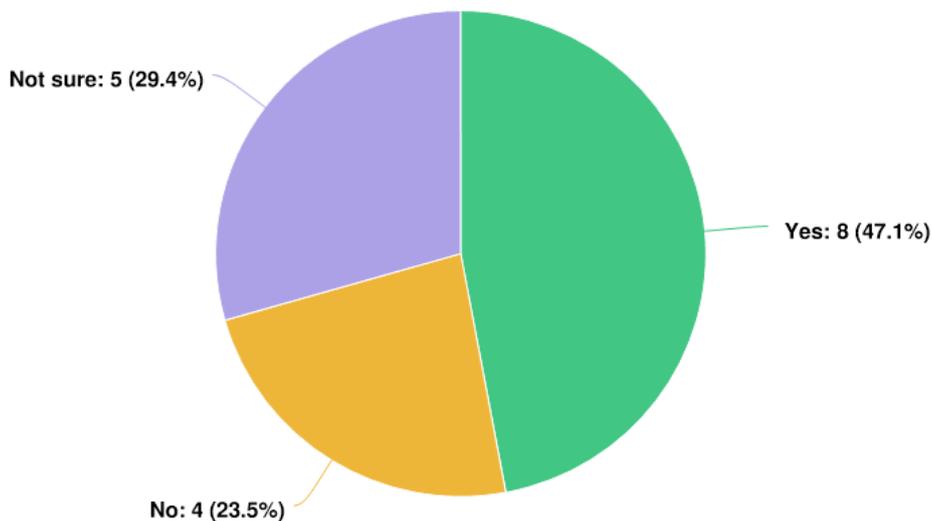
Optional question



Did you know Council was building a Multi Sports Stadium at John Cain Memorial Park?



Will you use the Multi Sports Stadium once it is built?



**8.7 ENDORSEMENT OF DAREBIN CREEK MANAGEMENT PLAN****Author:** Coordinator Public Realm**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

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**Report Background**

This report presents the Darebin Creek Management Plan 2017 to Council for endorsement.

**Previous Council Resolution**

At its meeting held on 5 December 2016, Council resolved:

*'That Council:*

- (1) Adopt a Memorandum of Understanding between Darebin Creek Management Committee and Darebin City Council attached as **Appendix A** agreeing to an additional 3 years financial support for the Darebin Creek Management Committee.*
- (2) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to execute the memorandum of Understanding for the period from the date of signing to 30 June 2019.*
- (3) Note a report will be submitted annually to Council showing the financial spend of Darebin Creek Management Committee under the Memorandum of Understanding.*
- (4) Invites DCMC representatives to present to Councillors on the work of the organisation and any identified opportunities to expand or enhance its conservation and education Initiatives, in time for Council's 2016/2017 budget deliberations.'*

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

- Goal 1 - A sustainable city
- Open Space Strategy

**Summary**

At the board level, Darebin Creek Management Committee (DCMC) is a not-for-profit body composed of all member councils and major land holders that border the Darebin Creek catchment. Darebin Council is one of DCMC's major supporters and provides funding on an annual basis for the Darebin Creek Coordinator and management of Darebin Parklands in line with a 3 year Memorandum of Understanding signed most recently on 5 December 2017.

At its April 2017 meeting, Darebin Creek Management Committee, formally adopted the Darebin Creek Management Plan. DCMC has requested that all member councils endorse the Darebin Creek Management plan.

The management plan has a whole of catchment focus and has been created to guide and support the long term protection, preservation and conservation of the Darebin Creek as well as to support and encourage environmentally sensitive development of the creek corridor.

The plan identifies a range of issues relating to the management of the waterway and its associated uses and encompasses actions to alleviate these impacts.

Such actions include stormwater and flood mitigation works in the middle and upper reaches to reduce the downstream effects, amenity works, pollution and litter control measures as well as community development opportunities including education. All of the actions are directly aimed at managing the Darebin Creek in a holistic approach to benefit residents and the environment. Key areas in the document include adjoining land uses, community use and recreation; environment and cultural heritage.

This document has been created in consultation with member Councils and takes into account key environmental goals and strategies from each local government area as well as relevant state and local publications.

### Recommendation

**That** Council endorses the Darebin Creek Management Plan 2017, and continue to provide support to Darebin Creek Management Committee in line with the adopted MOU.

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## Introduction

Darebin Council is a long term financial supporter of Darebin Creek Management Committee. The Darebin Creek Management Plan clearly articulates DCMC's goals and sets out actions to achieve these goals.

## Issues and Discussion

The Darebin Creek Management Plan is in line with Council's environmental goals and values.

The main focus of the Darebin Creek Management Plan is preservation, conservation and enhancement of the Darebin Creek, its catchment and the flora and fauna that depend on it. The Darebin Creek Management Committee executive board has voted to approve the Darebin Creek Management Plan. This committee is composed of representatives from each member council including two councillors and a council staff member from Darebin.

## Options for Consideration

**Option 1** – Endorse the Darebin Creek Management Plan. An endorsement will support Darebin Creek Management Committee undertake the conservation actions noted within the document.

**Option 2** – Do not endorse the Darebin Creek Management Plan.

## Financial and Resource Implications

In its 5 December 2107 meeting, Council adopted a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Darebin Creek Management Committee committing financial support for three concurrent financial years. This MOU sets roles, responsibilities and high level goals for both organisations and establishes reporting guidelines for DCMC.

Endorsing the Darebin Creek Management Plan does not have any financial implications for Council beyond what the signed MOU promises.

Council has a place on the DCMC executive committee with two councillors and one council officer having voting rights. The Mayor of Darebin is the current DCMC executive committee president.

### **Risk Management**

The Darebin Creek Management Committee is directly responsible for the implementation of the Darebin Creek Management Plan.

### **Policy Implications**

#### **Economic Development**

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

The Darebin Creek Management Plan represents good environmental stewardship and its primary goals are preservation, conservation and enhancement of the creek corridor.

#### **Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

The Darebin Creek Management Plan takes cultural heritage into account.

#### **Other**

There are no other factors which impact this report.

### **Future Actions**

Continue to support Darebin Creek Management Committee.

### **Consultation and Advocacy**

- Coordinator Public Places and Strategies
- Darebin Creek Management Committee
- City of Banyule
- City of Whittlesea
- LaTrobe University
- Darebin Parklands Association
- Friends of Darebin Creek
- City of Yarra

### **Related Documents**

- Darebin Creek Management Plan
- MOU Darebin Council and Darebin Creek Management Committee
- Council Minutes – 5 December 2016

**Attachments**

- Darebin Creek Management Plan (**Appendix A**)

**Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.



# Darebin Creek Management Plan

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Prepared by

**Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd**

June 2007 – Updated January 2017

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Project scope

The project study area includes the length of the main stem of Darebin Creek from its source in Woodstock to the confluence with the Yarra River along with consideration of the major tributaries. The intent of this Plan is to replace the outdated Lower Darebin Creek Concept Plan (1994) and Middle Darebin Creek Concept Plan (1996).

The project brief called for the plan to be a strategic guiding document addressing the following issues:

- long term protection and restoration of the Darebin Creek and its immediate surrounds
- waterway corridor interface issues, including implementation of Council Stormwater Management Plans (SWMP)
- open space design and management, including the hierarchy of visitor points along the corridor
- protection and improvement of landscape character and condition of the open space
- opportunities for education and community involvement
- planning and development issues and the impact these have on the creek corridor including developing a set of key principles for these.

The project will rely on existing available research material to inform the plan and it is recognised that there is no scope for broader involvement by a multi-disciplinary team to undertake original research and review for this plan.

## 1.2 Project methodology

The project is prepared for the Darebin Creek Management Committee and has a Project Steering Committee that meets on four occasions during the project to guide the Plan's development. The Project Steering Committee is made up of representatives from the City of Whittlesea, City of Darebin, City of Banyule, City of Yarra, Melbourne Water, Latrobe University, Friends of Darebin Creek, the Darebin Parkland Association and the Darebin Creek Management Committee. There are six phases to the project as follows:

1. Site Assessment and Research Phase
2. Consultation and the Research Phase, which includes an Information Leaflet Questionnaire. This was copied and distributed by the Darebin Creek Coordinating Committee. The results of the questionnaire were summarised and the key issues incorporated into the Issues Paper.
3. Issues Phase, which includes identifying the main issues to be addressed in this Management Plan.
4. Draft Management Plan that will include recommendations for the issues identified in Phase 3.
5. Community Consultation on the Draft Management Plan.
6. Final Management Plan, incorporating comments from the Community Consultation Phase 5 into the Final Plan.

This report has been updated in January 2017 to incorporate the changes that the Committee has identified since the preparation of this Management Plan in June 2007.

## 2. Background information

### 2.1 Relevant regional and local strategies

#### 2.1.1 Regional strategies and policies

##### **Healthy Waterways Strategy, 2013**

Melbourne Water

The Healthy Waterways Strategy (HWS) will guide Melbourne Water's investment in waterways, wetlands and estuaries from 2013/14 to 2017/18 and will replace the Regional River Health Strategy and Addendum. The HWS identifies priority areas and management actions to improve waterway health from 2013 through to 2018 and sets out targets to measure the effectiveness of these actions. The HWS recognises that Melbourne Water is one of the many organisations, community groups and individuals working to care for the waterways, and this document identifies actions that Melbourne Water has primary responsibility for. The management activities aim to balance the environmental, social and economic values and address both short and long-term issues.

A key change between the HWS and the RRHS is that Melbourne Water has included Amenity as one of the key seven values that Melbourne Water actions aim to support.

The key values are:

- Macroinvertebrates
- Fish
- Platypus
- Frogs
- Vegetation
- Birds
- Amenity

For the Darebin Creek specifically, the Healthy Waterways Strategy identifies the following for the rural reach:

- The management objective for the rural reach is to improve amenity.
- The future management vision for the rural reach is that by 2030 stock will be excluded from the streamside areas, revegetation and weed management programs will have been implemented and removal of fish barriers in the lower Yarra River catchment and on Darebin Creek will have improved fish passage.
- Eight of the expected 15 frog species have been recorded in the rural reach including the Growling Grass Frog, and one of the expected 32 fish. Insufficient bird surveys have been undertaken at a management unit scale to include any results for this in the strategy.

For the urban reaches of the Darebin Creek, the Healthy Waterways Strategy identifies the following:

- The management objective for the urban reach is to maintain and improve amenity including priority areas for amenity being identified in the locations around Bundoora Park and La Trobe University in the Cities of Darebin and Banyule.
- The future management vision for the urban reach is that in 2030 fish barriers will have been removed in both the lower Yarra River catchment and on Darebin Creek

and supporting an urban tolerant community of native fish including several Galaxias species, Short-finned Eel and Flat-headed Gudgeon.

- 13 of the expected 15 frog species have been recorded in this reach with endangered and vulnerable species including the Bribbons Toadlet, Growling Grass Frog and Southern Toadlet present.
- Nine of the expected 32 fish species are present, three of which are native.
- 46 of the expected 113 streamside birds have been recorded.

#### **Plan Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Strategy**

Victorian Government, May 2014

Plan Melbourne replaces Melbourne 2030 as the Victorian Government's metropolitan strategy. The Metropolitan urban growth boundary has been defined in this strategy and encompasses the majority of the main stem of Darebin Creek. The creek is located within the Northern Subregion in Plan Melbourne in which there is forecast to be significant population growth, employment growth and major infrastructure projects. The North Growth Corridor Plan prepared by the Metropolitan Planning Authority articulates the extent of change and growth in the Darebin Creek catchment.

Relevant to the Darebin Creek, Plan Melbourne recognises the importance of open space, natural features and biodiversity conservation to the liveability and character of Melbourne. It notes that *'As the city grows, it will be important to maintain the health of urban waterways and enhance our biodiversity values...'* (page 123, Plan Melbourne). The Plan notes that open space waterway corridors will be protected from inappropriate development.

#### **Linking People and Spaces, 2002**

Parks Victoria, 2002

This strategy was prepared by Parks Victoria in parallel with the Melbourne 2030. This report outlines a strategy and vision for the continued growth and improvement of Melbourne's open space network. Although the Linking People and Spaces is primarily focused on meeting the recreational needs of the community, it also supports many of the environmental priorities identified in Victoria's Biodiversity Strategy. Within this strategy the Darebin Creek Shared Trail is identified as part of the Metropolitan Trail Network with a high priority given to closing the gaps in the lower sections of the trail between John Cain Memorial Park to the Main Yarra Trail at Willsmere Park. Extending the Darebin Creek Trail north from Bundoora Park to the Metropolitan Ring Road is a medium priority, with closing the gap from the Metropolitan Ring Road to the existing trail at Mill Park being a longer-term priority.

#### **Northern Regional Trails Strategy 2016**

Arup Pty Ltd, 2016

Melbourne's north is undergoing significant population growth and change combined with an economic shift from a traditional manufacturing based economy. The seven municipalities in Melbourne's north have developed this strategy to set an appropriate direction and priorities for shared trails in the region in the context of this growth and change. In summary, the Strategy identifies 96 new trails to expand the network of 120 off-road existing regional trails, 29 of which have been identified as priority projects. The Strategy has been fully endorsed by all seven Councils.

### **Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne's Growth Corridors**

Victorian Government, 2013.

This Strategy has been prepared based on the Melbourne Strategic Assessment which evaluated the impacts of the State Government's program *Delivering Melbourne's newest sustainable communities* on matters of National environmental significance. The Strategy informed the preparation of the Growth Area Framework Plans, providing high level guidance on how the areas of biodiversity will be managed and spatially identify how the outcomes will be delivered. This includes identifying land within the growth corridors that is required to be protected due to the sub-regional species strategies and prescriptions for matters of national environmental significance. Below is a summary of key points relevant to the Darebin Creek catchment:

- Growling Grass Frog Conservation Corridor along Darebin Creek. These areas will be protected and managed primarily for the Growing Grass Frog in accordance with the requirements of the Sub-regional Species Strategy for the Growing Grass Frog. The corridors will also include areas managed for floodplain and stormwater infrastructure and areas of open space for passive recreation.
- The future Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve (at least 1200 hectares) outside the urban growth corridor in the Woodstock/Wollert area, extends over Darebin Creek between Lehmanns Road in the south and Donnybrook Road in the north.

## **2.1.2 Local strategies**

### **Epping North East Local Structure Plan**

City of Whittlesea, 2005

This plan sets broad directions for urban development within the Epping North area covering issues such as the pattern of urban development, a neighbourhood based approach to more detailed local structure planning, open space, provision of a broad transport network, protection of environmental features, servicing and provision for community, commercial and recreational facilities. Findon Creek a main tributary to Darebin Creek which flows through the eastern section of Epping North East Local Structure Plan area.

### **Whittlesea Rural Review**

City of Whittlesea, 1999

This document is an assessment of the rural land at the City of Whittlesea and contains background information on geology, soils, cultural heritage, land management practices etc. This has informed the existing conditions section of the report for the rural reach.

### **Whittlesea Green Wedge Management Plan, 2011-2021**

City of Whittlesea (2011)

The City of Whittlesea Green Wedge area forms part of the broader network of green wedges around Melbourne and they define Melbourne's outward growth. In Whittlesea the Green Wedge contains the rural communities of Eden Park, Kinglake West, Woodstock (part) and Yan Yean. Almost half the Green Wedge Area is public land used for closed water catchments, national parks and state forests. This Management Plan identifies a vision, objectives and actions for the sustainable management of the Green Wedge area. It identifies the values and features of the green wedge, the areas that should be protected and maintained and the current issues and proposed opportunities for action.

**Draft Darebin Natural Heritage Strategy 2015-2025**

Darebin City Council, 2015

This strategy articulates Council's vision and identifies a range of activities to protect and enhance Darebin's natural heritage assets over the next 10 years. It relies on the research undertaken in 2011 which identified areas of significant natural heritage assets in the municipality. The Darebin Creek corridor contains sites of natural significance ranging from National Significance including Bundoora Park, CH Sullivan Park, the creek corridor between Banksia Street and John Cain Memorial Park. Darebin Parkland and the section of creek between Bundoora Park and Plenty Road are identified as being of State significance.

Darebin Council's bushland crew manage Darebin Creek as a natural heritage site in collaboration with DCMC and Friends Groups. This involves maintaining existing remnant indigenous vegetation via a combination of burning (in grassland areas), weeding and replanting activities as well as maintaining, mapping and recording changes over time.

The term Natural Heritage refers to the complex interaction of ecological and anthropological forces that give rise the rich biodiversity, landscapes and activities prior to their interruption by the arrival of European settlement. The natural heritage significance is determined by the degree to which these forces and interactions are able to continue today and in the future.

**Darebin Creek Planning and Development Guidelines**

David Lock & Associates, 2000

These Guidelines were prepared for the City of Darebin and is an Incorporated Document in the Darebin Planning Scheme. Future development proposals along the Darebin Creek in the City of Darebin area need to demonstrate consistency with these guidelines.

**Darebin Creek Northland Ecological Improvement Study**

Darebin City Council, prepared by AECOM

The aim of this study was to assess and make recommendations to improve the ecological health of Darebin Creek adjacent to Northland Principal Activity Centre precinct in Reservoir. This area extends from Tyler Street in the north to Gower Street in the south. Key findings include creating an active interface between Darebin Creek and the Northland Shopping Centre as part of the future Entertainment Precinct to be established as part of the structure plan. The recommendations included preparing a master plan for the interface between the creek and adjoining land use through the structure plan study area. The study promotes incorporating relevant planning policies and frameworks to encourage non structural WSUD elements and investigate optional measures to secure future funding for these works as development occurs.

**2.1.3 Precinct Structure Plans**

The following precinct structure plans are listed in alphabetical order.

**Donnybrook/Woodstock Precinct Structure Plan, November 2015**

This Plan was prepared by the Victorian Planning Authority and with assistance from the City of Whittlesea, Shire of Mitchell, Government departments and agencies, service authorities and major stakeholders. It is a long-term plan for urban development and

describes how the land is expected to be developed. The area is bounded by the reservation for the future E6 to the north, Merriang Road to the east, the Sydney-Melbourne railway line to the west and Donnybrook Road to the South. Key objectives relevant to the Darebin Creek include:

- Plan sensitive urban interfaces to Darebin Creek.
- Retain, protect and enhance the environs of Darebin Creek.
- Create high-quality habitat for the Growling Grass Frog along the Darebin Creek corridor and support other environmental habitat values.
- Plan for the long-term conservation and enhancement of areas for biodiversity (this includes the large conservation area associated with Merri Creek to the north of the Darebin Creek catchment).
- Create accessible high-amenity landscape corridors along Darebin Creek.
- Deliver an integrated water management system.

#### **Epping Central Structure Plan**

Epping Central is the Principal Activity Centre for Whittlesea and serves a regional role in the provision of retail, health facilities and other services. It is strategically located between the southern established areas of Thomastown, Lalor, Epping, Bundoora and Mill Park and the growth areas in the High Street – Epping Road corridor to the north, particularly Epping North and Wollert.

Significant growth is planned within the centre including 2,000 to 4,500 new dwellings, 40,000 to 80,000 square metres of office floor space and up to 113,000 square metres of new retail floor space.

Darebin Creek provides a valuable open space corridor for the local community, however improvements to open space quality and connectivity are required.

The vision plan included in the Structure Plan highlights some open space and public realm improvements relevant to Darebin Creek include:

- Improve the Darebin Creek linear parkland to become a 'revitalised' open space providing a green link between Epping Central and the surrounding region.

#### **Epping North East Precinct Structure Plan #33**

This PSP is completed and approved and is located entirely within the City of Whittlesea, between Harvest Home Road in the south and Craigieburn East in the north. The boundary extends both east and west to join the boundary with the Aurora Development area. There are 450 hectares of residential land and longer terms there will be around 4,980 dwellings (as per DCP).

Key open space features in this PSP area relevant to Darebin Creek include:

- Linear open space corridor along Findon Creek, primarily set aside for flood and drainage purposes with wetland/retarding basin features directly adjoining it. Findon Creek flows generally in the north south direction through the eastern portion of the precinct in proximity to Bindts Road.
- 17 Conservation open space reserves, set aside to protect Stonk Knolls, Native Grasslands and River Red Gums.
- 3 Passive open spaces, co-located with conservation reserves and Findon Creek.

#### **Harvest Home Local Structure Plan**

Prepared in 2002, a large proportion of this LSP has been built. Harvest Home Road defines the LSP to the north, the Transmission Easement to the south and Epping Road

to the west. Findon Creek and an upper reach of Darebin Creek flow through the area. A commercial/community facility is located centrally in the LSP area on the east side of Findon Creek, with the balance proposed as residential land use.

Key features relevant to the open space network relevant to Darebin Creek include:

- Findon Creek and Darebin Creek form drainage and environmental corridors through the site and a linear open space function.

#### **Quarry Hills Precinct Structure Plan, June 2016**

This Plan was prepared by the City of Whittlesea in collaboration with the Victorian Planning Authority and with assistance from Government agencies, service authorities and major stakeholders. It is a long term plan for urban development and describes how the land is expected to be developed. The area is bounded by the reservation for the future E6 to the west, Lehmanns Road to the north, Quarry Hills to the east and the transmission easement to the south. Key objectives relevant to the Darebin Creek include:

- Ensures development protects and enhances the historical, landscape and environmental characteristics of the site including the hills and ridgelines associated with Quarry Hills and the Darebin Creek Environs.
- Protect and create high quality habitat for the Growling Grass Frog within the Darebin Creek corridor.
- Protect and enhance interfaces with Darebin Creek.
- Deliver an integrated water management system.

#### **South Morang Local Structure Plan**

Adopted by the City of Whittlesea in February 1997, this LSP is one of the oldest applicable in the municipality. The boundary of this LSP extends west to the current western extent of Quarry Hills Regional Parkland, east to Plenty Gorge Park, south to Gorge Road, and then generally following transmission easements and Findon Road to the south. South Morang and Mernda are the major growth areas in the Plenty Valley Growth Area.

The majority of the area within the South Morang LSP have been developed, with small pockets of development still occurring. There have been numerous land owners and Development Plans prepared and approved guiding the delivery of the on-ground works. The residential area within the LSP was proposed to accommodate a population of between 20,000 to 25,000 hectares (7,600 dwellings), along with an employment area of approximately 40 hectares. Key open space features relevant to Darebin Creek included:

- Linear open space following watercourses, ridgelines, transmission easements and Melbourne Water pipe tracks.
- Hendersons Creek including water quality treatment wetlands and linear open space system along the waterway.

#### **Wollert Precinct Structure Plan, April 2015 Exhibition**

This Plan was prepared by the City of Whittlesea and the Victorian Planning Authority with the assistance from Government agencies, service authorities and major stakeholders. It is a long term plan for urban development and describes how the land is expected to be developed. The total area is 1,434 hectares of land bounded by Craigieburn Road East in the south, Summerhill Road in the north, Curley Sedge Creek in the west and the reservation for the future E6 to the east. Key objectives relevant to the Darebin Creek catchment include:

- Create high-amenity indigenous landscape corridor along Findon Creek.

- Maximise the retention of scattered River Red Gums and other remnant indigenous trees through responsive subdivision design.
- Orientate development towards open spaces to maximise their activation and passive surveillance.
- Plan sensitive urban interfaces to historic and Aboriginal cultural heritage and natural assets including the local conservation reserves and the future Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve that directly abuts the northern extent of this PSP.
- Create a range of off-street pedestrian and cycle links that promote the use of waterways as green transport links.
- To deliver an integrated water management.

## 2.2 Geology/geomorphology

The headwaters of the Darebin Creek rise in the Lower Devonian sediments north of Woodstock and through the Quaternary Newer Basalt to the area east of Wollert (Melbourne Parks and Waterways, 1994). The Creek drains the volcanic plains to the north of Melbourne cutting down through the Quaternary basalt plains changing from a relatively shallow valley form in the north to a deeply incised valley and gorge landform in the south.

In the upper reaches the creek is diverted by Silurian sediments around Quarry Hills and these are visible in the valley downstream of Bridge Inn Road. In the lower reaches from Darebin Parklands and Rockbeare Park the basalt plain ends and the creek valley is bordered by Silurian sedimentary terrain which is visible as rock escarpments along the creek in Darebin Parklands and near Napier Waller Reserve. The majority of the Darebin Creek in the urban sections of the catchment has been modified and is contained in a trapezoidal earth-lined channel. The stream returns to the natural channel in the vicinity of Darebin Road in Thornbury. (Melbourne Water, 2000 and Melbourne Parks and Waterways, 1994).

## 2.3 Community Consultation Outcomes

An Information Leaflet with attached questionnaire was prepared for the project and distributed by the Darebin Creek Management Committee. A total of 96 completed questionnaires were returned, with 5 separate questionnaires from the rural landholders returned. The following is a summary of the Information Leaflet questionnaire outcomes, with a more detailed report on these attached as **Appendix A**.

- The majority of questionnaires were received from residents in the lower reaches of the catchment including Ivanhoe, Alphington, Heidelberg West and Bundoora.
- The majority of respondents are in the 40 to 54 age range and 49% male and 49% females responding, and 2% not answered.
- The most popular section of the open space corridor is from Bell Street to the Railway, Darebin Parklands and Plenty Road to Bell Street section. These areas are the closest to where the majority of respondents live.
- The main activities in the creek reserves are walking and cycling. Darebin Parklands has a more diverse range of activities including dog walking, enjoying nature, BBQ's, picnics, meeting friends and attending events. This reflects the larger size of Darebin Parklands and the provision of a diverse range of passive recreation facilities.
- 86% of respondents value the bushland character, followed by the native fauna, exercise, the creek, break from the urban environment, indigenous vegetation and the views.

- The main issues the respondents nominate they would like addressed are:
  - litter and pollution in the creek including improving water quality;
  - restricting motorbikes on the shared trail;
  - weed management;
  - the gap in the trail connection to the Yarra River
  - shopping trolleys in the waterway
  - development is too close to the open space corridor

## 2.4 Management responsibilities along Darebin Creek corridor

The following table briefly outlines management responsibilities for the different agencies and land owners along the Darebin Creek. These are listed in alphabetical order.

AGENCY/LAND OWNER	MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES
City of Banyule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council own the majority of the public open space along the creek and are responsible for the provision and ongoing maintenance of the land and the infrastructure assets associated with it.</li> <li>• Banyule has a bushland crew that undertake vegetation management including revegetation and maintenance works in the open space corridor along the Creek.</li> <li>• On Melbourne Water land along the waterway, Council are responsible for the provision and maintenance of recreational assets.</li> <li>• Jointly fund the Darebin Creek Management Committee.</li> </ul>
City of Darebin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council own the majority of the public open space along the creek and are responsible for the provision and ongoing maintenance of the land and the infrastructure assets associated with it.</li> <li>• Darebin has a bushland crew that undertake vegetation management including revegetation and maintenance works in the open space corridor along the Creek.</li> <li>• On Melbourne Water land along the waterway, Council are responsible for the provision and maintenance of recreational assets.</li> <li>• Jointly fund the Darebin Creek Management Committee.</li> <li>• Compliance and incentive programs for rural property owners in the Darebin Creek catchment including post plan compliance and rate rebate assessments.</li> </ul>

AGENCY/LAND OWNER	MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES
City of Whittlesea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council own the majority of the public open space along the creek and are responsible for the provision and ongoing maintenance of the land and the infrastructure assets associated with this.</li> <li>• Whittlesea parks staff undertake revegetation and maintenance works in the open space reserves that adjoin the creek. Currently Council do not maintain the linear open space along the Darebin Creek and tributaries where no trails are located. In growth areas, Council only maintains creeks and waterways if there is a clear community benefit such as passive recreation. Maintenance obligations are detailed on a Melbourne Water Maintenance Agreement.</li> <li>• On Melbourne Water land along the waterway, Council are responsible for the provision and maintenance of recreational assets.</li> <li>• Jointly fund the Darebin Creek Management Committee.</li> </ul>
City of Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council currently do not own or manage any land along the waterway corridor.</li> <li>• When the future Lower Darebin Creek trail is constructed downstream of Sparks Reserve to the Yarra River, Council will become the land owner and manager of the trail and the associated linear open space corridor.</li> <li>• Jointly fund the Darebin Creek Management Committee</li> </ul>
Darebin Creek Management Committee	<p>The Committee is jointly funded by four Councils in the catchment and La Trobe University. The Committee is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinating implementation of the former Concept Plans, and the new Darebin Creek Management Plan.</li> <li>• Facilitating actions between different Councils, with the actual on-ground works completed by the Council staff or contractors.</li> <li>• Dedicated staff who manage and implement works at Darebin Parklands.</li> <li>• Facilitating community involvement in works along the Creek.</li> <li>• Applying for funding to implement the recommendations in this Plan.</li> <li>• Commenting on planning proposals along the creek.</li> <li>• Undertakes a catchment wide Education Program.</li> </ul>
La Trobe University	<p>La Trobe University is a major land holder adjoining the Darebin Creek downstream of Plenty Road. Their responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jointly fund the Darebin Creek Management Committee.</li> <li>• Directly manage the La Trobe University owned land which includes remnant woodland and constructed wetlands adjoining the waterway corridor.</li> </ul>

AGENCY/LAND OWNER	MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES
Melbourne Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Melbourne Water is the drainage authority for the entire catchment area of Darebin Creek and manage the bed and banks of the waterway. The Darebin Creek Waterway Management Activity Plan is Melbourne Water's management document that guides capital and operational works along the urban reaches of the waterway.</li> </ul>
Private land holders	<p>There are private land holders who own land adjoining both sides of the waterway in the rural areas to a lesser extent in the urban reaches. These land holders do not manage the land for public access, but are responsible under the <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CALP Act)</i> to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage noxious weeds and pest animals.</li> <li>Land management practices to be consistent with the requirements of the <i>CALP Act 1994</i>.</li> </ul>
Victorian Government	<p>The Victorian Government has a regional open space planning responsibility for the shared trail along the length of Darebin Creek. Responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jointly fund the construction of the shared trail and associated infrastructure.</li> <li>Planning and design of the shared trail downstream of Darebin Parklands.</li> <li>Purchase of land to facilitate the provision of the shared trail downstream of Sparks Reserve, Ivanhoe included in public acquisition overlays.</li> </ul>

### 3. Overall issues and recommendations

The study area has been divided into 6 management reaches which are described in Section 4 of the Management Plan. There are some issues that are common to many or all of the reaches of the Darebin Creek, and these are described in this section. Further detailed description of the Overall issues as they occur in the specific reaches are described in Section 4.

#### 3.1 Adjoining land use and landscape character

##### 3.1.1 Adjoining land use

Rural land holders own the creek corridor upstream of the urban areas. Some current land management practices cause a decline to the waterway values.

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.1.1.1	Rural land management practices including uncontrolled stock access to creek, on-stream dams and lack of indigenous vegetation and biodiversity limit the habitat values of the creek corridor	Whittlesea City Council and Melbourne Water to coordinate programs to support rural landholders in the Darebin Creek catchment to improve land management practices. This includes fencing stock access from the stream, providing off-stream stock watering points, weed control and revegetation of the riparian zone with appropriate indigenous vegetation.	WCC MW	High
3.1.1.2	Future urban development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whittlesea City Council to continue to require improved interface treatment between development and the waterway, including requiring adequate development set back with sufficient space for protection of sites of cultural and environmental value, appropriate recreational infrastructure without impacting on the waterway values and development interface including orientation of development to the waterway corridor with road frontages to increase passive surveillance. This is consistent with the directions in the City of Whittlesea Open Space Strategy (2015).</li> <li>WCC to review adequacy of existing planning mechanisms to achieve protection of the cultural, environmental and recreational values of the waterway corridor in existing and future development areas.</li> </ul>	WCC VPA	Ongoing
3.1.1.3	Existing urban development	<p>In future planning applications for development adjacent to the Darebin Creek, demonstrate they meet the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate set back of development from the creek to ensure there is a suitable width that can protect and improve ecological values, drainage and flood management and provide for</li> </ul>	WCC DCC YCC BCC	Ongoing

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
		complementary recreational use of open space. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where feasible, improve passive surveillance of the creek corridor to improve the sense of safety and increase accessibility and use of the public open space corridors along Darebin Creek.</li> </ul>		
3.1.1.4	Gaps in the continuous open space corridor along Darebin Creek and its tributaries in the established areas.	Investigate options to establish a continuous open space corridor along Darebin Creek through the established urban areas on both sides of the waterway. This includes investigation and clarification of land ownership through sections of the waterway where public land ownership is unclear.	WCC	Ongoing
3.1.1.5	Encroachment on public land including unauthorised occupancy and structures in the waterway corridor.	Identify the locations of encroachment and liaise with relevant land holders to remove unauthorised structures and features from the public open space corridor.	DCMC MW (WCC) (BCC) (DCC) (YCC)	Ongoing
3.1.1.6	Filling and modification of the floodplain in rural land.	MW and WCC to develop mechanisms to discourage and regulate major earthworks in the creek and floodplain to reduce impacts on the floodplain capacity, ecological values and waterway health objectives.	MW, WCC and Land-holders	Ongoing

### 3.1.2 Landscape character

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.1.2.1	Conflict between environmental character and values and the personal safety and recreational use of the waterway corridor.	In future revegetation of the urban sections of the waterway corridor, carefully consider the density, species selection and locations in close proximity to entry points, paths and bridge crossings to retain adequate sightlines for community safety.	WCC BCC DCC YCC MW	Ongoing

## 3.2 Community use and recreation

### 3.2.1 Gaps in the Darebin Creek Trail

Since the preparation of the previous Middle and Lower Darebin Creek Concept Plans (Melbourne Parks & Waterways, 1996), which have guided the management direction for Darebin Creek since the mid-1990's, the public land management agencies have constructed many new sections of the Darebin Creek Trail. The construction of the additional sections of trail, along with the broader trends towards participation in informal recreation, particularly walking and cycling, has increased the community use of this trail. The outcomes from the questionnaire distributed as part of this Management Plan project highlighted that one of the key issues is the gaps in the trail. These gaps include:

- downstream of Darebin Parklands to the Main Yarra Trail;

- between Livingstone Street/Darebin Road and Grange Road (which has been designed by Council and is to be constructed in 2006/07 financial year); and
- between Rathcown Road (adjacent to Bundoora Park) in Reservoir and Norris Bank Reserve in Thomastown.

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.2.1.1	Gaps in the Darebin Creek Trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Councils to continue to implement priority projects for the Darebin Creek Trail as identified in <i>the Northern Regional Trails Strategy (2016)</i>, seeking funding support for the Victorian Government where required.</li> <li>• Darebin City Council to design and implement the Darebin Creek Trail connection between Rathcown Road and Tee Street, with assistance from Victorian Government as a priority project.</li> <li>• Upgrade sections of the existing Darebin Creek Trail from granitic sand to a concrete path surface in two locations - the M80 to Childs Road and from Childs Road to Findon Road.</li> </ul>	WCC BCC DCC YCC (Vic Govt)	Very High
			DCC Vic Govt (WCC)	High
			WCC Vic Govt	High

### 3.2.2 Destination points along the trail

There are a large number of open space reserves which adjoin the Darebin Creek with some more suitable as entry and destination points along the Trail than others. At this stage, it is anticipated the following reserves will be designated as major destination points and entry points onto the Darebin Creek Trail:

- Darebin Parklands, Alphington
- CH Sullivan and BT Barling Park precinct
- LaTrobe University Wildlife Sanctuary
- Bundoora Park, Bundoora
- Norris Bank Reserve, Bundoora
- Sycamore and WA Smith Reserves, Mill Park and Lalor
- Quarry Hills Regional Parkland, Quarry Hills

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.2.2.1	Some of the major destination open space reserves along the Darebin Creek Trail require design and upgrade.	Councils to develop detailed designs and implement works in the following reserves with the intent to upgrade these to become major destination points on the trail including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CH Sullivan and BT Barling Park precinct, in accordance with descriptions in Recommendation R1/5.</li> <li>• Sycamore and WA Smith Reserves, Lalor in accordance with descriptions in Recommendation R3/3.</li> <li>• Norris Bank Reserve Bundoora in accordance with descriptions in Recommendation R6/2.</li> <li>• A new open space reserve in the urban growth area on Findon Creek, in accordance with descriptions in Recommendation R2/2.</li> </ul>	DCC  WCC  WCC  WCC (Developer)	Mod  Mod  High  Low

### 3.2.3 Long-term vision for the Darebin Creek Trail

Currently, the Darebin Creek Shared Trail is proposed through the existing and future urban reaches of the Creek to provide connectivity between these areas on a trail constructed on public land. The development and subdivision process allows the transfer of land ownership from private to public land. A longer-term vision is to establish a regional trail connection north of the extent of urban areas and potentially linking to the Merri Creek Catchment. This may include regional trail connections adjacent to the creek through rural land and potentially on the rural road network. Whilst it is not envisaged that a developed regional trail connection will be established within the useable life of this Management Plan document, there may be some strategic planning decisions that influence the long-term goal of achieving this link. By stating it at an early stage, it is intended that future opportunities to achieve this link are not lost during interim decisions.

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.2.3.1	Regional trail connections north urban growth areas (north of Craigieburn Road).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Council and other agencies to seek long-term opportunities to improve regional trail connections adjacent to the creek north through rural land or on the rural road network.</li> </ul>	DCMC Councils Vic Govt	Ongoing

### 3.2.4 Shared trail design

There are sections of the existing shared trail that do not meet the current accepted standards for shared trail design, which include:

- Austroads Cycling Aspects of Austroads Guides.
- Austroads Guide to Road Design Part 6A: Pedestrian and Cyclist Paths
- Melbourne Water Shared Pathway Guidelines, 2009
- Australian Standard AS 1428.1-2001 Design for access and mobility Part 1: General requirements for access - New building work

Given the existing level of development adjacent to the creek and the narrow width of the open space reserve along it with steep topography, it will not always be possible to meet the current standards, particularly for accessibility. There are, however, some sections of trail where changed vegetation management practices could significantly improve lines of sight and safety for shared trail users. There are also some issues of remoteness and poor lines of sight along the path which can lead to personal safety concerns which may limit the use and access to existing sections of trail. Some sections of trail require review to identify works that can address these issues to improve the overall accessibility of the existing trail to the community.

This project has not done a thorough shared trail design audit to assess the safety and risks associated with it. Councils may do this to better understand and address their risk exposure with the existing shared trail.

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.2.4.1	Existing trail design requires review in some locations, particularly in the existing urban sections to improve trail user safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake a review of the existing shared trail design and make recommendations to improve the safety and use of the trail.</li> </ul>	Councils DCMC	High
3.2.4.2	New sections of the shared trail need to comply with current standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All new sections of trail including proposed creek crossings are to be designed to meet the current trail standards noted in 3.2.4.</li> </ul>	Councils Vic Govt	Ongoing

### 3.2.5 Motorbikes

Throughout the length of the creek's public open space corridor trail bikes are an issue. To allow for all-ability access, it is necessary to have access widths at least 1.0 metres (preferably 1.2 metres) into the trail and paths, which also allows access to trail bikes. There is a special squad of Reservoir Police called 'Solo' which police patrol on trail bikes and fine illegal trail bike users. Whilst this is effective, their resources are limited and they patrol a much broader area than Darebin Creek and are not able to patrol regularly.

Increasing public use of the trail and sense of ownership of the creek corridor will potentially assist in reducing motorbike use, but is not likely to remove it totally. Despite the high usage levels of the Darebin Parklands area, motorbikes do access this area, particularly in the late afternoon/early evening.

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.2.5.1	Motorbike access to the shared trail and the linear open space reserves.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with Reservoir Police to determine a suitable level of patrol by the 'Solo' squad to provide some deterrence to motorbike access.</li> </ul>	Council Police	High
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing improvements to facilities along the creek corridor and an increase in community use, will assist in deterring use of the creek corridor by motorbikes.</li> </ul>	Councils	Ongoing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the design interface with adjoining properties to increase passive surveillance of the creek corridor from adjoining properties.</li> </ul>	Councils	Ongoing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install trail bike exclusion gates where required to minimise access.</li> </ul>	Councils	High

### 3.2.6 Community use and involvement

The Friends of Darebin Creek is a well organised and involved group based in the lower part of the Catchment. Currently there is no formed Friends Group for the middle and upper catchments. It has been identified there is a need for community involvement in the middle and upper reaches as this is beyond the resources of the existing Friends of Darebin Creek. The Darebin Creek Parklands Association has a 40+ year history of advocacy and involvement in the creation and restoration of Darebin Parklands.

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.2.6.1	Friends of Darebin Creek and Darebin Parklands Association provide a large amount of support for the care and ongoing improvement of the lower Darebin Creek.	Continue to support the Friends of Darebin Creek, and the Darebin Parklands Association.	DCMC	Ongoing
3.2.6.2	Lack of community involvement in the upper reaches of Darebin Creek.	In the future consultation as part of the Masterplans for the major reserves along the creek, identify opportunities to establish Friends Groups based around the major reserves in the corridor, to assist with community involvement in the care and ongoing works in the Creek corridor. Utilise the structure and programs already established by the	DCMC Councils	Ongoing

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
		existing Friends of Darebin Creek to assist with the set up of new groups.		
3.2.6.3	Schools are located near the Darebin Creek corridor along its length and there is an opportunity to continue to involve them in creek improvement works, including stormwater.	Develop a program to involve schools in the ongoing improvement works to the creek corridor. This includes ongoing involvement of some, and establishing new programs in the remaining schools. Deliver specific education programs to schools and the broader community on stormwater issues including through the City of Whittlesea 'Storming for cleaner water program'.	Councils MW	High

### 3.2.7 Signage

The Cities of Darebin and Banyule jointly prepared a signage strategy for the section of the creek corridor included in these municipalities. The DCMC have installed signs along the creek downstream of Plenty Road at all the major stormwater drain outfalls, with the EPA phone number and drain numbers to list on them. It has been identified there is a need for consistent signage along the Creek with the suggestion that the City of Darebin signage be used as the guide.

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.2.7.1	Lack of interpretive and directional signage along the Darebin Creek linear reserve.	Implement the Signage Strategy prepared by Cities of Darebin and Banyule and confirm if this Signage Strategy is relevant for the entire creek corridor and its tributaries, including appropriate signage in the rural reaches.	DCMC Councils	Ongoing

## 3.3 Environment

### 3.3.1 Flora

#### Weeds

Throughout the catchment, weeds are an ongoing management issue, particularly the control of declared weeds including:

- Alligator Weed
- Artichoke Thistle
- Blackberry
- Boxthorn
- Chilean Needle Grass
- Flax-leaf Broom
- Golden Rod
- Gorse
- Serrated Tussock
- Tradescantia

The presence of these weeds in the catchment limits the quality and presence of indigenous vegetation and impacts on habitat values of the stream corridor. Weeds are transported into the waterway corridor by a range of means including transported down the waterway in normal and flood flows, from the surrounding catchment area via the stormwater system, wind, birds and human access. In the rural catchment there are numerous private land holders and their land management practices vary, making weed management difficult to manage.

The ongoing management of these weeds relies on coordination between the public land management agencies and private land-holders.

The Darebin Creek Waterway Management Activity Plan (DCWMAP) has identified staged woody weed removal from the creek including Desert Ash, Willow and Boxthorn in priority locations along the waterway. Additionally, the DCWMAP has identified control of a range of garden escapee weeds including Tradescantia. It is appropriate that the Council weed management programs in the adjoining open space coordinates with Melbourne Water's weed removal program where appropriate.

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.3.1.1	Weed management in the rural catchment.	Council and Melbourne Water to liaise to confirm an appropriate method of coordinating a suitable funding program to support rural land holders in the future management of weeds.	MW WCC (DCMC)	High
3.3.1.2	Weeds in the predominantly urban areas within the municipality of Whittlesea.	Council to prepare and implement a weed management plan to target control of declared weeds in the open space corridor adjoining the creek, and adjoining open space and surrounding streets where applicable. This plan is recommended to be prepared in conjunction with the indigenous vegetation management plan recommendation 3.3.1.4, add reference to Council's emphasis on 6 pest plants as per the Weeds Local Law, and include new emerging weeds such as Lobed	WCC	High & Ongoing

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
		Needle Grass.		
3.3.1.3	Weeds in the predominantly urban areas within the municipalities of Banyule and Darebin.	Agencies to prepare and implement a coordinated weed management plan to target and control declared weeds in the open space corridor adjoining the creek, and adjoining open space and surrounding streets where applicable. This plan is recommended to be prepared in conjunction with the indigenous vegetation management plan recommendation 3.3.1.4 and consider fauna habitat values included in 3.3.2.1. Targeted control and monitoring of Serrated Tussock around Plenty Road is specifically addressed in E2/5.	DCC BCC MW	High & ongoing
3.3.1.4	Protect and improve areas of remnant indigenous vegetation, including encouraging natural regeneration where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WCC to prepare an indigenous vegetation management plan for the Darebin Creek open space corridor including vegetation mapping and develop prioritised actions to protect and expand these areas through appropriate revegetation and regeneration in conjunction with 3.3.1.2.</li> <li>WCC to implement the indigenous vegetation management plan for the Darebin Creek open space corridor.</li> <li>DCC continue to undertake works in accordance with vegetation management plans prepared as part of the Natural Heritage Study.</li> <li>BCC to continue to undertake works in accordance with existing vegetation management plans.</li> </ul>	WCC  WCC DCC BCC	High  Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing

### 3.3.2 Fauna

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.3.2.1	Woody weeds may be providing fauna habitat, particularly avifauna in the exotic shrubs and trees, and removal without established replacement vegetation will potentially impact on these values.	Future woody weed management programs will need to consider potential impact on the fauna values, and therefore appropriate staging of works to allow establishment of suitable replacement habitat prior to woody weed removal will be required. This will require consideration in the preparation of the Weed Management Plan in Recommendation 3.3.1.3.	WCC DCC BCC MW	Ongoing
3.3.2.2	Instream fauna values	Melbourne Water is responsible for instream fauna values and this plan supports measures to improve these values over time.	MW	Ongoing

### 3.3.3 Geological/geomorphological

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.3.3.1	Relatively shallow natural stream form in the upper catchment through private rural land has been modified with on-stream dams and crossing points.	As part of liaison with rural land holders to control weeds, and exclude stock access from streams, improve their understanding of the natural waterway, and minimise new crossing points.	WCC MW	High

### 3.3.4 Water quality

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.3.4.1	Stock access to the stream in rural reaches is contributing to poor water quality.	As part of the Stream Frontage Management Plan, encourage rural landholders to exclude stock access to the stream with fencing and provide off-stream stock watering points.	MW (WCC)	High & Ongoing
3.3.4.2	Extensive residential development in the northern growth areas has the potential to create additional impacts on stormwater quality.	Council to ensure that urban development meets current best management practice standards in relation to stormwater quality management prior to discharge into Darebin Creek.	MW Councils	High & Ongoing
3.3.4.3	Untreated urban stormwater runoff entering the stream requires at source control measures as part of the SWMP.	Council to investigate opportunities to improve urban stormwater runoff through investigating at-source controls where possible as part of implementation of the <i>Watershed: Moving Towards a Water Sensitive Darebin</i> . This includes litter, sediment and water borne pollutants.	BCC DCC WCC	Ongoing
3.3.4.4	Industrial pollution entering the stream predominantly downstream of La Trobe University land.	Council and EPA to target an education program with the industrial land holders in the lower reaches of Darebin Creek to prevent industrial discharge and spills entering the creek, as part of the implementation of the SWMP. Refer to Recommendation E10/5.	BCC DCC EPA	High & Ongoing

## 3.4 Cultural heritage

### 3.4.1 Aboriginal cultural heritage values

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.4.1.1	Aboriginal archaeological values are poorly understood along the Darebin Creek.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prior to any works that will cause disturbance to the ground being undertaken within at least 200 metres of the waterway, investigate the need to prepare a Cultural Heritage Management Plan to manage the impact of proposed works.</li> <li>Prepare an overall Aboriginal cultural heritage study of the Darebin Creek (an overview) to record the existing documented values to allow these values to be incorporated into future</li> </ul>	BCC DCC WCC MW Vic Govt Landholders DCMC	Ongoing       Mod

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
		interpretive signage. This will include liaison with the local Aboriginal community to seek input and on the extent to which these values can potentially be interpreted.		

### 3.4.2 Non-indigenous (European) cultural heritage values

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
3.4.2.1	Historical (European) cultural heritage values are well documented, however, there is no on-site interpretation of these values.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to protect the Historical cultural heritage values through appropriate planning scheme protection via overlay controls.</li> <li>Incorporate Historical cultural heritage values into future on-site interpretive signage (refer to Recommendation 3.2.7.1)</li> </ul>	DCMC	Mod

## 4. Reach issues and recommendations

### 4.1 Reach 1 Grants Road to Lehmanns Road

This reach extends from the headwaters of the Darebin Creek in Donnybrook through to Lehmanns Road. In accordance with the existing planning directions as part of Plan Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Strategy (2014) this reach will retain some areas in rural use, while others are planned for urban development. The City of Whittlesea in conjunction with the Victorian Government is in the process of preparing PSPs for areas identified for future urban growth. This includes the Wollert PSP #1070 between Lehmanns and Summerhill Roads and the Woodstock PSP #1096 north of Donnybrook Road and west of Epping Road the proposed Outer Ring Road. For the location of Reach 1 recommendations refer to Drawing DCM-01.



PHOTO 4.1-1 Headwaters of Darebin Creek near Grants Road (2007)



PHOTO 4.1-2 Shallow valley form and landscape character upstream Donnybrook Road (2007)



PHOTO 4.1-3 Downstream Donnybrook Road, Red Gum Woodland landscape character (2007)

#### 4.1.1 Adjoining land use and landscape character

##### 4.1.1.1 Existing Conditions for Reach 1

- Located wholly within the City of Whittlesea.
- Currently, land adjoining both sides of the creek is predominantly rural use along with some quarrying activity.
- The land north of Donnybrook Road is identified for urban development and included in the Donnybrook/Woodstock PSP #1096.
- The Silurian sandstone in the hills at the top of the catchment in the vicinity of Grants Road differs from the majority of the creek downstream, which flows through predominantly Newer Basalts. The land is largely cleared of overstorey vegetation.
- South of Donnybrook Road to Summerhill Road there is extensive areas of remnant Red Gum overstorey which is outside the urban growth boundary. Currently this area is included in the investigation area for the proposed 1,200 hectare Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve, identified in the *Biodiversity Conservation Strategy (Victorian*

*Government, 2013*). These Red Gums were identified as a site of High Faunal Significance (Beardsell, 1997), noted to have an average age of between 100 to 200 years old with some individual trees estimated to be over 500 years in age. The presence of these mature Red Gums contributes significantly to the landscape and environmental value of the Darebin Creek.

- An Environmental Significance Overlay is included over the creek and adjoining rural land between Donnybrook and Lehmanns Road. This recognises and protects the Red Gum Grassy Woodland values in this area. **Refer photo 4.1~3.**
- Upstream of Bridge Inn Road the land is gently undulating and the creek is a relatively shallow valley form, which steepens as it approaches Bridge Inn Road. As the valley steepens the creek becomes more incised and defined and there are natural escarpments south of Bridge Inn Road.
- Land management practices vary between landholders with some improving the environmental values including restricting stock access to streams and improving habitat values with wetlands. Other land management practices that impact on the creek include uncontrolled stock access to the stream, rubbish dumping in the waterway to control erosion, on-stream dams and lack of indigenous vegetation along the stream corridor.

#### 4.1.1.2 Adjoining land use and landscape character issues and recommendations for Reach 1

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LU1/1	Poor land management practices in the headwaters of Darebin Creek, upstream of Donnybrook Road. This includes on-stream dams, stock access to the creek, erosion rubbish and lack of indigenous vegetation.	In the areas that are to remain in rural use, MW to liaise with private landholders as part of the Stream Frontage Management Program to support the program to fence stock access to the stream and provide alternative stock watering points. Support the revegetation of the stream side zone that will assist with stabilising the erosion gully.	MW Landholder	Very High
LU2/1	Land north of Donnybrook Road is included in an Extractive Industry Interest Area and land use adjoining the creek could potentially change to permit extraction of stone resource in this area.	In the future Woodstock PSP #1096 planning process, WCC to advocate to ensure that if additional extractive industries are established on adjoining land, that adequate buffer zones to the creek are established to protect the natural waterway values, in accordance with Best Management Practice.	WCC	Ongoing
LU3/1	Land north of Donnybrook Road is highlighted for future development and is located with the Woodstock PSP #1096 area.	WCC to include requirements that a suitable open space corridor be set aside along both sides of Darebin Creek as part of the Woodstock PSP #1096 process. The reserve is to provide adequate space to allow for creek rehabilitation along with an additional width of suitable open space outside of the creek rehabilitation areas to provide for linear shared trail access and other recreational spaces along the corridor that encourage community use compatible with the ecological values. Additionally, WCC to include suitable development guidelines that provide road frontage or demonstrate how excellent public access will be achieved from the adjoining development to the open space corridor.	WCC	Very High

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LU4/1	The Wilkes Court area has smaller land holdings and land practices vary between them, leading to inconsistent management of the natural values of the creek corridor in this area.	WCC to liaise with landholders in Wilkes Court, and encourage land holders to encourage regeneration of the remnant Red Gums, control weeds and undertake revegetation along the streamside zone. There are existing values in this area, including the values at the wetland nursery site, and there is potential to build on these through liaison with landholders.	WCC	High & Ongoing
LU5/1	The quarry and landfill site upstream of Bridge Inn Road has been in operation for many years and is potentially impacting on the water quality values of the creek. There are elevated salinity levels at Bridge Inn Road, however, the source of these elevated salinity levels is unknown.	EPA to investigate the source of elevated salinity levels in the vicinity of Bridge Inn Road and take appropriate action to address this when the source is found.	EPA DCMC	Very High
LU6/1	There are proposals to expand the extractive industry land use downstream of Bridge Inn Road on the western side of the creek.	WCC to ensure that adequate buffer zones to the creek are included in any future permits to expand the extractive industry in this area in accordance with Best Management Practice.	WCC	Ongoing
LU7/1	Adequacy of environmental protection of the Darebin Creek under the existing Environmental Significance Overlay - ESO1.	Review the existing ESO1 and adequacy to protect the waterway values.	WCC	High
LA1/1	The remnant Red Gums contribute significantly to the landscape character of the Creek, however, there appears to be limited regeneration of these species. If no recruitment of these trees occurs it will lead to a decline in the landscape character in the longer term.	WCC to liaise with rural land holders to encourage regeneration of Red Gums, by precluding stock access from selected areas to allow some natural regeneration of species.	WCC DCMC	High

## 4.1.2 Community use and recreation

### 4.1.2.1 Existing conditions for Reach 1

- The Darebin Creek Management Committee has sought funding to work with the rural landholders to undertake indigenous revegetation projects within the catchment.
- Some landholders are participating in the Melbourne Water stream frontage management program, restricting stock access to the Creek.
- Whittlesea City Council has incentive programs to encourage landholders to undertake revegetation and stream protection works on their land.
- Land-holders in the catchment were mailed a questionnaire, and only five of these were completed and returned.

#### 4.1.2.2 Community use and recreation issues and recommendations for Reach 1

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
CU1/1	Currently there are at least three agencies providing incentive programs to landholders including the Darebin Creek Management Committee, Council and Melbourne Water and potentially other groups may be providing incentive programs as well including Landcare, WACMAC (Whittlesea Agricultural Society, Arthurs Creek District, Merriang District and Cottles Bridge Landcare Groups) and DEPI. This may be limiting the participation by landholders due to confusion as to the responsibilities of the different agencies, and the lack of resources to effectively publicise and encourage participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DCMC to liaise with all land managers who offer incentive programs to develop an appropriate joint approach for the Darebin Creek catchment.</li> <li>DCMC or suitable alternative agency as agreed to then establish the liaison program with landholders in the Darebin Creek catchment to advise of appropriate incentive programs to improve the environmental values of the creek.</li> </ul>	DCMC (WCC, Landcare, DEPI, MW, WACMAC)	Very High
CU2/1	Land holders identified via the questionnaire, that the creek is ephemeral, and they would like to see permanent flows in the creek. Suggestions included deepening the creek, and restricting on-stream dams in the catchment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DCMC or appropriate agency (refer CU1/1) to include education of landholders on the natural ephemeral nature of the creek as part of the future liaison program developed in CU1/1.</li> </ul>	Refer CU1/1	Refer CU1/1
CU3/1	Future change in land use from rural to urban use.	As part of the future Precinct Structure Planning for this land use change, ensure that an adequate open space reserve width is set aside to allow for recreational use and access to both sides of the waterway corridor additional to the reserve required for waterway rehabilitation.	WCC, VPA	Very High

### 4.1.3 Environment

#### 4.1.3.1 Existing Conditions for Reach 1

##### Flora

- Upstream of Donnybrook Road the creek corridor is identified a part of Conservation Area 34 Grolwing Grass Frog in the *Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne Growth Corridors (2013)*. Outside the Creek Corridor, the catchment has little, if any, remnant indigenous vegetation, however revegetation was being undertaken in this area in 2007. **Refer photos 4.1~1 and 4.1~2.**
- The Darebin Creek Management Committee have liaised with the land holders upstream of Donnybrook Road to encourage revegetation in the area and reduce stock access to streams.
- Downstream of Donnybrook Road there is remnant Red Gum Grassy Woodland adjoining the creek which is a key landscape and environmental feature of this reach.

This is included in the Investigation Area for the proposed 1,200 hectare Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve, located outside the areas rezoned for urban growth.

- There are extensive areas of woody weed invasion including Gorse, Hawthorn and Blackberry.
- Melbourne Water has encouraged land owners to fence the creek corridor to prevent stock access as part of the Stream Frontage Management Program. Some land holders have participated in the program.

**Fauna**

- The Red Gums that form part of the Investigation area for the future Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve were noted as being of very high habitat significance and regional faunal significance by Beardsell in 1997. This area is recognised for the mature stands of remnant Red Gums and native grasslands that provide habitat for a range of fauna including waterbirds, bats, frogs and reptiles. This area provides an important east-west habitat link between the Summerhill Road conservation area and Craigieburn Grasslands on Merri Creek, and the Plenty River corridor including Mernda and the Yan Yean catchments. **Refer photo 4.1~3.**
- South of the Summerhill Road the Darebin Creek and Findon Creek supports Plains Grassy Woodland and River Red Gum Woodland. The Woollert PSP identifies local conservation reserves to protect these values along the waterway and in other reserves away from the creek corridor.

**Geological / geomorphological**

- Immediately downstream of Bridge Inn Road to Lehmanns Road there are natural geomorphological features which require protection. The creek flows along the contact zone between Newer Volcanic basalt and much older Silurian sedimentary rocks and the different geological structure is clearly visible (Melbourne Water, 2000). At the time the Waterway Activity Management Plan was written these features were not recorded as significant, however, the Plan recommended further investigation into their significance is required.



PHOTO 4.1-5 Gorse infestation in the upper catchment of Darebin Creek

**Water quality**

- The Port Phillip and Westernport Regional River Health Strategy (Melbourne Water et al., 2005) notes that water quality is very poor in the rural sections of the Darebin Creek catchment.

**4.1.3.2 Environment issues and recommendations for Reach 1**

**Flora**

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E1/1	The headwaters of the creek upstream of Donnybrook Road has minimal indigenous vegetation, with stock access to the creek in some locations.	Refer to Recommendation LU1/1	Refer LU1/1	Refer LU1/1

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E2/1	Weed management on private land, particularly large infestations of woody weeds including Hawthorn, Blackberry and Gorse.	Refer Recommendation CU1/1 and 3.3.1.1.	Refer 3.3.1.1	Refer 3.3.1.1
E3/1	Downstream of Donnybrook Road the rural land use will be retained. This includes extensive stands of remnant River Red Gums that contribute to the environmental character of the waterway. The proposed future E6 Arterial has the potential to impact on these remnant Red Gums.	WCC to advocate to maximise the protection of the remnant River Red Gums in the future design of the E6 Arterial Road.  WCC to advocate for clarity from the Victorian Government on the status of the 1,200 hectare Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Reserve Area, including how the area will be managed to ensure protection of these values.	WCC VicRoads DCMC  WCC DELWP	High
E4/1	Downstream of Donnybrook Road the rural land use will be retained. This includes extensive stands of remnant River Red Gums that contribute to the environmental character of the waterway.	DCMC and MW to continue to implement appropriate Stream Frontage Management Programs specifically to encourage protection and regeneration of remnant River Red Gums on rural land.	DCMC MW	Ongoing
E5/1	Scattered remnant Red Gums along Findon Creek between Summerhill and Lehmanns Roads require protection in future urban development.	WCC to include requirements that a suitable open space corridor be set aside along both sides of Findon Creek as part of the Wollert PSP #1070 process. The reserve is to provide adequate space to allow for the protection and regeneration of the remnant River Red Gums, and suitable open space outside of the regeneration areas to provide for linear shared trail access and other recreational spaces along the corridor that encourage community use compatible with the ecological values.	WCC, VPA, MW	Very High

### Fauna

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E6/1	Inappropriate land management practices such as removing rocks, and dumping rock and other material in the floodplain are impacting on habitat and floodplain values.	As part of the liaison with rural land-holders to improve land management practices (refer LU1/1 and CU1/1), advise of the inappropriateness of filling the floodplain, and impact on fauna values by removing rocks.	WCC MW DCMC	Refer LU1/1 & CU1/1
E7/1	The NEROC Study identified that the reach between Donnybrook Road and Bridge Inn Road had high habitat significance, however the current level of significance is unknown.	As part of the liaison with rural land-holders to improve land management practices (refer LU1/1 and CU1/1), advise of the inappropriateness of filling the floodplain, and impact on fauna values by removing rocks.	DCMC DELWP	Very High

### Geomorphology and Water Quality

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E8/1	Environmental impacts (particularly water quality and	Refer LU4/1	Refer	Refer

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
	stream flow) of quarrying activities in the catchment.		LU4/1	LU4/1
E9/1	Stock access to the stream causing erosion, loss of vegetation and impacts on water quality.	Refer LU1/1	Refer LU1/1	Refer LU1/1
E10/1	Dumping of fill changing the natural valley form of the creek.	Refer to E6/1	Refer E6/1	Refer E6/1

#### 4.1.4 Cultural values

##### 4.1.4.1 Existing conditions for Reach 1

- The Wurundjeri people lived in this region and it is likely that there were a series of campsites throughout the area including along the creek. There is no survey of Aboriginal Archaeological sites in the region (City of Whittlesea Rural Review, 2000). The creek and adjoining lands would have cultural significance for the Wurundjeri given they are relatively undisturbed.
- Non-indigenous settlement of the area is linked with the development of Victoria as a whole. Agricultural, pastoral and some quarrying activities dominated early development and there are some homesteads and other features remaining in the region from this early settlement.
- Heritage overlays protect some of the non-Indigenous cultural heritage sites including:
  - Darebin Creek Monier Bridge, bluestone bridge over Darebin Creek on Bridge Inn Road, **refer photo 4.1~4.**
  - Schultz Farm 'Pine Grove Farm' in Lehmanns Road, Wollert which includes bluestone dairy and milking sheds, weatherboard residence, bluestone stable, bluestone underground tank and drystone walls (Planning Scheme, 2006)
  - Schulz Farm 'Ivy Bank' on Bridge Inn Road, Wollert includes bluestone and weatherboard house, bluestone pigpens, bluestone barn, drystone walled milking shed, mud and lathed barn, cypress windrows, pines, bluestone walled dam. Tree controls protect the Cypress windrows and pines (Planning Scheme, 2006).



PHOTO 4.1-4 Bluestone bridge over Darebin Creek on Bridge Inn Road

##### 4.1.4.2 Cultural values issues and recommendations for Reach 1

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
CH1/1	Lack of information and survey work regarding Aboriginal archaeological values along the Darebin Creek.	Undertake further investigation into these values prior to any ground disturbance works within the area of sensitivity, in accordance with the current legislation and requirements for the preparation of Cultural Heritage Management Plans. Refer also to Recommendation 3.4.1.1	Landholder	Ongoing

## 4.2 Reach 2

### Lehmanns Road to Railway Reserve

This reach extends from Lehmanns Road in Wollert, south to the recently constructed railway from Epping through to South Morang. It includes Darebin Creek and Findon Creek, which is a main tributary to the Darebin in this area. This reach is changing from rural use to urban use, and the land use change is guided by a combination of existing and new structure plans. This includes the Epping North East PSP #33, Quarry Hills PSP #1094, Harvest Home LSP, Epping Central Structure Plan and South Morang LSP.

This reach is included in the Darebin Creek Waterway Management Activity Plan (Melbourne Water, 2000), and the majority of it was included in the Middle Darebin Concept Plan (1996).

For the location of recommendations for Reach 2 refer to Drawings DCM-2A and DCM-2B.



PHOTO 4.2-1 VIEW OF DAREBIN CREEK ADJACENT LANCIA COURT (2007)



PHOTO 4.2-2 VIEW OF DAREBIN CREEK UPSTREAM TOWARDS HARVEST HOME ROAD (2007)



PHOTO 4.2-3 VIEW OF FINDON CREEK UPSTREAM OF FINDON ROAD (2007)

#### 4.2.1 Adjoining land use and landscape character

##### 4.2.1.1 Existing conditions for Reach 2

- This reach is located within the City of Whittlesea.
- Between Lehmanns Road and Harvest Home Road the land is currently in the process of being developed for residential use and is included in the Epping North East PSP #33 and Quarry Hills PSP #1094.
- The land adjoining Findon Creek between Harvest Home Road and Findon Road is included in the Epping North East Structure Plan and requirements relevant to Darebin Creek include:
  - Development adjacent to Darebin and Findon Creek is to face the waterway, with road frontages at the interface between the open space corridor and development/

- Protect the remnant indigenous vegetation identified during the Structure Plan investigation, and undertake additional surveys when required/
- Undertake Aboriginal archaeological surveys prior to future development.
- Provide an open space corridor adjoining the waterway including open space beyond the area that is subject to 1:100 year flows to provide for recreational use.
- Incorporate water sensitive urban design principles into future stormwater management from the urban areas.
- Downstream of Findon Road the reserve either side of the creek is primarily Melbourne Water owned land with two smaller parcels of council owned land. The Darebin Creek Reserve between Park Street and McDonalds Road on the west side of the creek, and Peppercorn Park on the east side of the creek are referred to as the Darebin Creek District Park.
- Downstream of Findon Road the adjoining land is predominantly residential use, along with Epping Secondary College. Whilst there are some sections where the road adjoins the waterway, a large proportion of the interface treatment between the waterway corridor and residential use is rear boundary fence lines.
- The Melbourne Water Pipe track connects into the Darebin Creek reserve immediately upstream of the railway reserve.
- There is a proposal to extend Dalton Road north across the disused railway to Findon Road, and this will be aligned directly adjacent to the western side of Darebin Creek (*Status of this proposed is still required from Whittlesea*).
- Epping Secondary College is located to the eastern side of the creek.

#### 4.2.1.2 Adjoining land use and landscape character issues and recommendations for Reach 2

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LU1/2	The area between Lehmanns Road and Harvest Home Road is included in the Epping North East Precinct Structure Plan (PSP). This area is currently undergoing urban redevelopment in accordance with the PSP.	WCC to ensure that adequate open space reserve width is set aside along Findon Creek to protect and improve the environmental and recreational values, consistent with the principles set out the in Epping North East Structure Plan.	WCC DCMC	Very High & Ongoing
LU2/2	The land east of the proposed E6 Outer Ring Road is anticipated to redevelop in the near future. This land is the subject to the Quarry Hills Precinct Structure Plan, which is currently in preparation.  The length of Darebin Creek in the PSP has been identified as a conservation reserve for the Growling Grass Frog.	As part of the Quarry Hills PSP process, WCC is to include requirements that a suitable open space corridor is to be set aside along both sides of Darebin Creek adjoining the GGF conservation reserve. The reserve is to provide adequate space to allow for the protection and regeneration of the remnant River Red Gums, and suitable open space outside of the regeneration areas to provide for linear shared trail access for both sides of the creek and other recreational spaces along the corridor that encourage community use compatible with the ecological values.	WCC	Very High & Ongoing
LU3/2	Future road crossings over Findon Creek may have an impact on the creek values.	Future road crossings to minimise the impact on Findon Creek's values, and provide safe shared trail access across or under the roads to meet Austroad and Melbourne Water trail guidelines. This includes consideration of the GGF habitat connectivity.	WCC	Very High & Ongoing

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LU4/2	Future E6 Arterial road reservation currently extends over a significant length of the Creek. This section of creek includes remnant River Red Gums and the natural creek morphology which will be potentially impacted by the construction of this road.	WCC to advocate to ensure the future E6 Arterial Road design: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates minimal impact on the environmental values of the Darebin Creek.</li> <li>• Minimises interruption to habitat connectivity between Findon and Darebin Creek corridors.</li> <li>• Integrates suitable east-west pedestrian and cycle access to ensure good connectivity between the future residential communities.</li> </ul>	WCC	Very High
LU5/2	Epping Secondary College is located directly adjoining the creek corridor is an opportunity for promoting community ownership of the creek.	MW and WCC to continue to involve the Epping Secondary College in future revegetation along the creek, along with other educational programs to increase student's awareness of the creeks values.	WCC MW DCMC	Ongoing
LA1/2	The remnant Red Gums along Findon Creek and Darebin Creek contribute to the landscape character upstream of McDonalds Road.	Remnant Red Gums to be retained and allow natural regeneration to protect the natural landscape character. Ensure open sightlines are retained along the path as regeneration grows.	WCC DCMC	Ongoing
LA2/2	Visual dominance of rear boundary fence lines along the waterway corridor, particularly where this is on both sides of the creek corridor detracts from its landscape and environmental character.	WCC to undertake strategic placement of overstorey and ground layer vegetation along the corridor to break up views of fence lines whilst retaining safe sightlines along paths. Refer to Recommendation 4.2.3 for further recommendations on revegetation.	WCC	Mod

## 4.2.2 Recreation and community use

### 4.2.2.1 Existing conditions for Reach 2

- An existing shared trail has been constructed along the Darebin Creek corridor from Porsche Court downstream to the railway reserve.
- Sections of shared trail have been completed along the recently developed area of Findon Creek. The existing urban area south of the transmission line trails have not been constructed. A picnic shelter area has been constructed upstream of Hayston Boulevard providing a local recreation point on the creek for this community.
- The Epping North East Structure Plan illustrates a linear open space corridor along Findon Creek between Harvest Home Road and Lehmanns Road with connections to larger areas of active open space adjoining the creek corridor. Future open space facilities for regional trail users will need to be established in the northern end of this reach, potentially in conjunction with the remnant Red Gum Woodland area.
- Downstream of Findon Road the main adjoining open space reserves in this reach is the Darebin Creek Epping District Park, which includes Peppercorn Park. There is an existing Landscape Masterplan for the Darebin Creek Epping District Park, which includes the open space along Findon and Darebin Creeks from Findon Road to McDonalds Road, however, works have not been fully implemented.
- Melbourne Water has undertaken revegetation works with the Epping Secondary College near the school grounds.

- The community consultation outcomes did not identify high usage levels in the open space corridor, however, there was a low return rate of the questionnaires in this area.
- A shared trail has been constructed along the Epping to South Morang railway connecting to the Darebin Creek Trail.

#### 4.2.2.2 Recreation and community use issues and recommendations for Reach 2

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
R1/2	Future regional connection between Quarry Hills Regional Parkland, Darebin and Findon Creeks.	Investigate future opportunities to establish a regional trail link from the northern extent of urban development (in the vicinity of Lehmanns Road) in an easterly direction to Darebin Creek and Quarry Hills Regional Parkland, and incorporate the planning of this link into future development and land use agreements. There is potential for this to establish a large looped trail link that connects back to the Darebin Creek via Hendersons Creek.	WCC	High
R2/2	There will be a need for a major visitor facility within the Findon Creek corridor to provide a destination and resting point on the future shared trail between Lehmanns and Harvest Home Roads.	WCC to require major visitor facilities including future picnic and BBQ facility with toilets in the northern end of the future growth area between Harvest Home Road and Lehmanns Road. This will cater to the new population and the regional trail users. These facilities should be established at the time the shared trail is constructed through this area.	Developer WCC (Vic Govt)	High to Mod
R3/2	Informal recreational facilities to facilitate future access to the creek corridor will be required as part of new urban areas.	Future development to provide adequate informal open space infrastructure including regular footbridge crossings of the creek to meet the recreational needs of the new population and designed to meet the current safety design standards.	Developer (WCC)	High
R4/2	Future development to allow adequate space for recreational facilities as well as environmental values.	Ensure adequate provision of open space adjoining the creek corridor in future urban development to allow recreational facilities to be located adjacent to the waterway corridor without conflicting with environmental values.	Developer (WCC)	High
R5/2	Darebin Creek Parklands requires a Masterplan (between Findon Road and Rufus Street).	Prepare a Masterplan for Darebin Creek Parklands with consideration of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• change mowing regime to allow natural recruitment of Red Gums in adjoining open space;</li> <li>• revegetation to the natural escarpments;</li> <li>• establish a seating area at the confluence of Findon and Darebin Creeks taking advantage of the elevated views to Quarry Hills from this location;</li> <li>• thin out the mid-storey vegetation from revegetation along the creek in Peppercorn Park;</li> <li>• plant selective indigenous overstorey to the perimeter of the reserve to break up views of rear boundary fence lines. Care to be taken to avoid screening properties and interrupting safe lines of</li> </ul>	WCC	High & Ongoing

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
		sight along paths; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>develop and improve the design of picnic and BBQ facilities at Peppercorn Park as the regional facility along the shared trail; and</li> <li>improve the safety of trail crossing points over Greenbrook Drive.</li> </ul>		
R6/2	Existing shared trail between Findon Road and Hendersons Road is unsealed and requires upgrade to a concrete surface as per the recommendation in the <i>Northern Regional Trails Strategy</i> .	WCC to prepare the detailed design for the upgrade of the shared trail between Findon and Hendersons Roads.	WCC (Vic Govt)	High
CU1/2	Signage including interpretation and directional signage requires coordination to improve community use and understanding of the creek corridor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to Recommendation 3.2.7.1.</li> </ul>	Refer 3.2.7.1	Refer 3.2.7.1

## 4.2.3 Environment

### 4.2.3.1 Existing conditions for Reach 2

#### Flora

- The upper section of this reach has remnant scattered remnant Red Gums.
- There are woody weeds including Gorse, Hawthorn and Blackberry.
- Scattered remnant Red Gums are present in the existing urban areas and will require ongoing protection.
- Council have undertaken revegetation and planting in the adjoining open space reserves, and Melbourne Water has undertaken revegetation works with the Epping Secondary College students.
- The existing open space reserves are predominantly mown grass to the edge of the riparian zone, including under large remnant Red Gums.

#### Fauna

- Darebin Creek from Lehmanns Road to the Transmission line is identified as a conservation area for protection of the Growling Grass Frog habitat.
- The area in the vicinity of Findon Road was identified as having medium faunal significance in the NEROC study (Beardsell, 1997). Specifically, it is noted that the Darebin Creek drainage line supports Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Escarpment Shrubland vegetation.

#### Geological / geomorphological

- Darebin Creek is in a relatively natural state from Lehmanns Road downstream to Findon Road, noting that the natural morphology is to be retained. (Melbourne Water, 2000).

- Development downstream of the Transmission Lines is too close to the stream resulting in the need for retaining wall construction close to the creek, modifying the natural valley form (Melbourne Water, 2000).
- A number of stony knolls along Findon Creek were identified as part of the Epping North East Structure Plan, and this plan has retained some of those in open space reserves.
- A natural escarpment remains immediately upstream of McDonalds Road on the west side of the stream and downstream of McDonalds Road the valley form changes to wider shallower valley form.

**Water quality**

- The Port Phillip and Westernport Regional River Health Strategy (Melbourne Water et al., 2005) notes that water quality is very poor in the rural sections of the Darebin Creek catchment, largely caused by high nutrient levels from the adjoining rural land use, although the influence of urban development is anticipated to change this.
- The Epping North East Local Structure Plan requires that future development incorporate water sensitive urban design principles to treat future urban stormwater runoff prior to entering the Findon Creek (City of Whittlesea, 2005).

**4.2.3.2 Environment issues and recommendations for Reach 2**

**Flora and Fauna**

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E1/2	Impacts from future residential development on flora and fauna values, particularly where development is too close to the waterway.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In future development applications WCC to ensure protection of the remnant indigenous vegetation and appropriate revegetation program to provide an effective buffer between development and Findon Creek, whilst retaining sight lines for safety.</li> <li>• Protect the Stony Knolls and improve with appropriate vegetation management with the intent to provide fauna habitat.</li> <li>• Establish open space habitat corridor links between Findon Creek and adjoining Red Gum Grassy Woodland areas to protect flora and fauna values consistent with the Epping North East Precinct Structure Plan #33.</li> <li>• Refer to Recommendation LU2/2.</li> </ul>	WCC Developer  Developer WCC  Developer WCC	High & Ongoing  High & Ongoing  High
E2/2	Darebin Creek between Lehmanns Road and Findon Road has been identified as a Conservation Reserve in the Quarry Hills PSP #1094. This will be transferred to the Crown and confirmation of a suitable land manager is required.	WCC to ensure adequate width of open space corridor is set aside outside of the conservation area to allow regeneration of Red Gums to encourage mixed age class of the Red Gums in the future, and the provision of compatible recreational use including the shared trail to both sides of the creek.	WCC Landholders	High & Ongoing
E3/2	Remnant Red Gums in the existing open space reserves between Hayston Boulevard and McDonalds Road are not regenerating due to mowing regime preventing natural regeneration.	Change mowing regimes to allow for natural regeneration of remnant Red Gums in existing public open space particularly between Hayston Boulevard road McDonalds Road.	WCC	High

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E4/2	Residential development is too close to Findon and Darebin Creeks between Transmission Lines and Findon Road.	WCC to increase indigenous planting to buffer development from the creek corridor to provide increased habitat continuity through this section.	WCC DCMC	Mod
E5/2	Epping District Park Masterplan requires review.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the future indigenous vegetation management plan for the Darebin Creek, integrate regeneration of the remnant Red Gums in adjoining open space to allow for recruitment of the existing trees. Additionally review the revegetation techniques to achieve some integration between the creek corridor and adjoining open space.</li> <li>This may include the need for ongoing community education regarding the natural vegetation and fauna habitat values along the waterway.</li> </ul>	WCC	High

#### Geology and Geomorphology

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E6/2	Development impacts on the natural geomorphological values, including: change to stream flows; stormwater outfalls/connections; provision of services, particularly the sewer, along the creek; and inadequate reserve widths to allow sustainable management of the waterway corridor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During the development, ensure adequate development setback to minimise impacts on the natural creek morphology, adequate treatment of stormwater and space to establish wetlands where proposed, and setback for required services.</li> </ul>	WCC MW DCMC	High & Ongoing
E7/2	Natural escarpments in existing open space reserves require protection.	Ensure ongoing protection to the natural escarpments in existing open space reserves including appropriate revegetation with indigenous species to the escarpment and interpretive signage to prevent access to them.	WCC	Mod

#### Water Quality

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E8/2	In future development ensure suitable and adequate water quality protection measures are in place.	Council to ensure the principles outlined in the Epping North East Structure Plan are adhered to in the development plan approvals process, detailed design and construction phases.	WCC Devel- oper	Very High & Ongoing
E9/2	Existing urban runoff enters the creek without any pre-treatment contributing pollutant and litter loads to the creek.	Council to investigate opportunities for integrated water management projects in the existing residential catchment to improve water quality in Darebin Creek.	WCC DCMC	Ongoing

## 4.2.4 Cultural values

### 4.2.4.1 Existing conditions for Reach 2

- The Wurundjeri people lived in this region and it is likely that there were a series of campsites throughout the area including along the creek. All areas within 200 metres of the creek are identified as areas of archaeological sensitivity.
- There are two recorded Aboriginal archaeological sites in the vicinity of Findon Creek between Craigieburn West and Harvest Home Roads identified as part of the Epping North East Local Structure Plan investigations.
- Non-Indigenous settlement of the area is linked with the development of Victoria as a whole. Agricultural, pastoral and some quarrying activities dominated early development and there are some homesteads and other features remaining in the region from this time.
- Heritage overlays protect some of the non-indigenous cultural heritage sites including:
  - Hehrs Pine Park Farm on Epping Road, Wollert adjoins Findon Creek and includes the house, all outbuildings including milking sheds, dairy, machinery shed, shearing shed, stables, drystone wall, mature pines, peppercorn trees and paving between buildings. Tree controls protect the mature Peppercorns and Pines (Whittlesea Planning Scheme, 2006).



PHOTO 4.2-4 HEHRS PINE PARK FARM, FINDON CREEK (2007)

### 4.2.3.2 Cultural values issues and recommendations for Reach 2

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
CH1/2	Future urban development needs to consider the existing Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural values.	Consistent with the recommendations of the Epping North East Local Structure Plan, prior to future development, further investigation into and protection Aboriginal archaeological values is required.	WCC	Very High & Ongoing
CH2/2	Darebin Creek is identified as an area of Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity within 200 metres of the waterway.	Consistent with the Heritage Act 2006, a Cultural Heritage Management Plan or similar may be required prior to any works being constructed within the 200 metre corridor of Darebin Creek.	WCC AAV	Ongoing

## 4.3 Reach 3

### Railway reserve to Metropolitan Ring Road

This reach extends from the railway reserve in Lalor to the Metropolitan Ring Road in Thomastown/Bundoora.

This reach is included in the Darebin Creek Waterway Management Activity Plan (Melbourne Water, 2000), and the majority of it was included in the Middle Darebin Concept Plan (1996)

Hendersons Road Drain (Hendersons Creek for the purposes of this plan), meets the Darebin Creek in this reach, and is included in this reach for context purposes. Detailed site visits and assessment of Hendersons Creek has not been included in this plan given that extensive water quality treatment wetlands and landscape improvement works have been completed at Mill Park. These improvement works have addressed the water quality, drainage and flooding issues identified in the Melbourne Water Waterway Activity Management Plan, and the earlier Darebin Creek Concept Plan (Melbourne Parks and Waterways, 1996). Please note the inset from this plan is shown on Reach 2B.



PHOTO 4.3-1 DAREBIN CREEK DOWNSTREAM BRAMBLE CRESCENT, GROWLING GRASS FROG HABITAT (2007)



PHOTO 4.3-2 DAREBIN CREEK UPSTREAM BRAMBLE CRESCENT (2007)

#### 4.3.1 Adjoining land use and landscape character

##### 4.3.1.1 Existing conditions for Reach 3

###### Darebin Creek

- Adjoining land use in this reach is predominantly residential use, with industrial use on the east side of the creek downstream of McKimmies Road (Boral Quarry).
- A Public Acquisition Overlay over some of the land directly adjoining the eastern side of the creek is in favour of VicRoads for the purposes of constructing a major north-south E6 arterial connecting to the Metropolitan Ring Road.
- Three larger open space reserves adjoin the creek corridor including WA Smith Reserve, Sycamore Reserve in Mill Park and Thomastown East Reserve in Bundoora. These reserves contain predominantly sporting facilities with the shared trail located towards the creek.

- Two schools adjoin the creek corridor, Lalor North Secondary College upstream of Childs Road and St Monicas Co-ed College a little further north on the western side of the creek. These are located nearby the TAFE College and Epping Station.
- The railway has recently been extended from Epping to South Morang with a future extension to Mernda.

#### Hendersons Creek

- Residential land use adjoins the majority of the Hendersons Creek with some large open space reserves including Mill Parks Wetland and Meadowglen Athletics reserves.

#### 4.3.1.2 Adjoining land use and landscape character issues Reach 3

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LU1/3	Poor interface between residential use and the Darebin Creek corridor and lower reaches of Hendersons Creek, which leads to poor passive surveillance of the corridor and inappropriate management practices and use.	Improve the management of these sections of reserves with increased council presence along the waterway. In future development applications for redevelopment of land adjoining the creek corridor, encourage development to face the waterway to improve passive surveillance and activate the interface between the creek and adjoining land use.	WCC DCMC	Ongoing
LU2/3	Construction of the north-south proposed E6 arterial road from Childs Road to the Metropolitan Ring Road will potentially have an impact on the Darebin Creek.	WCC to advocate during the preparation of the future E6 Arterial road design for it to minimise impacts on the natural values of Darebin Creek and include east to west pedestrian and cycle connectivity between Thomastown and Bundoora.	WCC DCMC	High
LU3/3	Parcels of land in the open space corridor are not formally transferred to Council as open space.	Council to investigate and confirm land ownership and transfer of land parcels to open space directly adjoining Darebin Creek, particularly downstream of Sycamore Reserve. Rezone to the appropriate land zoning when ownership is confirmed.	WCC Land-holders	Very High
LU3/3	The future long term redevelopment of the Boral Quarry site south of McKimmies Road.	In any future redevelopment of the Boral Quarry land ensure there is an active interface that allows for excellent public access while protecting and improving the environment values of Darebin Creek.	WCC Land-holder DCMC	High
LA1/3	Visual dominance of rear boundary fence lines along the waterway corridor which is emphasised by the lack of indigenous vegetation in some reaches.	Increase the presence of scattered indigenous trees in the open space corridor to break up the visual dominance of rear boundary fence lines, whilst retaining clear sightlines into the reserve and along paths for safety. Refer to Environment recommendations in this Section.	WCC DCMC	Ongoing
LA2/3	Concrete lined sections of Hendersons Creek reduces the visual and environmental character of the tributary.	Investigate opportunities to reduce the visual prominence of the concrete lined channel with revegetation to soften the interface. This will require consultation with Melbourne Water to confirm suitable species and densities.	WCC MW DCMC	Low

### 4.3.2 Recreation and community use

#### 4.3.2.1 Existing conditions for Reach 3

- The existing shared trail extends from Hendersons Road to Sycamore Reserve. Downstream of Sycamore Reserve, the reserve width narrows on the western side of the creek and there is no public land on the eastern side. There are some parcels of land that were not formally transferred to Council as open space after completion of the subdivision process. The trail continues as an unsealed link between Sycamore Reserve and Thomastown East Reserve.
- The shared trail is unsealed from Hendersons Road to Sycamore Reserve. Upgrade of this section of trail to a concrete surface is a priority project in the *Northern Regional Trails Strategy*.
- WA Smith Reserve and Sycamore Reserve have structured sporting facilities including ovals, pavilions, cricket nets, car parking and playgrounds.
- Thomastown East Reserve includes tennis courts, sports pavilion, ovals, car parking and an unsealed shared trail connection adjacent to Thomastown East Reserve linking south to the residential area immediately north of the Metropolitan Ring Road. There are informal recreation facilities in the reserve adjacent the new residential area south of Thomastown East Reserve.
- Questionnaires identified that people use the Darebin Creek primarily for walking and exercise, however, there was only a low number of completed questionnaires from this area (approx 5% of total number of surveys returned).
- Large open space reserves are associated with the water quality treatment wetlands in South Morang on Hendersons Creek. The large wetlands are connected to the regional Quarry Hills Regional Parkland which is a natural open space reserve and provides a diversity of landscape characters from the low lying wetlands to the elevated views from Quarry Hills Regional Parkland.

#### 4.3.2.1 Recreation and community use issues and recommendations for Reach 3

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
R1/3	No path access into the open space corridor from Narina Park.	Design and construct path access into the Darebin Creek Trail from Narina Park to provide local access onto the trail. Other works to improve interface between Narina Park and the linear open space is to undertake some selective trimming to open up views into the creek and across to the remnant Red Gums.	WCC DCMC	Mod
R2/3	No provision for shared trail crossing at Childs Road.	Investigate provision of a safer crossing over Childs Road, either at grade, or under the road, pending future investigations of flood levels and safety.	WCC (Vic Govt) DCMC	Very High
R3/3	Major sporting reserves of WA Smith Reserve and Sycamore Reserve with existing paths and footbridge create a major recreational area in Mill Park, however there is poor integration between the sports reserves and the creek environment.	Prepare a Landscape Masterplan for these two reserves, including the linear open space reserve between Childs Road and McKimmies Road to resolve the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• future sporting needs and facilities;</li> <li>• pedestrian and vehicle access and circulation;</li> <li>• safety of road crossing points;</li> <li>• interface treatment to the proposed E6north south arterial on the eastern side of the creek;</li> <li>• appropriate levels of revegetation in the</li> </ul>	WCC	Mod

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
		<p>adjoining open space, consistent with Melbourne Water's recent stream works; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>integration between the Darebin Creek environment and the sporting facilities with provision of informal facilities including seating, viewing area, picnic area/meeting place that is useable for the local community and regional trail users.</li> </ul>		
R4/3	Thomastown East Reserve has recently been upgraded and appears to be well developed.	Ensure ongoing maintenance of facilities to encourage community use and ownership of this section of the creek.	WCC	Ongoing
R5/3	Shared trail access along Hendersons Creek.	<p>Encourage access between Darebin Creek trail and Hendersons Creek trail with signage and ongoing improvements to planting (Refer E4/3).</p> <p>As part of the integrated signage strategy, provide directional and interpretive signage along Hendersons Creek to improve the recreational link between the two trails.</p>	WCC DCMC	Ongoing
R6/3	Henderson Creek Wetlands and Quarry Hills Regional Parkland are future regional destination points on the Darebin Creek Trail and requires appropriate signage.	Henderson Creek Wetlands and Quarry Hills Regional Parkland to be publicised as regional destination points on the trail system. In the longer term, investigate, establish and publicise the regional trail connection to the north via Quarry Hills to Findon Creek.	WCC (Vic Govt)	Mod
R7/3	Existing shared trail between Sycamore Reserve and Hendersons Road is granitic sand and requires upgrade to a concrete surface.	WCC to prepare detailed designs to upgrade the unsealed shared trail to a minimum 3m wide concrete shared trail between Sycamore Reserve and Hendersons Road.	WCC (Vic Govt)	High
CU1/3	Remnant Red Gums adjacent to St Monica's Co-education College have potential to increase St Monica's and the neighbouring Lalor Secondary College involvement in the Darebin Creek.	St Monica's Co-education College and nearby Lalor North Secondary College to be involved in the Darebin Creek corridor in this reach including in natural regeneration of remnant Red Gums adjacent to their school, revegetation, education of local community of the natural values of the creek corridor.	WCC DCMC	Very High
CU2/3	Restricting motorbike access to trails in this reach of the Darebin Creek needs to be addressed.	Consult with the Reservoir Police to achieve more frequent patrols of the Solo Squad to reduce illegal motorbike use of the reserves.	WCC DCMC	Very High
CU3/3	There is a need to improve community use and involvement in the creek corridor in this reach.	Investigate the potential to establish a Friends Group as part of the Landscape Masterplan process to be undertaken for WA Smith Reserve and Sycamore Reserve.	WCC DCMC	Mod

### 4.3.3 Environment

#### 4.3.3.1 Existing conditions for Reach 3

##### Flora

- Generally there is a lack of indigenous vegetation throughout this reach with scattered small remnant areas of degraded Escarpment Shrubland including Sweet Bursaria, Rock Correa and Blackwood. There are scattered remnant Red Gums throughout the reach which require protection. There is a highly degraded area of Escarpment Shrubland with Kangaroo Grass and the nationally endangered Matted Flax-lily *Dianella amoena* (Melbourne Water, 2000) in the reach between McKimmies Road and the Metropolitan Ring Road, however, the actual location of this was not located on the Waterway Management Activity Plans.
- There are small sections of creek corridor with very little or no overstorey trees. Overstorey revegetation has been occurring through parts along the middle reaches of the creek at 8 to 10m intervals along the top of the bank to address the gaps.
- Revegetation has been undertaken adjacent to the Creek in Sycamore and WA Smith Reserves and Lalor North Secondary College.
- Extensive areas of Flax-leaf Broom on the Boral quarry land adjacent to Darebin Creek that requires control by the land owner.
- Extensive revegetation as part of the residential development immediately upstream of the Metropolitan Ring Road near Bramble Crescent. This includes establishment of a series of ponds for Growling Grass Frog habitat and dense revegetation of low ground layer sedge, wetland and terrestrial ground layer species.
- Remnant Red Gums have been retained in the residential development on the western side of the creek immediately upstream of the Metropolitan Ring Road. Landscape works has included plantings of indigenous vegetation in the adjoining reserves.
- Extensive water quality treatment wetlands constructed on Hendersons Creek with native wetland vegetation.
- The lower sections of Hendersons Creek have some scattered revegetation, but minimal indigenous vegetation.

##### Fauna

- Growling grass frog habitat adjacent to the Boral quarry site immediately upstream of the Metropolitan Ring Road in Bundoora.
- The Boral Quarry Land with Howy's land was noted as being of regional faunal significance (Beardsell, 1997) due to: the presence of a range of waterbirds at the Quarry wetlands; the habitat value of the Red Gum Woodland in Howy's land; and the presence of Growling Grass Frogs and Striped Marsh Frogs in the quarry wetlands and adjacent pools in Darebin Creek.
- Quarry Hills Regional Parkland and the associated wetlands in South Morang provide habitat for a range of native fauna connectivity further north and east to the Plenty River catchment.

##### Geological / geomorphological

- The creek has been modified to an earth lined trapezoidal channel between the railway reserve and the pipe track. It is more natural downstream of the pipe track adjacent to the Boral Quarry and Thomastown East Reserve to the Metropolitan Ring Road.

- Hendersons Creek has been extensively modified and is a concrete lined channel between the confluence with Darebin Creek and Hendersons Road, and an earth lined channel further upstream to the large constructed wetlands.
- MW has reinstated some pool and riffle sequences in the channel between Childs Road and Sycamore Reserve and will continue these downstream to the pipe track.
- Downstream of Sycamore Reserve the channel becomes more deeply incised with steep banks.
- Downstream of McKimmies Road the stream is in relatively natural condition.

#### Water quality

- Water quality sampling at Settlement Road revealed it is the most polluted site with organic pollution from unsewered developments evident in extremely high nutrient, BOD and *E.coli* levels (Melbourne Water, 2000).
- It is noted that high litter loads enter the creek from Hendersons Creek (Melbourne Water, 2000), however, these have been substantially addressed by the recent water quality treatment works in the catchment.
- There is an extensive system of constructed water quality treatment in the upstream section of Hendersons Creek in the South Morang area which addresses the water quality issues identified previously in the Darebin Creek Waterway Management Activity Plan.
- High litter loads entering the stream in the Lalor Main Drain which includes the Lalor Plaza shopping precinct in this catchment.
- High sediment and litter loads entering the Creek via the South Morang Drain are planned to be addressed by Melbourne Water with silt and litter traps.
- The residential development upstream of the Metropolitan Ring Road in Bundoora has water quality treatment to urban stormwater runoff prior to discharge into Darebin Creek.

#### 4.3.3.2 Environment issues and recommendations for Reach 3

##### Flora

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E1/3	There is a lack of indigenous vegetation in the reach, especially indigenous overstorey.	Protect existing remnant Red Gums and allow natural regeneration of these species by ceasing mowing under them. Improve the environmental values associated with the Red Gums to further improve the vegetation and habitat values with additional revegetation and strengthen the existing remnants. A priority location for this to occur is adjacent to St Monicas Co-education College in Lalor (Refer CU1/3).	WCC	Ongoing
E2/3	Council have identified a lack of funding and resources to effectively manage this area.	Extensive areas of mown grass could be reduced to slashed grass and allow natural regeneration of Red Gums to create a natural scattered woodland character, thereby improving potential flora and fauna values, without increased funding. Council will need to develop and implement a community education program as part of the change to a more natural vegetation management regime in selected locations through this reach.	WCC DCMC MW	Very High & Ongoing

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E3/3	Weed infestation including Gorse, Boxthorn, Blackberry and Flax-leaf Broom, predominantly downstream of Sycamore Reserve.	As part of the weed management plan (Recommendation 3.3.1.2), control weeds in this reach, including consultation with major land holder, Boral Quarry who own the majority of land on the east side of the Creek downstream of McKimmies Road.	WCC Landholder MW	High
E4/3	Lack of indigenous overstorey along Hendersons Creek	Progressively plant scattered indigenous overstorey along Hendersons Creek, consistent with Melbourne Water's management objectives for this Creek.	WCC MW	Ongoing

### Fauna

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E5/3	Growling Grass Frog is present in lower reaches of the creek downstream of McKimmies Road and requires protection from potential redevelopment of adjoining land and arterial road construction.	Protect the Growling Grass Frog habitat in the Creek and on adjoining land in any future redevelopment of the Boral Land and freeway construction.	WCC Landholder MW	Ongoing
E6/3	Lack of continuity of indigenous vegetation, particularly overstorey along the Creek limits fauna habitat values.	Increase the presence of the indigenous overstorey particularly between Sycamore Reserve and the Yan Yean Pipe Track. These works are a higher priority as they will assist in ameliorating the impacts from the proposed E6 arterial road in the future.	WCC	High
E7/3	Continue to protect and restore the remnant Escarpment Shrubland vegetation, including protection of the nationally endangered Matted Flax-lily (Melbourne Water, 2000).	Melbourne Water to confirm the location of this escarpment between McKimmies Road and Metropolitan Ring Road.	WCC (MW)	Ongoing

### Water quality

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E8/3	High litter loads from Lalor Main Drain which includes Lalor Plaza in its catchment.	Investigate the potential to install litter traps at Lalor Plaza as this was identified as a major litter source in the Waterway Management Activity Plan.	WCC DCMC	High
E9/3	High litter and silt loads entering Darebin Creek from Council drains	Council to continue to implement the Stormwater Management Plan which contains a number of strategies to reduce litter and silt loads in the catchment.	WCC	High

### 4.3.4 Cultural heritage values

#### 4.3.4.1 Existing conditions for Reach 3

- The Darebin Creek has been modified through most of this reach.
- One non-Indigenous heritage feature is the Yan Yean water supply bridge. This provides the connection with the construction of the Yan Yean water supply for Melbourne in the early 1900's.

#### 4.3.4.2 Cultural heritage issues - Reach 3

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
CH1/3	The Yan Yean water supply bridge is the only non-indigenous heritage feature in this reach.	In future interpretive signage strategy, include interpretation and water supply to Melbourne from Yan Yean Reservoir.	WCC	Low
CH2/3	Darebin Creek is identified as an area of Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity within 200 metres of the waterway.	Consistent with the Heritage Act 2006, a Cultural Heritage Management Plan or similar may be required prior to any works being constructed within the 200 metre corridor of Darebin Creek.	WCC, MW, AAV	Ongoing

## 4.4 Reach 4

### Metropolitan Ring Road to Plenty Road

This reach extends from the Metropolitan Ring Road in Bundoora and Thomastown to Plenty Road in the Kingsbury and Reservoir area.



PHOTO 4.4-1 NORRIS BANK RESERVE AND DAREBIN CREEK, THOMASTOWN (2007)



PHOTO 4.4-2 BUNDOORA PARK (2007)



PHOTO 4.4-3 SHARED NEAR RATHCOWN ROAD (2007)



PHOTO 4.4-5 DOWNSTREAM DUNNE STREET (2007)



PHOTO 4.4-4 DOWNSTREAM RATHCOWN ROAD (2007)



PHOTO 4.4-6 KP HARDIMAN RESERVE (2007)

#### 4.4.1 Adjoining land use and landscape character

##### 4.4.1.1 Existing conditions for Reach 4

- The Creek from the Metropolitan Ring Road to Arthur Street is located in the City of Whittlesea, whilst downstream of Arthur Street the City of Darebin is the local planning authority.
- Public land adjoins the majority of the creek through this reach in a predominantly residential area.
- Reservoir District Secondary College adjoins the open space corridor immediately upstream of Plenty Road.
- The majority of land adjoining the creek in the City of Whittlesea is zoned Public Use 1, which generally refers to Melbourne Water owned land, and Urban Floodway Zone. The only large public open space in the City of Whittlesea section is Norris Bank Reserve.

- In the City of Darebin the land is largely zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone with some areas of Public Use Zone 1. An Environmental Significance Overlay extends over the creek corridor and adjoining residential land where it is located close to the creek. There are some parcels of land with Public Acquisition Overlays in favour of Council for public open space purposes. In the longer term this will expand the open space corridor on the west side of the creek between Arthur Street and Plenty Road.

#### 4.4.1.2 Adjoining land use and landscape character issues and recommendations for Reach 4

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LU1/4	Between the Metropolitan Ring Road and Arthur Street much of the land adjoining the creek appears to be owned by Melbourne Water.	Ongoing liaison between Melbourne Water and Council will be required to effectively manage these areas for drainage, flood protection, recreation and environmental values.	MW WCC DCMC	Ongoing
LU2/4	Freehold land extending to the creek resulting in a discontinuous open space corridor between Chenies Street and Rathcown Road.	Investigate opportunities to achieve a continuous public open space corridor through this reach as future development occurs.	DCC DCMC	Ongoing
LU3/4	Interface with adjoining land holders including encroachment into the reserve and poor land management practices.	Council to consult with landholders who have encroached into the Council reserve to negotiate removal of infrastructure and planting.	WCC DCC MW DCMC	Mod
LU4/4	Grazing access to the stream in the vicinity of Rathcown Road.	In consultation with MW, liaise with landholder to encourage fencing creek from stock access and provide alternative stock watering points.	DCC MW	High
LA1/4	Rear boundary fence lines to waterway in the City of Whittlesea are visually dominant and result in a lack of passive surveillance of the waterway corridor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCC to discourage rear boundary fence lines to the creek in future development applications.</li> <li>• Plant scattered indigenous overstorey to break up the visual impact of fence lines, ensuring open sight lines from paths are retained.</li> <li>• WCC to develop guidelines for appropriate future redevelopment of existing properties with rear boundary fence lines to the Darebin Creek. Refer to Recommendation No.LU3/6.</li> </ul>	WCC DCMC  WCC DCMC  WCC DCMC	Ongoing  Ongoing  High
LA2/4	Rear boundary fence lines to waterway in City of Darebin are visually dominant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DCC to continue to implement the existing Darebin Creek Design &amp; Development Guidelines where applicable through the planning system.</li> <li>• Plant scattered indigenous overstorey to break up the visual impact of fence lines whilst ensuring open sight lines from paths are retained.</li> </ul>	DCC DCMC  DCC	Ongoing  Ongoing

## 4.4.2 Recreation and community use

### 4.4.2.1 Existing conditions for Reach 4

- Norris Bank Reserve has been identified as a major community park in *City of Whittlesea Open Space Strategy*. It includes structured sporting facilities and informal recreational facilities including playground, picnic and BBQ areas, shared trail and revegetation areas. A Masterplan for this reserve is currently in preparation.
- Bundoora Public Golf Course is located downstream of Arthurs Road in the City of Darebin.
- Bundoora Park, including Mount Cooper, is located adjacent to the Golf Course and to its south. This reserve has a series of picnic areas, walking paths and the historic Coopers Settlement Heritage Village and is a major regional reserve for this area. The historical and natural landscape character contributes to its informal recreational use and value. There is an informal walking / maintenance track provided along the Darebin Creek through this reserve.
- CW Kirkwood Reserve and John Hall Reserve have formal sporting facilities in them.
- KP Hardiman Reserve is primarily an informal open space area with areas of scattered revegetation and no paths to the west. To the east the main shared trail is located adjacent to the creek along with the Kinsbury Tennis Club.
- Reservoir District Secondary College directly adjoins KP Hardiman Reserve.
- A shared trail is provided in some sections of this reach, including between Gronn Street and Rathcown Road on the west side of the creek, and from Chenies Street to Plenty Road. The trail continues under Plenty Road, crosses the creek and continues on the west side.
- Questionnaires identified that people use the creek corridor primarily for walking (13%) followed by cycling (7%), and as a short cut or link.

### 4.4.2.2 Recreation and community use issues and recommendations for Reach 4

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
R1/4	Norris Bank Reserve is a major regional reserve on the Darebin Creek Trail, and there is potential to improve integration between the creek and open space reserve and connectivity downstream of Settlement Road.	Council to liaise with MW and DCC during the preparation and implementation of the Landscape Masterplan for this major community park to ensure excellent integration of the recreational use and strengthening environmental values of Darebin Creek. As part of the Masterplan investigate options to improve pedestrian access into the park from the east and trail connectivity to the Darebin City Council section of trail downstream of Settlement Road.	MW WCC DCMC DCC	High
R2/4	KP Hardiman Reserve has potential to be improved as part of the linear open space reserve along the creek.	Council to develop a Concept Plan for KP Hardiman Reserve which addresses the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• integrates secondary path access, protection and expansion of the <i>Danthonia</i> grassland restoration;</li> <li>• identifies opportunities to improve integration of the in-stream works proposed by Melbourne Water;</li> <li>• involve the community to improve community ownership of this section of the creek;</li> <li>• seating areas that take advantage of the elevation and views.</li> </ul>	DCC (MW)	Very High

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
R3/4	Lack of bridge and shared trail link between Tee Street and Rathcown Road near Bundoora Park is identified as a priority project in the <i>Northern Regional Trail Strategy (2016)</i> .	Design and install a sealed shared path and pedestrian bridge connection between Tee Street and Rathcown Road as per the priority recommendation D2 in the <i>Northern Regional Trail Strategy</i> .	Vic Govt DCC	High
CU1/4	Restrict motorbike access to the shared trail.	DCC and WCC Refer to Recommendation 3.2.5.1	Refer 3.2.5.1	Refer 3.2.5.1
CU3/4	Signage including interpretation and directional signage requires coordination to improve community use and understanding of the creek corridor.	Implement the Signage Strategy, Refer to Recommendation 3.2.7.1	Refer 3.2.7.1	Refer 3.2.7.1

### 4.4.3 Environment

#### 4.4.3.1 Existing conditions for Reach 4

##### Flora

- Remnant River Red Gums in the Norris Bank Reserve, Bundoora.
- River Red Gum Grassy Woodland and large remnant and regenerating stands Red Gums and native grasslands in Bundoora Park are noted to be of State significance (Darebin City Council, 1996).
- Partially intact Brown-black Wallaby grass seasonal wetland in the conservation area of Bundoora Park (Beardsell, 1997).
- Remnant Red Gums through the Bundoora Public Golf Course.
- Some remnant Escarpment Shrubland and scattered Red Gums along the Darebin Creek corridor through this reach.
- Melbourne Water and the City of Darebin have revegetated the waterway corridor, particularly on the western side of the Creek opposite Bundoora Park and between Chenies and Dunne Streets.
- Remnant *Danthonia* grassland in KP Hardiman Reserve is currently managed by the Darebin City Council bush crew.

##### Fauna

- Regional faunal significance due to the sighting of Swift Parrots in 1991 (noted as a vulnerable species), the diversity of species including bats, Growling Grass Frog and the Common Spadefoot Toad (Beardsell, 1997).
- Range of waterbirds in the wetland area of Bundoora Park (Beardsell, 1997).
- Bundoora Park is noted as an important habitat link to the La Trobe University Wildlife Reserve.

##### Geological / geomorphological

- The stream has been modified to a trapezoidal earth lined channel throughout this reach.
- A significant geomorphological feature, a tessellated rockform, is present opposite Manoel Avenue (Melbourne Water, 2000).

- Downstream of Chenies Street the creek has been straightened and Council was investigating the potential to develop a wetland in the old meander (Melbourne Water, 2000).
- Melbourne Water is proposing some channel modifications including laybacks, construction of pools and riffles and revegetation through this reach adjacent to Bundoora Park and KP Hardiman Reserve.

#### Water quality

- Broadway Drain (immediately downstream of Dunne Street) is discharging silt and litter loads into the creek (Melbourne Water, 2000). *Status of proposed investigation to reduce this is required from Melbourne Water.*

#### 4.4.3.2 Environment issues and recommendations for Reach 4

##### Flora

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E1/4	Lack of indigenous overstorey between Norris Bank Reserve and Bundoora Park.	Undertake revegetation of additional scattered indigenous trees in the open space corridor between Bundoora Park and Norris Bank Reserve to improve the habitat corridor and open space link.	WCC DCMC	High
E2/4	Degraded remnant Escarpment Shrubland vegetation on the west bank near Gronn Street requires improvement.	Council to protect by undertaking appropriate weed control and selective revegetation at the degraded remnant Escarpment Shrubland on the west bank upstream of Gronn Street.	DCC (MW)	Ongoing
E3/4	Bundoora Park is a regional open space with remnant indigenous vegetation that contributes to the habitat values of this area.	Protect indigenous vegetation in Bundoora Park and, where appropriate, allow additional regeneration and revegetation.	DCC	Ongoing
E4/4	Lack of indigenous overstorey vegetation along the Darebin Creek and adjoining open space reserves downstream of Bundoora Park. The Creek forms an important habitat link to La Trobe University Wildlife area and increasing the presence of indigenous overstorey along the creek will improve these links.	Undertake revegetation of additional scattered indigenous trees between Bundoora Park and Plenty Road to improve the habitat corridor values between La Trobe University Wildlife Reserve (south of Plenty Road) and Bundoora Park.	DCC DCMC	Very High
E5/4	MW is planning to undertake in-stream works to modify trapezoidal earth channel, in KP Hardiman Reserve and Council have not undertaken revegetation in this area until these works are completed. There are remnant <i>Danthonia</i> grasslands in KP Hardiman Reserve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with MW regarding timing for the in-stream works to modify the channel in KP Hardiman Reserve works and coordinate additional terrestrial revegetation works.</li> <li>• Continue to protect and improve the remnant <i>Danthonia</i> grasslands at KP Hardiman Reserve.</li> </ul>	DCC (MW)  DCC	High  Ongoing
E6/4	Serrated Tussock upstream of Plenty Road requires ongoing control.	Council to liaise with VicRoads to coordinate an effective control program in this area in accordance with best practice management. Refer also to Serrated Tussock Control in Reach 5 (Recommendation E2/5)	DCC VR	Very High & Ongoing

**Fauna**

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E7/4	Lack of indigenous overstorey limits habitat connectivity between Bundoora Park and La Trobe University Wildlife Reserve. Habitat values have the potential to be improved through extending the indigenous vegetation throughout the reach that will reinforce the existing values in Bundoora Park.	Improve the habitat values in this reach by increasing the presence of indigenous overstorey trees in open space adjoining the creek between Bundoora Park and La Trobe University, in accordance with Recommendation E4/4.	DCC	High & Ongoing
E8/4	Growing Grass Frogs require protection and future habitat expansion in Bundoora Park.	Council to continue to protect and plan for expanding the Growing Grass Frog habitat as part of the proposed dam to be installed in the Golf Course as part of Councils program for reduced water usage. This may include the provision of smaller connecting ponds to link the wetland habitat with the proposed dam.	DCC DCMC	Very High & Ongoing

**Geology/Geomorphology**

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E9/4	Protect the significant geomorphological feature (tessellated rockform) adjacent to Manoel Avenue.	Council to ensure protection of the feature in future open space management and potential trail alignment through this location.	DCC	Ongoing
E10/4	Rock escarpment upstream of Gronn Street requires protection in ongoing works.	Protect and in future trail alignment options ensure that adequate setback from escarpment is retained to minimise impacts, and avoid the need for handrails.	DCC	Ongoing

**Water quality**

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E11/4	Future re-set of the outfall from Broadway Drain to, as a minimum, trap silt prior to entering the creek, has the potential to integrate with adjoining open space.	MW to liaise with Council during the detailed documentation of the outfall design to integrate with the adjoining open space design.	MW DCC DCMC	High

**4.4.4 Cultural Heritage****4.4.4.1 Existing conditions for Reach 4**

- The archaeological survey undertaken by Luebbers and Associates as part of the Norris Bank Reserve Masterplan confirmed there is a scarred tree which is registered with AAV No. 7922-0575.
- Bundoora Park area is a rich source of stone artefact scatters which are residues of Aboriginal campsites. There are other stone artefact scatters along the Creek corridor between Settlement Road Tyler Street (in Reach 5) (Ecology Australia et al, 1999).

- Basalt/bluestone quarry (non-commercial) in Bundoora Park, with three areas of basalt removal in the nineteenth century recorded as being of medium significance (Ecology Australia et al, 1999)

#### 4.4.4.2 Cultural heritage issues and recommendations for Reach 4

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
CH1/4	Aboriginal archaeological sites have been identified through this reach.	Protect Aboriginal archaeological sites by minimising major works and disturbance to areas that have not previously been modified in the open space corridor along the creek. In future works ensure consultation with relevant RAP and required Cultural Heritage Management Plans and prepared and/or monitoring of any works that include earthworks and disturbance to the ground.	MW DCC	Ongoing

## 4.5 Reach 5 Plenty Road to Bell Street

This reach extends from Plenty Road in Bundoora to Bell Street in Preston. For Reach 5, refer to Drawing DCM-05 for location of proposed recommendations.



PHOTO 4.5-1 CT BARLING PARK AND POOL & RIFFLE WORKS IN DAREBIN CREEK (2007)



PHOTO 4.5-2 ESCARPMENT & LA TROBE UNIVERSITY RED GUM WOODLAND (2007)



PHOTO 4.5-2 CH SULLIVAN PARK & REGENERATING STAND OF RED GUMS (2007)



PHOTO 4.5-3 ESCARPMENT ADJACENT TO DAREBIN CREEK NEAR LA TROBE UNIVERSITY (2007)



PHOTO 4.5-5 SHARED TRAIL UPSTREAM OF BELL STREET (2007)

### 4.5.1 Adjoining land use and landscape character

#### 4.5.1.1 Existing conditions for Reach 5

- The creek is the boundary between the City of Darebin and City of Banyule for the majority of this reach downstream of La Trobe University.
- A public open space corridor adjoins the west side of the creek between Plenty Road and Wood Street. Downstream of Wood Street on the west side of the creek freehold land extends to the creek adjacent to Northland Shopping Centre. South of Murray Road there are sections of public and freehold land and a discontinuous open space corridor on the west.
- La Trobe University, including the large retarding basin wetland and conservation area, adjoins the east side of the creek downstream of Plenty Road.
- La Trobe University land extends to the creek and south of Crissane Road public open space directly adjoins the creek.
- The western side is predominantly residential use to Murray Road and changes to industrial use south of Murray Road.
- Downstream of La Trobe University the industrial precinct of West Heidelberg is identified as a significant pollutant source (Melbourne Water, 2000)



PHOTO 4.5-4 FOOTBRIDGE & LITTER NEAR NORTHLAND SHOPPING CENTRE (2007)

- Land use changes to residential use immediately south of the industrial precinct adjacent to Olympic Village Reserve.
- The wide system of open space in the northern part of this reach with native grasslands gives a natural open quality to the landscape.
- Downstream the open space reserve system narrows and has a poor interface to the creek.

#### 4.5.1.2 Adjoining land use and landscape character issues and recommendations for Reach 5

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LU1/5	Industrial and business land ownership to the Creek prevents public access along the open space corridor, limits consistency in land management practices and, in some locations, noise impacts on the recreational value and potentially the habitat values of the creek corridor.	In future applications for redevelopment of freehold land to the creek, require provision of public open space adjacent to the creek, consistent with the Darebin Open Space Strategy.	DCC	Ongoing
LU2/5	The East Preston Islamic College has constructed a bus parking area and other upgrade works with steep fill embankments and paling fence along the interface with the open space corridor. The embankment is difficult to effectively plant and manage, and visually this is a poor interface to the creek corridor.	Council to liaise with the East Preston Islamic College to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regrade the embankment to a sustainable grade and plant with appropriate vegetation that breaks up the visual dominance of the fence, while retaining clear lines of sight for access along the creek.</li> <li>• Encourage the College to be involved in creek improvement programs such as revegetation works.</li> </ul>	DCC DCMC	High
LU3/5	Poor interface treatment between adjoining industrial/business land and the Darebin Creek. This is particularly evident upstream and downstream of Murray Road. Issues including lack of vegetation and screening to buildings, weeds and storage areas at rear of buildings.	Councils to liaise with the land holders to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In future redevelopment of all sites adjoining the creek, achieve an active interface to the creek corridor to improve passive surveillance and safety.</li> <li>• DCC to apply the Darebin Creek Design and Development Guidelines to any planning proposals or any subsequent guidelines.</li> <li>• Encourage land-holders to become involved in creek improvement works and encourage improvements to the interface treatment between their land use and the creek corridor.</li> </ul>	DCC BCC	High
LU4/5	The poor interface treatment between the Northland Shopping Centre and the Creek, particularly given this area of the creek receives relatively high levels of use with residents from Heidelberg West crossing the creek to the shopping centre and the Northland College of the Arts & Technology.	The Northland Ecological Improvement Study identifies opportunities to establish an active interface between the creek and the proposed redevelopment of the shopping centre.  In the future redesign of this active interface, the landscape treatment will need to achieve an appropriate balance in design so as to complement and improve the natural, ecological, recreational values of Darebin Creek. Refer to Recommendation CU1/5.	DCC DCMC	Very High

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LA1/5	The service infrastructure in the creek is visually dominant, particularly the sewer pits and some drainage outfalls. This is further compounded in locations where the reserve is narrow or private industrial land extends to the Creek.	In future service upgrade and modification works, investigate design solutions reduce the visual dominance of these structures in the natural creek environment.	YVW MW DCC BCC	Ongoing

## 4.5.2 Recreation and community use

### 4.5.2.1 Existing conditions for Reach 5

- The extensive open space system provides both informal recreation and structured sporting use.
- CT Barling Park, CH Sullivan Memorial Park and Olympic Park are the three main sporting reserves adjoining the Creek.
- La Trobe University sporting facilities adjoin the open space reserve contributing to the sense of open space.
- The sealed shared trail continues through this entire reach. It is located on the west side downstream of Plenty Road adjacent to CT Barling Park and CH Sullivan Memorial Park. It then crosses the creek and is located on the east side downstream of Dougharty Road.
- There are informal recreation facilities located in the adjoining reserves including playgrounds, picnic areas and local path networks linking to residential areas.
- The questionnaire identified a relatively high use of the Plenty Road to Bell Street section of the trail most frequently for cycling followed by walking.
- The Darebin Creek Northland Ecological Improvement Study (2011) identifies a range of issues and recommendations to improve the ecological values of the creek corridor between Tyler and Gower Streets.

### 4.5.2.2 Recreation and community use issues and recommendations for Reach 5

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
R1/5	Lack of informal recreational facilities adjoining the creek corridor in CT Barling and CH Sullivan Memorial Parks precinct.	DCC to implement the recommendation from the Darebin Open Space Strategy and prepare a Masterplan for the District Open Space CT Barling and CH Sullivan Memorial Park addressing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• parking and access to the shared trail</li> <li>• local path connections to the shared trail including the condition and upgrade of footbridges (Refer R3/5)</li> <li>• picnic and BBQ facilities with views over the creek corridor</li> <li>• provision of seats</li> <li>• provision of play area which responds to the creek environment and can be used by visitors to the Darebin Creek Trail and the adjoining sports area</li> <li>• continued expansion of the indigenous vegetation integrated with informal and organised recreational use.</li> </ul>	DCC (LTU) (BCC)	Very High

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
R2/5	There are safety issues associated with the space on the eastern side of the creek between La Trobe University Reserve and Southern Road.	BCC to continue to improve the recreational use and access by improving safety within the open space which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve access across the creek at key sporting and recreation nodes between CT Barling Reserve and La Trobe University sports fields.</li> <li>• Investigate potential for maintenance vehicle access over the creek at both Olympic Reserve and Sullivan Reserve.</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to increase passive surveillance of adjoining residential and industrial land use as part of future development applications</li> <li>• Review vegetation management and densities near the shared trail and other entry paths into and through the reserve, including connections to the footbridges</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to involve the community in the ongoing management of the site via the local schools including East Preston Islamic College.</li> </ul>	BCC (DCC) (LTU) DCMC	High & Ongoing
R3/5	The poor condition of existing footbridges.	DCC and BCC to undertake a condition assessment of existing footbridges and determine appropriate works to improve them.	DCC BCC	Very High
R4/5	Personal safety on the shared trail between Bell Street and Southern Road particularly in relation to adequate lines of sight in the steep topography and proximity of vegetation.	BCC to review the open space design between Southern Road and Bell Street including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provision of alternative trail alignment between Gona Street and Bell Street which is at the top of the escarpment in the open space adjoining Liberty Parade;</li> <li>• review vegetation management and planting densities adjoining the shared trail to improve lines of sight;</li> <li>• confirm the safety of the trail under Southern Road and review vegetation planting and densities to improve lines of sight along the trail and from the adjoining road.</li> </ul>	BCC	Mod
CU1/5	Shopping trolleys and high volumes of litter near Northland Shopping Centre were specifically identified as a key issue in the questionnaire and via the site assessment work.	DCC to continue to implement the recommendations from the Darebin Creek Northland Ecological Improvement Study in relation to litter management.	DCC DCMC	Ongoing
CU2/5	Signage including interpretation and directional signage requires coordination to improve community use and understanding of the creek corridor.	• Refer to Recommendation 3.2.7.1	Refer 3.2.7.1	Refer 3.2.7.1
CU3/5	Motorbikes illegally accessing the trail and	• Refer to Recommendation ....	Refer..	Refer..

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
	reserves through this reach.			

### 4.5.3 Environment

#### 4.5.3.1 Existing conditions for Reach 5

##### Flora

- Extensive Red Gum Grassy Woodland in the La Trobe University grounds which is of regional significance (Kern et al., 1999).
- Regenerating stand of Red Gum Grassy Woodland including indigenous grasses in CH Sullivan Reserve.
- Remnant Escarpment Shrubland is present on the escarpments in the northern areas of this reach (upstream of Doherty's Road).
- Stream restoration works including pools and riffle sequences adjacent to CT Barling Reserve include revegetation of the Plains Woodland riparian zone.
- Extensive revegetation areas downstream of Doherty's Road are beginning to naturally thin out with the senescence of Black Wattle in the beds of revegetation. This planting is predominantly indigenous overstorey and some smaller areas indigenous ground layer revegetation has been undertaken.
- Small patch of rare *Dianella amoena* (location to be confirmed).

##### Fauna

- The adjoining La Trobe University Wetland retarding basin and the Darebin Creek are noted to be of regional faunal significance due to the presence of waterbirds, Sugar Gliders, frogs (including the Growling Grass Frog and Striped Marsh Frog) and reptiles including Cunninghams Skink, Blue-tongued Lizard and the Tussock Skink.
- Potentially there are other faunal values which have increased in recent times since the revegetation has further established.

##### Geology/Geomorphology

- There are rock escarpments remaining through this reach, some with remnant and planted Escarpment Shrubland. A number of these exist between Plenty Road and Dougharty Road, and a large escarpment adjacent to Kia Court, on the west side of the Creek in Preston.
- Melbourne Water has undertaken some channel modifications including laybacks, construction of pools and riffles and revegetation through this reach adjacent to La Trobe University and CT Barling Reserve.
- The Creek has been modified to a trapezoidal earth lined channel and some future channel modifications are proposed in the vicinity of Olympic Park (Melbourne Water, 2000).

##### Water Quality

- The industrial precinct in West Heidelberg is a known source of pollution to the creek, particularly via the Mont Park drain.
- There are silt loads discharging into the creek from the Lillimuir Drain (near Crissane Road) which are thought to be contributed from the development in Macleod and Bundoora.

- A highly visible source of litter occurs in the vicinity of Northland Shopping Centre which is located adjacent to the Creek immediately upstream of Murray Road. The litter includes a large number of shopping trolleys as there is a footbridge opposite the shopping centre that leads to the residential area of Heidelberg West. Darebin Creek Management Committee have had clean up days at the site and removed large numbers of shopping trolleys from the Creek.
- Darebin Creek Management Committee has labelled all the drains downstream of Plenty Road to encourage accurate reporting of spills from the community.

#### 4.5.3.2 Environment issues and recommendation for Reach 5

##### Flora

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E1/5	Protect the existing native grassland areas downstream of Plenty Road – Darebin Creek Northern Grasslands.	BCC to continue manage the grasslands in accordance with the Management Plan.	BCC	Ongoing
E2/5	Serrated Tussock is present immediately upstream and in the area downstream of Plenty Road.	DCC to coordinate development of a Serrated Tussock Control program in consultation with LTU, BCC and VicRoads, implement and monitor success.	DCC (LTU) (BCC) (VR)	Very High & Ongoing
E3/5	Lack of riparian vegetation in the section of creek where pool and riffle sequence were recently constructed by MW downstream of Plenty Road.	Undertake revegetation works in the vicinity of the riparian zone adjacent to the creek restoration works undertaken by Melbourne Water and La Trobe University adjacent to CT Barling Park	MW DCC BCC LTU DCMC	High
E4/5	Weed management.	Councils bush crews to continue develop and implement annual vegetation management programs to target weeds and works as required.	DCC BCC	Ongoing
E5/5	Vegetation management on the steep embankments between Murray Road and Bell Street make control of weed, including blackberry and fennel, and revegetation with indigenous species problematical.	DCC to review current training programs for working on steep escarpments, and prepare protocols for undertaking this works safety. BCC to contribute to the development of these protocols and both Councils to implement these guidelines and manage the steep escarpment areas accordingly.	DCC BCC	Very High & Ongoing
E6/5	The vegetation on the steep escarpment in the vicinity of Kia Court is difficult to protect and manage vegetation due to the narrow width of public land through this area.	DCC to liaise with adjoining land holders to investigate ways to improve maintenance access into this location. In the longer term, seek a wider public open space reserve in accordance with Recommendation LU1/5.	DCC	Very High

##### Fauna

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E7/5	The La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary and wetland and grasslands requires ongoing management to protect and enhance the environmental values.	La Trobe University to continue to manage the habitat and environmental values on their land which significantly contributes to the environmental values of the corridor.	LTU	Ongoing

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E8/5	There are no recent fauna surveys in the downstream section of this reach and the habitat value of the revegetation is unknown.	BCC and DCC to undertake a fauna survey of the Darebin Creek corridor between Crissane Road to the Yarra River, and implement future recommendations from the survey.	BCC DCC DCMC	High

#### Water quality

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E9/5	High sediment loads entering the Creek via Lillimuir Drain are generated from development in Macleod and Bundoora.	DCC to continue to implement recommendations from the SWMP to require adequate at-source sediment control to minimise sediment entering the stream.	DCC	Very High
E10/5	Industrial spills occur in the catchment and whilst the reporting method has been improved by labelling all drains on site, EPA are under-resourced to attend and issue infringement notices.	BCC to implement recommendations from the SWMP to consult with the industrial land holders in the Heidelberg West precinct and implement appropriate on-site controls to minimise occurrence of industrial spills.	BCC (EPA)	Very High & Ongoing
E11/5	Litter load from Northland Shopping Centre including shopping trolleys requires control, particularly given the close proximity of the Shopping Centre and the Northland College of the Arts & Technology.	DCC to implement recommendations contained in the Darebin Creek Northland Ecological Improvement Study.	DCC DCMC	High
E12/5	Stormwater outfalls on the steep embankments between Murray Road and Bell Street cause localised erosion and interrupt the natural valley form.	BCC to undertake structural review of the outfalls and develop designs to minimise erosion and visual impact of these outfalls. Where appropriate, integrate water quality improvement works into the drain outfall designs.	BCC DCMC	High
E13/5	Council water quality treatment pond requires ongoing maintenance.	BCC to regularly monitor sediment pond downstream of Murray Road and maintain as required.	BCC	Ongoing

## 4.5.4 Cultural heritage

### 4.5.4.1 Existing conditions for Reach 5

- Aboriginal Affairs Victoria has completed surveys along the Creek through this reach.
- There are stone artefact scatters along the Creek corridor between Plenty Road and Tyler Street (Ecology Australia et al, 1999).
- Olympic Park was originally developed as part of the Olympic Village development for the 1956 Olympic Games held in Melbourne.

## 4.5.4.2 Cultural heritage issues and recommendations for Reach 5

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
CH1/5	Future works which alter land that has not previously been disturbed is likely to require preparation of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan prior to works being undertaken. Darebin Creek is identified as an area of Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity within 200 metres of the waterway.	Consistent with the Heritage Act 2006, a Cultural Heritage Management Plan or similar may be required prior to any works being constructed within the 200 metre corridor of Darebin Creek.	DCC, MW, AAV	Ongoing

## 4.6 Reach 6

### Bell Street to the Yarra River

This reach extends from Bell Street in Preston to the Yarra River in Ivanhoe. For Reach 6 refer to Drawing DCM-06 for location of proposed recommendations.



PHOTO 4.6-1 OPEN SPACE ADJACENT TO LIBERTY PARADE WITH EXPANSIVE VIEWS OVER DAREBIN CREEK



PHOTO 4.6-2 ADJOINING DEVELOPMENT UPSTREAM OF SEDDON RESERVE IN IVANHOE (2007)



PHOTO 4.6-3 NEAR FORD CRESCENT WITH ESCARPMENT TO SEDDON RESERVE (2007)



PHOTO 4.6-4 DAREBIN CREEK SHARED TRAIL UPSTREAM OF DAREBIN PARKLANDS (2007)

#### 4.6.1 Adjoining land use and landscape character

##### 4.6.1.1 Existing conditions for Reach 6

- The creek is the boundary between the City of Darebin and City of Banyule for the majority of this reach to Heidelberg Road, where the western side of the creek changes to the City of Yarra.
- The suburbs include Ivanhoe, Thornbury, Fairfield and Alphington.
- Industrial and residential land use adjoins the waterway corridor.
- The western side has freehold land extending to the Creek in some sections restricting public access. The public land is owned by both Council and Melbourne Water, and the majority of the shared trail is located on this side of the creek through this reach.

- The eastern side has freehold land extending to the creek in several sections and the public land is Council owned.
- An Environmental Significance Overlay 2 extends over public and freehold land adjacent to Darebin Creek on the City of Darebin side of the creek.
- An Environmental Significance Overlay extends over public and freehold land adjacent to Darebin Creek on the City of Banyule side of the creek.
- A public acquisition overlay extends over freehold land adjacent to Darebin Creek downstream of Heidelberg Road on the western side. This is in favour of Victorian Government to acquire the land to provide for the shared trail and public open space link between the Darebin Creek trail and the Main Yarra trail.
- City of Darebin has Design and Development guidelines in place for the interface with development along the creek.
- Darebin Creek Management Committee has labelled all the drains downstream of Plenty Road to encourage accurate reporting of spills from the community.

#### 4.6.1.2 Adjoining land use and landscape character issues and recommendations for Reach 6

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
LU1/6	Freehold land to the creek restricts public access and is the major limitation in being able to link the Darebin Creek Trail to the Main Yarra Trail.	In future applications for the redevelopment of freehold land to the Creek, require provision of public open space adjacent to the creek.	DCC BCC	Ongoing
LU2/6	Interface between adjoining residential use and the creek corridor. In particular there are areas where poor land management practices along the residential property boundary leads to spread of weeds into the waterway corridor.	Councils to liaise with the land holders to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve the interface treatment by modifying their land management practices where appropriate;</li> <li>• DCC to apply the Darebin Creek Design and Development Guidelines to any planning proposals; and</li> <li>• encourage business and industrial land holders to become involved in creek improvement works.</li> </ul>	DCC BCC DCMC	Mod & Ongoing
LU3/6	The deeply incised nature of the creek through this reach results in built form on adjoining land being visually prominent, and thereby having significant impact on the open space corridor values.	BCC to prepare development guidelines for the Darebin Creek corridor applicable specifically addressing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improving passive surveillance of the open space corridor;</li> <li>• adequate set back minimise visual impact of built form from within the open space corridor when viewed from both sides of the creek;</li> <li>• no loss and where possible improvement to the habitat values of the corridor;</li> <li>• adequate set back of all built form from established trees (other than woody weeds) in the waterway corridor so as not to require trimming or removal of them; and</li> <li>• vegetation management including no use of plants that are known weeds in the waterway corridor, with a preference for indigenous vegetation.</li> </ul>	BCC DCMC	Very High
LU4/6	Napier Waller Reserve is surrounded by freehold land	Council to support the construction of the Darebin Creek Shared Trail as a means	BCC	High

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
	and public access for maintenance and recreational use is difficult.	of gaining access into the open space. Council will need to ensure security of access between the trail and the Napier Waller Estate to protect the cultural heritage values of the adjoining property.	DCMC	

## 4.6.2 Recreation and community use

### 4.6.2.1 Existing conditions for Reach 6

- The shared trail extends from Bell Street to the Railway in Alphington.
- The gap in the trail from the Sparkes Reserve to the Main Yarra Trail is currently under construction by the Victorian Government.
- Open space reserves between Bell Street and Darebin Road are predominantly structured sporting use including Cyril Cummins Reserve and Seddon Reserve.
- Darebin Parklands provides a major informal recreation destination on the trail and the community consultation process identified the reserve is well used for a range of uses including walking, dog walking, cycling, picnics, BBQ's, events, Mulberry picking etc. The Parklands are managed by a separate part of Darebin Creek Management Committee and a Masterplan for the Parklands was developed in 2009 to guide future works, in consultation for the Darebin Parklands Association.
- The Darebin Parklands Association is a friends group that has been involved in the development and restoration of the parklands for over 40 years.
- Sparks Reserve is an informal open space reserve with playground and open grassed areas.
- The existing public open space corridor along this reach is relatively narrow and the creek is deeply incised.
- The questionnaires identified that Bell Street to the Railway section of the shared trail is the most frequently used, however, it is noted that the largest number of questionnaires were returned from this section.

## 4.6.2.2 Recreation and community use issues and recommendations for Reach 6

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
R1/6	Lack of localised trail networks and informal recreational facilities (particularly seating) to improve access into the open space reserves between Banksia Street and Darebin Road.	BCC to prepare a Concept Plan for the open space reserves adjoining Darebin Creek south Banksia Street (Cyril Cummins Reserve) to Seddon Reserve. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>land ownership;</li> <li>secondary path links and seating to improve local use and access to the Darebin Creek corridor; and</li> <li>vegetation management.</li> </ul>	BCC	Mod
R2/6	Lack of continuity of public open space reserves along the creek corridor with private land ownership to the creek at several locations along the creek.	Refer Recommendation LU1/6	Refer LU1/6	Refer LU1/6
R3/6	Safety on the existing shared trail due to the grade separation between the adjoining residential areas and the trail. There are also sections where the dense revegetation works restrict safe lines of sight for trail users.	Councils to continue to improve the recreational use and access by improving safety within the open space which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>investigate opportunities to increase passive surveillance of adjoining residential and industrial land use as part of future development applications;</li> <li>review vegetation management and densities near the shared trail and other entry paths into and through the reserve, including connections to the footbridges; and</li> <li>investigate opportunities to involve the community in the ongoing management of the creek corridor north of Livingstone Street via the local schools.</li> </ul>	DCC BCC	Ongoing
R4/6	Darebin Parklands is nominated as the most popular reserve on the Darebin Creek.	DCMC to continue to manage the reserve in accordance with the agreed Masterplan.	DCMC	Ongoing
R5/6	Gap in the shared trail from Sparkes Reserve to the Main Yarra Trail, which is currently in the process of being extended.	Vic Govt to complete the design and implementation of the shared trail link between Sparkes Reserve and the Main Yarra Trail.	Vic Govt (BCC) (YCC)	Very High
R6/6	Local access onto the proposed Shared Trail for residents of the City of Yarra.	Council to investigate opportunities to provide local access onto the Shared Trail via the old road reserve at Alphington Grammar.	YCC (Vic Govt)	Very High
CU1/6	Signage including interpretation and directional signage requires coordination to improve community use and understanding of the creek corridor.	Refer to Recommendation 3.2.7.1		
CU2/6	Friends of Darebin Creek contribute to the high community value and have an ongoing involvement in the lower reaches of the creek. There is potential to use this model in formation and running of other Friends Groups upstream	Council and DCMC to continue to support the Friends of Darebin Creek, and use this as a model for establishment of additional Friends Groups further upstream in the catchment.	DCMC DCC BCC	Ongoing

### 4.6.3 Environment

#### 4.6.3.1 Existing conditions for Reach 6

##### Flora

- Extensive revegetation works along the waterway corridor between Bell Street and the Railway along with significant weed infestation along the Creek and adjoining land.
- Darebin Parklands and Rockbeare Park have extensive areas of revegetation. Darebin Parklands is noted as having State significance in the *Draft Darebin Natural Heritage Strategy 2015-2025*. Though largely restored vegetation, small patches and individual trees are remnant from pre-European settlement times.
- Woody weed removal from the waterway corridor and indigenous revegetation downstream of the Railway including at Sparks Reserve and through the creek adjacent to the Latrobe Golf Club.
- Escarpment Shrubland present on some of the steep escarpments in this reach.

##### Fauna

- Darebin Parklands is rated as being of regional faunal significance due to the diversity of waterbirds including breeding waterfowl, Sugar Gliders, presence of Growling Grass Frog in 1986 and some reptiles including the Red-bellied Black Snake, Southern Water Skink and Cunninghams Skink.
- Potentially there are other faunal values which have increased in recent times since the revegetation has further established.

##### Water quality

- Water quality sampling site at Heidelberg Road reveals there is some improvement from the water quality at Settlement Road (Reach 3). This may be due to dilution of polluted load, however, most of the State Environmental Protection Policy (SEPP) objectives were still exceeded.
- Poor water quality enters the stream at the Bell Street Main Drain due to the industrial and commercial land use in the catchment.
- Quarry Street drain outfall adjacent to Claredon Street in Fairfield contributes poor water quality and high litter load. This is due to the industrial and commercial land use in the catchment.
- Donaldsons Creek contributes relatively poor water quality, with high sediment loads. Previous investigations in the catchment have not revealed an obvious source, however, Council are currently viewing management practices at the Councils Depot which is located on the drain to identify if this may be a contributing factor.

##### Geomorphology

- Darebin Creek has been modified to a trapezoidal earth lined channel between Bell Street and Ford Crescent.
- Darebin Creek is a natural channel from Ford Crescent to the Yarra River.
- The eastern side of the creek as Silurian Sandstone mudstone rock escarpments in Darebin Parklands and further downstream near Napier Waller Reserve.

## 4.6.2.2 Environment issues and recommendations for Reach 6

## Flora

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E1/6	Vegetation management along the open space corridor requires review to establish a realistic approach that is affordable and can be maintained by Council. This includes potential to reduce the large areas of mown grass where possible and allow progressive weed management and revegetation or regeneration of indigenous species.	BCC to address vegetation management in the proposed Concept Plan in Recommendation R1/6.	Refer R1/6	Refer R1/6
E2/6	Vegetation management on steep escarpments.	DCC to review current training programs for working on steep escarpments, and prepare protocols for undertaking this works safety. BCC to contribute to the development of these protocols and both Councils to implement these guidelines and manage the steep escarpment areas accordingly.	DCC BCC	Very High
E3/6	Infestations of woody weeds including Ash trees with the seed source coming from the surrounding urban catchment including mature trees in adjoining reserves (Seddon Reserve has mature Ash trees) residential properties and street trees.	BCC and DCC to assess the presence of woody weeds in the local catchments including streetscapes and open space, and develop a program to progressively remove and replace woody weeds with non-invasive weeds in waterway environments.	DCC BCC	Mod & Ongoing
E4/6	Some of the existing revegetation areas are dense which obscures lines of sight on the trail, and there may be potential to reduce this density to create a more open character adjacent to the trail.	BCC and DCC to assess vegetation density along the trail and progressively selectively remove or prune vegetation to achieve safe lines of sight along the shared trail, access paths and entry points.	BCC DCC	High

## Fauna

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E5/6	Disturbance and predation of fauna by dogs and cats.	Promote responsible pet ownership and adherence to regulated don on-lead areas.	BCC DCC	Ongoing
E6/6	Poor water quality and high flow events impact on the in-stream habitat values.	Continue to work with Melbourne Water and Council to improve water quality and flows.	DCMC BCC DCC MW	

**Geomorphology**

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E7/6	The existing basalt escarpments in this reach require protection in future works and vegetation management, particularly weed management.	BCC, DCC and DCMC to protect the basalt escarpments including weed control and, where appropriate, revegetation with indigenous species.	BCC DCC DCMC	Ongoing
E8/6	The existing Silurian sandstone mudstone rock escarpments in the vicinity of Napier Waller Reserve require protection.	Protect the Silurian sandstone mudstone rock escarpments in the vicinity of Napier Waller Reserve in future works.	Vic Govt BCC	Ongoing

**Water quality**

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
E9/6	Quarry Street Drain has high litter and pollutant loads, and the outfall design does not integrate with the natural character of the creek.	DCC and MW to investigate at source controls in the Quarry Street Drain catchment to address the high litter and pollutant loads, and review the outfall design.	DCC MW DCMC	Very High
E10/6	Council and Melbourne Water to continue to investigate the source of poor water quality entering Donaldson Creek.	BCC and MW to continue to investigate the source of poor water quality entering Donaldson Creek	MW BCC DCMC	Ongoing

**4.6.4 Cultural Heritage****4.6.4.1 Existing Conditions for Reach 6**

- The Spiritual Healing Trail in the Darebin Parklands was developed by local Aboriginal elder Uncle Reg Blow and provides important acknowledgement of indigenous spirituality and connection to the land.
- Brick and cement arched road bridge on Darebin Road dated 1915, noted to be of high significance (Ecology Australia, 1999).
- Remains of road, creek crossing and bluestone track up to the western terrace on Mulberry Spur in Darebin parklands including bluestone rubble surface and some Mulberry trees noted to be of medium to high significance (Ecology Australia, 1999).
- Bluestone pitcher weir in Darebin Parklands on the eastern creek bank, constructed for irrigation between 1890 and 1900 (Ecology Australia, 1999).
- Bluestone pitcher weir in Darebin Parklands on the west bank, which is one of twelve constructed for use in the irrigation of orange groves at 'Rockbeare' between 1890 and 1900. This is noted to be of medium to high significance (Ecology Australia, 1999).
- Orchard remains of 'Rockbeare', now in Darebin Parklands, established between 1860 and 1900, noted as being medium to high significance (Ecology Australia, 1999).
- Iron railway bridge crossing downstream of Darebin Parklands, constructed in 1888 and noted to be of high significance.
- Bluestone arched bridge at Heidelberg Road constructed in the 1860's, level of significance to be confirmed.

- Mervyn Napier Waller trained as an artist in the early 1900's and bought land and constructed his house designed by the Architect Harold Desbrowe Annear in 1922 on the escarpment above the park. Mervyn married Christian Waller who was an artist in her own right. The State government purchased the land from the Napier Waller Estate in the early 1990's (Thompson Berrill Landscape Design, 1997).
- Former creek crossing downstream of Heidelberg Road including the row plantings of Osage Orange Trees designating an earlier road alignment.
- Immediately downstream of Heidelberg Road was a popular swimming hole in Darebin Creek until swimming was restricted, and the waterhole filled in with pitchers (Thompson Berrill Landscape Design, 1996).

#### 4.6.4.2 Cultural heritage issues and recommendations for Reach 6

No.	ISSUE	RECOMMENDATION	RESPONSIBILITY	PRIORITY
CH1/6	Future works which alter land that has not previously been disturbed between Plenty Road and Tyler Street may require archaeological investigation prior to works being undertaken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer Recommendation 3.4.1.1</li> </ul>		
CH2/6	Lack of on site interpretive information regarding the cultural values of the creek in this lower reach, particularly downstream of Darebin Road/Livingsone Street.	Incorporate the cultural heritage values in this reach into the future Signage Strategy for the Darebin Creek. Refer to Recommendation 3.2.7.1.	Refer 3.2.7.1	Refer 3.2.7.1

## References

- AECOM (2011) Darebin Creek Northland Ecological Improvement Study, prepared for the City of Darebin
- ARUP Pty Ltd (2016) Northern Regional Trails Strategy prepared for the councils of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Nillumbuck and Whittlesea
- Aspect Landscape Consultants Pty Ltd et al (1998) Norris Bank Reserve, Bundoora Landscape Masterplan Report (the Landscape Masterplan Drawing and all figures are missing from the report), prepared for City of Whittlesea
- Beardsell, C (1997) Sites of Faunal and Habitat Significance in North East Melbourne, prepared for the North East Regional Organisation of Councils (NEROC)
- City of Banyule (2006) Planning Scheme
- City of Darebin (1996) Bundoora Park Draft Management Plan
- City of Darebin (2006) Planning Scheme
- City of Whittlesea (2000) Rural Review, Draft for Consultation May 2000
- City of Whittlesea (2006) Planning Scheme
- City of Whittlesea (2010) Green Wedge Management Plan
- Collie Landscape and Design Pty Ltd (2000) Darebin Creek Epping, District Park Masterplan, prepared for City of Whittlesea
- David Lock Associates (2000) Darebin Creek Design and Development Guidelines, Adopted by the City of Darebin on September 4 2000, prepared for the City of Darebin
- Ecology Australia Pty Ltd & Context Pty Ltd (1999) Vegetation Management Plan for the Darebin Creek in the City of Darebin, prepared for the City of Darebin Parks Department
- Kellogg Brown & Root Pty Ltd (2003) Whittlesea Stormwater Management Plan, Vol 1: Summary, prepared for City of Whittlesea
- Kern, L & Pittle, L (1999) Remnant Grasslands and Grassy Woodlands Management Strategy for the Lower Darebin Creek Catchment (written summary report only, CD-ROM Version not supplied), prepared for City of Banyule and City of Darebin
- Melbourne Parks & Waterways (1994) Middle Darebin Creek Concept Plan Resource Document
- Melbourne Water (2000) Darebin Creek Waterway Management Activity Plan, prepared with the assistance of GBLA, N.M. Craigie Pty Ltd, P. Condina & Associates, Ecology Australia and Austral Heritage Consultants
- Melbourne Water (2013) Healthy Waterways Strategy, prepared by Melbourne Water
- Melbourne Water and Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority (2005), Port Phillip and Westernport Regional River Health Strategy, Draft for Comment
- Thompson Berrill Landscape Design (1996) Sparks Reserve Landscape Masterplan, prepared for Banyule City Council
- Thompson Berrill Landscape Design (1997) Napier Waller Reserve Landscape Masterplan, prepared for Banyule City Council and the Darebin Creek Coordinating Committee
- Victorian Government (2013) Biodiversity Conservation Strategy for Melbourne's Growth Corridor,

prepared by the Department of Environment and Primary Industries

Victorian Government (2014) Plan Melbourne Metropolitan Strategy

Victorian Planning Authority (2015) Northern Quarries Results of Planning Investigation Newsletter, May 2015

Victorian Planning Authority (2015) Wollert Precinct Structure Plan, 2015 Exhibition Version, prepared by the City of Whittlesea in collaboration with the VPA

Victorian Planning Authority (2015) Donnybrook/Woodstock Precinct Structure Plan, prepared by the VPA with assistance from the City of Whittlesea

Victorian Planning Authority (2016) Quarry Hills Precinct Structure Plan, prepared by the City of Whittlesea in collaboration with the VPA

Watson, K (undated) Recollections of the Darebin Creek Valley, written for the Darebin Creek Coordinating Committee

# Appendix A

## Community Consultation Summary Report

# Darebin Creek Management Plan

## Summary of Information Leaflet #1 Outcomes

Prepared by Thompson Berrill Landscape Design P/L for Darebin Creek Management Committee Inc

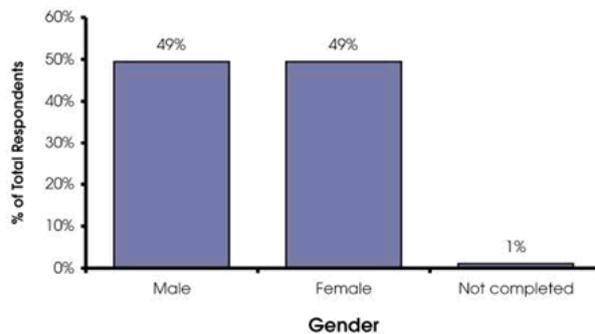
### INTRODUCTION

The Darebin Creek Management Committee Inc distributed leaflets to the local area by letterbox drop. A total of 97 leaflets were completed and returned. The outcomes of these questionnaires have been entered into an Access database and this paper includes a summary of these outcomes.

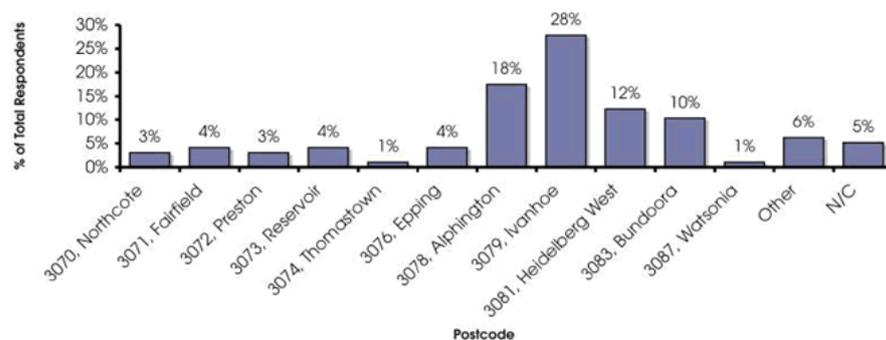
The information leaflet invited local residents to list the various parts of the Darebin Creek Corridor they visited, along with the types of activities they enjoyed and what they valued about the Creek. The information leaflet also provided residents with the opportunity to list the types of issues or problems that they would like addressed in the Management Plan. Please refer to Information Leaflet attached.

### 1.0 PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE RESPONDENTS

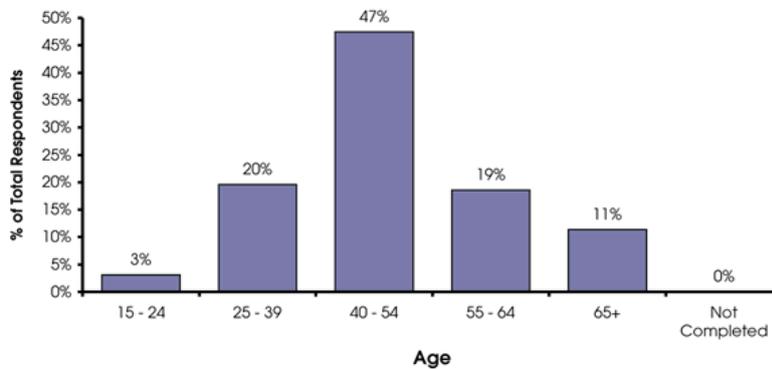
#### 1.1 Gender



#### 1.2 Where they live



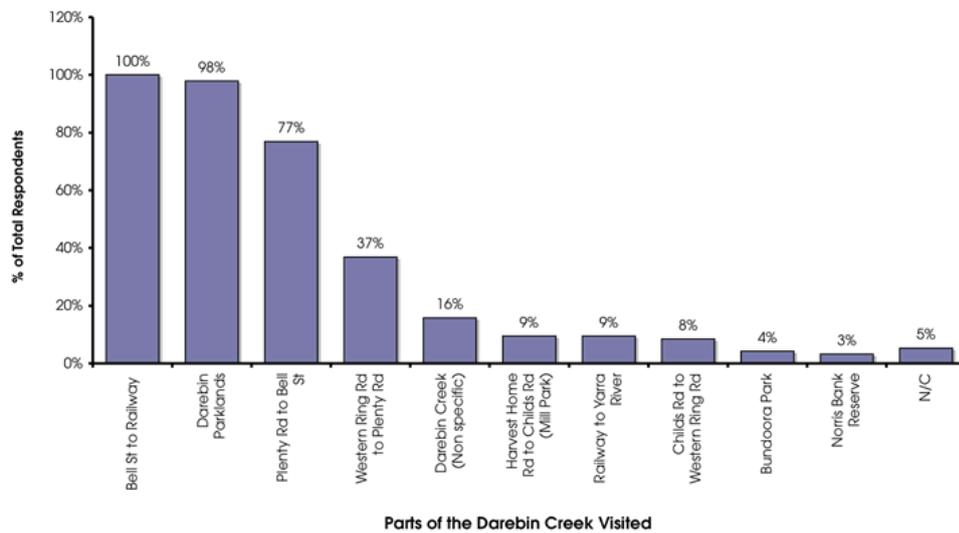
1.3 Age range



The data reveals that a large proportion of respondents between the ages of 40-54 visit the Darebin Creek Corridor with a total of 47% of respondents being from this age group.

2.0 PARTS OF THE DAREBIN CREEK THEY VISIT AND REASONS FOR VISITING THEM

2.1 Parts of the Darebin Creek visited



The most visited parts of the Darebin Creek Corridor were Bell Street to Railway with 100% of all respondents using this particular area for recreation, followed by Darebin Parklands with 96% and Plenty Road to Bell Street with 75%. Bundoora Park and Norris Bank Reserve were the least popular parts with only 3% and 4% of respondents visiting these particular areas.

## 2.2 Where visitors are from

### 2.2.1 Ivanhoe (28%)

The most popular part visited is Bell Street to Railway, followed by Darebin Parklands, Plenty Road to Bell Street, Darebin Creek (Non-Specific), Railway to Yarra River and Norris Bank Reserve.

### 2.2.2 Alphington (18%)

The most popular part visited is Darebin Parklands, followed by Bell Street to Railway, Plenty Road to Bell Street and Darebin Creek (Non-Specific).

### 2.2.3 Heidelberg West (12%)

The most popular part visited is Plenty Road to Bell Street, followed Bell Street to Railway, Western Ring Road to Plenty Road, Darebin Creek (Non-Specific), Railway to Yarra River, Childs Road to Western Ring Road and Harvest Home Road to Childs Road (Mill Park).

### 2.2.4 Bundoora (10%)

The most popular part visited is Western Ring Road to Plenty Road, followed by Plenty Road to Bell Street, Childs Road to Western Ring Road and Norris Bank Reserve.

### 2.2.5 Epping (4%)

The most popular part visited is Harvest Home Road to Childs Road (Mill Park), followed by Childs Road to Western Ring Road and Darebin Creek (Non-Specific).

### 2.2.6 Fairfield (4%)

The most popular part visited is Bell Street to Railway, followed by Plenty Road to Bell Street, Darebin Parklands and Railway to Yarra River.

### 2.2.7 Reservoir (4%)

The most popular part visited is Plenty Road to Bell Street, followed by Western Ring Road to Plenty Road, Darebin Parklands, Railway to Yarra River, Bell Street to Railway.

### 2.2.8 Northcote (3%)

The most popular part visited is Plenty Road to Bell Street, followed by Bell Street to Railway, Darebin Parklands and Western Ring Road to Plenty Road.

### 2.2.9 Preston (3%)

The most popular parts visited are Plenty Road to Bell Street, Bell Street to Railway and Darebin Parklands.

### 2.2.10 Thomastown (1%)

The most popular part visited is Childs Road to Western Ring Road.

### 2.2.11 Watsonia (1%)

The most popular parts visited are Darebin Parklands and Darebin Creek (Non-Specific).

### 2.2.12 Other areas (further away from the waterway corridor) (6%)

The most popular parts visited are the whole of the Darebin Creek, Darebin Parklands, Bell Street to Railway and Western Ring Road to Plenty Road.

### 2.3 The reasons for visiting the reserves

In the following table the responses have been coded with a greyscale to highlight the most frequent responses.

**Black** = 51% to 100%  
**Dark grey** = 26% to 50%  
**Medium grey** = 10% to 25%  
**Pale grey/white** = 9% and less

	Walking	Cycling	Dog Walking	Bird Watching	Commuting to Work	Access to Shops	Exercise	Connection to Nature	Live Next to Creek	Relaxation	Friends Group	Picnics	Recreation	Others
BELL ST TO RAILWAY (Reach 5)	34%	25%	8%	3%	4%	3%	3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%		9%
BUNDOORA PARK (Reach 4)	1%										1%			2%
CHILDS RD TO WESTERN RING RD (Reach 3)	2%	1%	1%				1%							3%
DAREBIN CREEK (NON-SPECIFIC)	3%	3%		1%						1%	1%			5%
DAREBIN PARKLANDS (Reach 6)	24%	6%	15%	6%			3%	6%		2%	1%	4%	4%	24%
HARVEST HOME RD TO CHILDS RD (MILL PARK) (Reach 2 & 3)	1%	1%	1%				2%		1%					3%
NORRIS BANK RESERVE (Reach 4)	3%												1%	
PLENTY RD TO BELL ST (Reach 5)	21%	24%	4%	4%	5%	4%	1%	2%		3%	1%			5%
RAILWAY TO YARRA RIVER (Reach 6)	2%	4%		1%	1%		1%							
WESTERN RING RD TO PLENTY RD (Reach 4)	13%	7%		3%	2%	4%			4%		1%			2%

#### Category of 'Others' consists of:

Accompanying children, BBQs, Cafe, Community Events, DPA Activities, Duck Feeding, Eating Mulberries, Farm, Fauna, Flora, Meditation, Meeting Friends, Mowing, Observing Frogs, Organised Events, Orienteering, Peaceful, Photography, Playing, Skate Boarding, Stockwhip Cracking, Taking Visitors, Tree Planting, Views, Water Watch, Weeding and Work.

The major activity is walking, which is undertaken primarily along Bell Street to Railway with 34% of respondents visiting for this purpose, followed by Darebin Parklands (24%) and Plenty Road to Bell Street (21%).

The second most popular activity is cycling with 25% of respondents using Bell Street to Railway for this purpose meanwhile another 24% use Plenty Road to Bell Street.

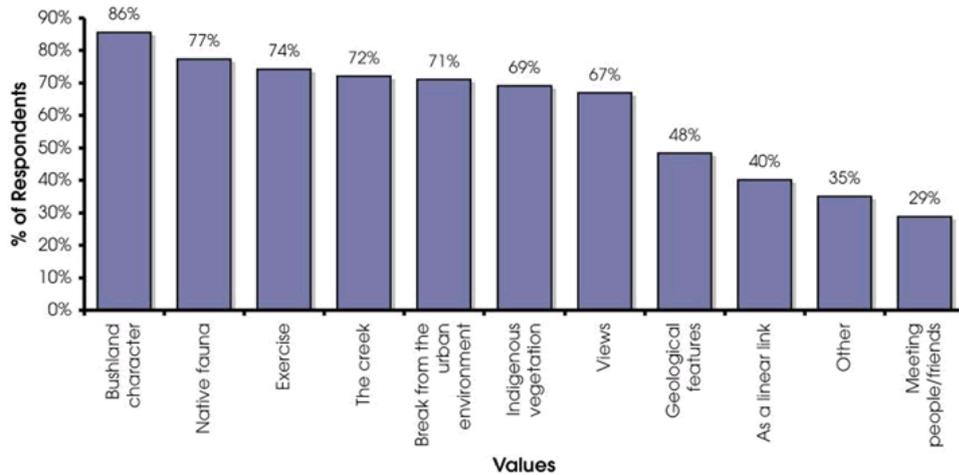
Dog walking is also a popular activity with 15% using Darebin Parklands, followed by Bell Street to Railway (8%) and Plenty Road to Bell Street (4%).

A variety of activities are enjoyed in Darebin Parklands with 24% of respondents listing the reasons to why they visit and they included BBQs, community events, eating mulberries, fauna, flora, meditation, meeting friends, observing frogs, organised events, orienteering, peaceful, photography, playing, stockwhip cracking and tree planting.

### 3.0 WHAT PEOPLE VALUE ABOUT THE DAREBIN CREEK CORRIDOR

The most popular value of the Darebin Creek Corridor is its bushland character with 86% of respondents selecting this value. This is then followed by native fauna, exercise, the creek, break from the urban environment, indigenous vegetation, views, geological feature, linear link and meeting people/friends.

A high number of respondents (74%) value the Darebin Creek Corridor as it provides them with the opportunity to exercise and this correlates with the popular activities undertaken along the creek which include walking, cycling and dog walking.



**Category of 'Other' consists of:**

Tranquility, Dog off-lead area, Bird Life, Community Interaction, Air, Connection with Nature, Mulberry Trees, Ranger Presence, Relaxation, Safety for Bike Riders, Access, Changes in Landform, Children Interaction with Nature, Community Space, Cycle Path, Healing Trail, Historical Value, Indigenous Bushfoods, Indigenous Trail, Its Our Home, No Cars, Park rather than Ovals, Parks Progress over the Years, Photography, Pollution Free, Ponds, Puff the Wizard, Refuge for Native Animals, Riparian Health, Sound of Water over Rocks, Hill, Uniqueness and Valuable Green Link.

## 4.0 ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE PLAN

### 4.1 Top single issues

(Please note that the numbers in brackets represents the number of respondents)

The top single issues are:

- Creek is polluted including high litter loads and requires improvement **(39)**
- Restrict motorbikes along trails **(23)**
- Weed control required **(23)**
- Extend the Shared Trail to the Main Yarra Trail **(11)**
- Shopping trolleys **(10)**
- Houses are too close to the open space corridor **(8)**
- Rubbish dumping **(6)**
- Dogs need to be on-lead **(5)**

### 4.2 Issues grouped into categories

The issues have been grouped in their categories to gain an understanding of the overall priority issue. Below is a full list of all the issues by category:

%	CATEGORY
<b>78%</b>	<b>Shared Trail</b>
24%	Restrict motorbikes
14%	Extend trail to Yarra
7%	Provide safe crossing and connections at Darebin Rd/Livingstone St (Reach 6)
6%	Complete shared trail so there are no gaps/loop
5%	Poor connections around Darebin Parklands (Reach 6)
3%	Access across Livingstone St (Reach 6)
3%	Need slow points along the trail/limit speed of cyclists
2%	Improve surfaces
2%	Must underpass bridges
2%	Control erosion
1%	Consider pram access
1%	Extend shared trail to Mt Cooper (Reach 4)
1%	Extend to Heidelberg Rd (Reach 6)
1%	Lack of access along the golf course
1%	Improve link between Bundoora Park and Western Ring Rd (Reach 4)
1%	Introduce permanent interpretative art work
1%	Separate cyclists and pedestrians to increase safety
1%	Would like a pedestrian bridge at end of Rathcoun Rd (Reach 4)
<b>66%</b>	<b>Litter</b>
22%	Litter in creek
14%	Shopping trolleys
7%	Rubbish dumping
6%	Need regular litter collection
5%	Plastic Bags
3%	Need more bins
2%	Bundoora Square is an issue
2%	Increased litter after heavy rains
2%	Stricter penalties for littering
1%	Control sedimentation deposits from local developers
1%	Northland to Grange Rd has high volumes of litter (Reach 5)
<b>62%</b>	<b>Vegetation</b>
20%	Control weeds
6%	Remove dead and dangerous trees
5%	Plant more native trees/plants
4%	Revegetation required

4%	More regular mowing
3%	Indigenous flora threatened
3%	Need more plantings (trees, shrubs, etc)
3%	Need to screen houses
2%	Adequate preparation of ground before planting
2%	Follow up after weed eradication
2%	Improve riparian health and biodiversity
1%	Clean out overgrown grass in the waterway
1%	Not worth spending so much to retain a few trees
1%	Overgrown in summer
1%	Priority given to management of remnant vegetation
1%	Remove weeds near Yarra River (Reach 6)
1%	Replace dying Acacias
<b>39%</b>	<b>Waterway/Water Quality</b>
14%	Improve water quality
7%	Creek is polluted
7%	Stop industrial and domestic waste discharge in creek
4%	Improve hydrological function
1%	Control erosion of creek beds
1%	Need upstream wetlands to control flooding
1%	Needs dredging to improve flow
1%	Steep creek banks
1%	Noise pollution from factory between Bell St and Banksia St
1%	Control sediment deposits
<b>24%</b>	<b>Management</b>
8%	Vandalism and inappropriate after hours use
4%	Continue protection measures
3%	Encourage water conservation strategies and water sensitive urban design
1%	Community consultation required for future works/plans
1%	Consistency between councils
1%	Creek in the Reservoir area is neglected
1%	Darebin Parklands needs a separate management plan
1%	Ensure that local tributaries are included in the management plan
1%	Maintain natural resource development programs
1%	Maintain ranger presence
1%	More funds needed for maintenance
<b>21%</b>	<b>Dogs</b>
5%	Need to be leashed
4%	Owners not cleaning up after their dogs
4%	Protect dog walking areas
2%	Ban dogs from some areas
2%	Chasing wildlife
2%	Install more 'dog tidy' facilities
1%	Aggressive dogs in off-leash area
<b>17%</b>	<b>Fauna</b>
8%	Increase habitat for native birds and animals
4%	Indigenous and native fauna threatened
1%	Achieve ecosystem resilience
1%	Remove sheep from Bundoora Park
1%	Snakes in winter
1%	Too many non-indigenous birds along the creek corridor
<b>14%</b>	<b>Signage</b>
8%	Provide interpretative, informative and cautionary signage
2%	Enforce cleaning up after dogs
2%	Enforce dogs on leashes
1%	Provide information about geological conditions

- 12% Planning**  
8% Houses are too close to the open space corridor  
2% Concerns about large residential developments and subdivisions in Ivanhoe  
1% Rezone industrial zone to mixed use
- 11% Furniture**  
3% Lack of seating  
3% Need lighting to improve visibility  
2% Increase infrastructure to support education and recreation  
1% Need shelter for when it rains  
1% No picnic areas near Northland
- 3% Community Programs**  
1% Increase public ownership of Darebin Creek  
1% More planting and weeding programs  
1% Programs to clear litter from creek
- 3% Recreation**  
2% Build a skate park  
1% More opportunity for active and passive recreation
- 2% Darebin Parkland**  
1% Escarpment needs protection  
1% Improve access to Ivanhoe
- 1% Infrastructure**  
1% Footbridge linking South Alphington and Ivanhoe needs restoration

# Darebin Creek *management plan*

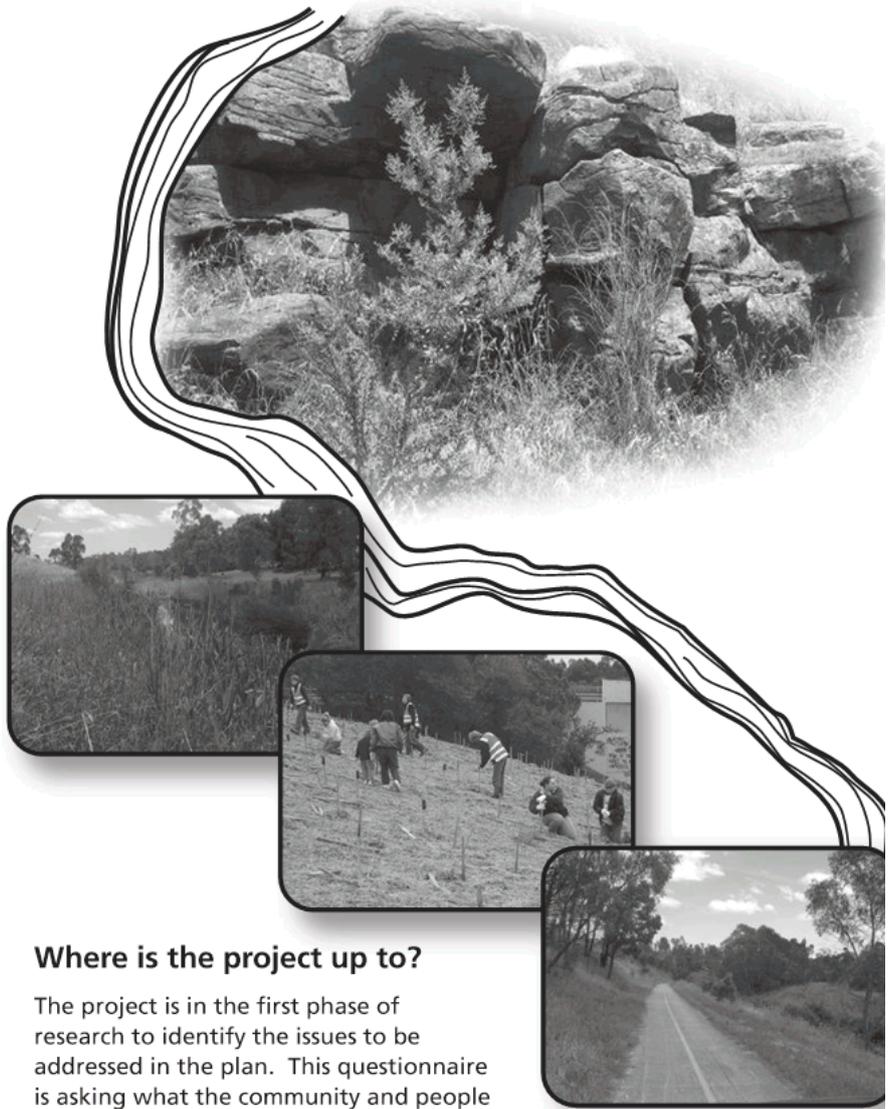
How you can be involved



Community Survey

## What is the plan for?

The Darebin Creek Management Committee in consultation with local and state government agencies is currently preparing a plan to guide the overall future direction and management of the Darebin Creek Corridor. The study extends from the top of the catchment in Wollert to the Yarra river. The plan will focus on the protection and enhancement of the environmental, recreational and cultural values of the creek corridor. This Management Plan will update and replace the existing Darebin Creek Concept Plans developed in the early 1990's.



## Where is the project up to?

The project is in the first phase of research to identify the issues to be addressed in the plan. This questionnaire is asking what the community and people who visit the Creek corridor value, how they use the open space along the Creek and identifying issues or problems that need to be addressed in the plan.

## How can you be involved?

Please complete the questionnaire on the other side of this leaflet and return to the free post address by:

**Friday February 17 2006**

If you wish to be updated on the project, please fill out your name and address and you will be advised by mail with a second leaflet when the Draft Management Plan is on display and available for community comment.

If you would like to be kept informed about the project, please fill out your name and address below and return to the Darebin Creek Management Committee.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any queries please call the Darebin Creek Management Committee on 0400 415

**Questionnaire**

a) Male  Female  Postcode

Age Range  0-14  25-39  55-64  
 15-24  40-54  65+

b) Which parts of the Darebin Creek Corridor do you visit, and what do you do there?

Locations	Reasons you visit
<i>Example: Between Bell Street and Darebin Parklands</i>	<i>Example: cycling, walking</i>
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

c) What do you value about the Darebin Creek Corridor?

Please add any additional values

<input type="checkbox"/> The creek	<input type="checkbox"/> Exercise	<input type="checkbox"/> As a linear link	<input type="checkbox"/> Break from the urban environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Views	<input type="checkbox"/> Native fauna	<input type="checkbox"/> Geological features e.g. the escarpments	<input type="checkbox"/> -----
<input type="checkbox"/> Bushland character	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting people/friends	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous vegetation	<input type="checkbox"/> -----

d) What issues or problems would you like addressed in the plan?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Delivery Address:**  
 PO Box 2157  
 PRAHRAN VIC 3181

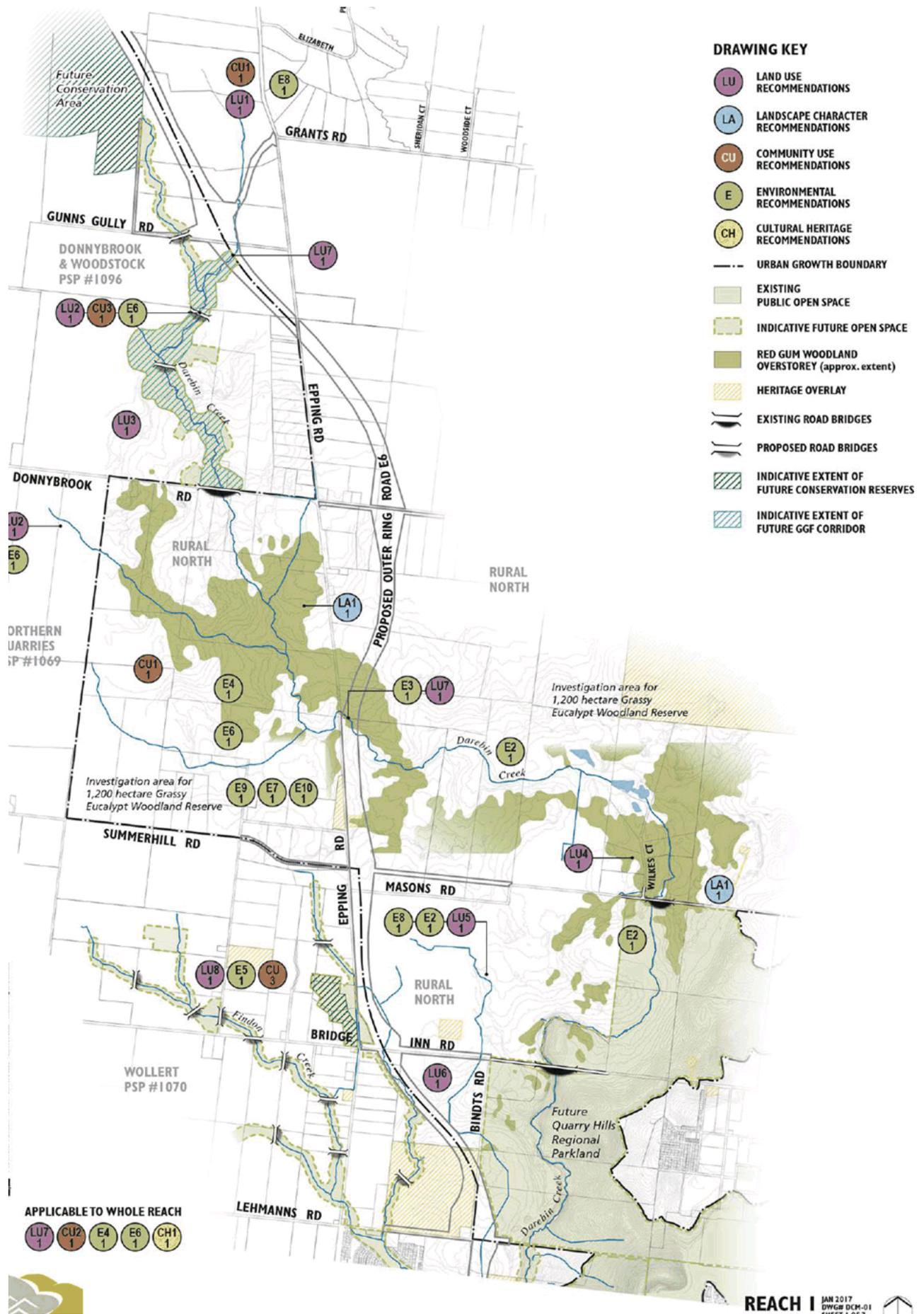
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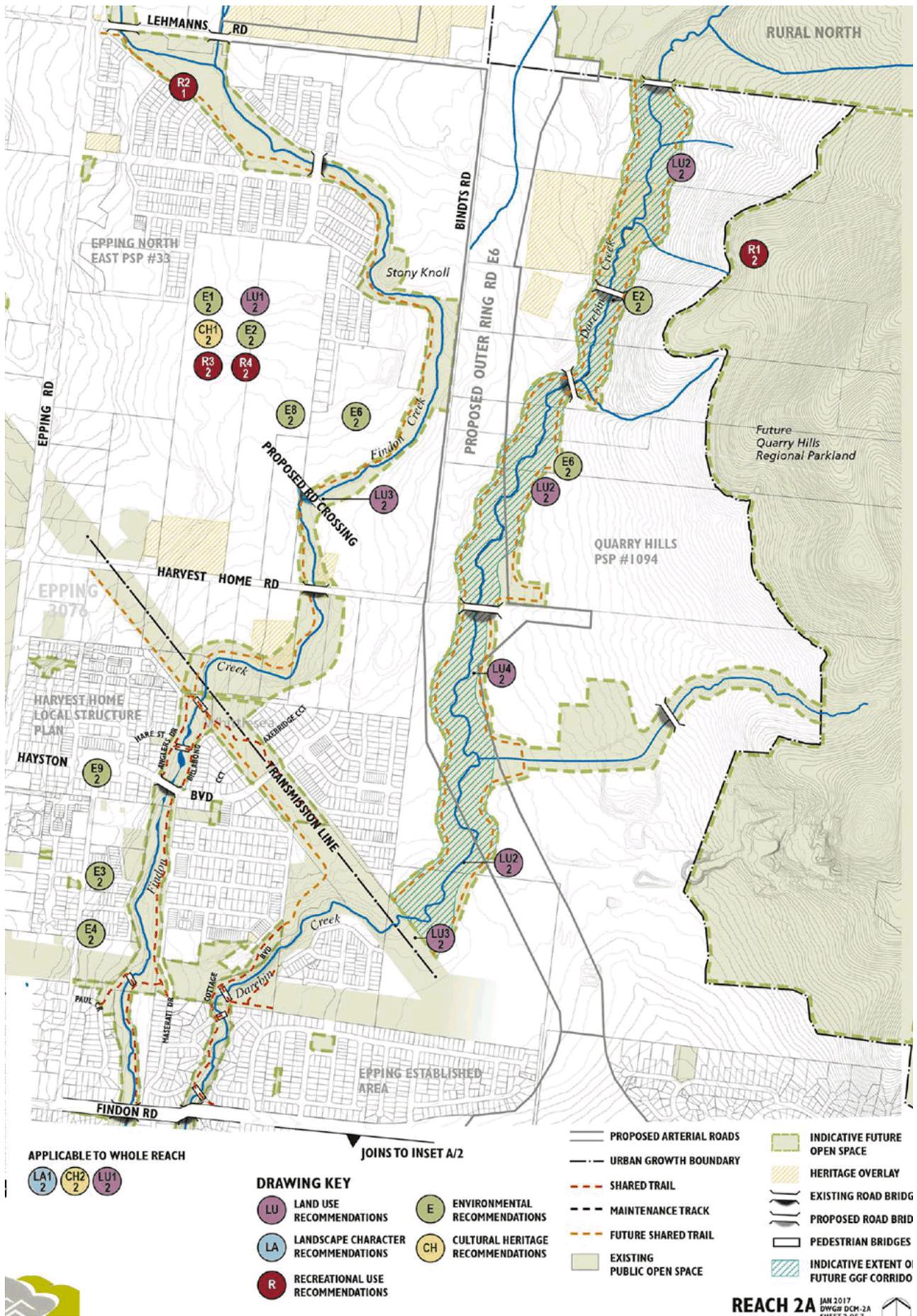


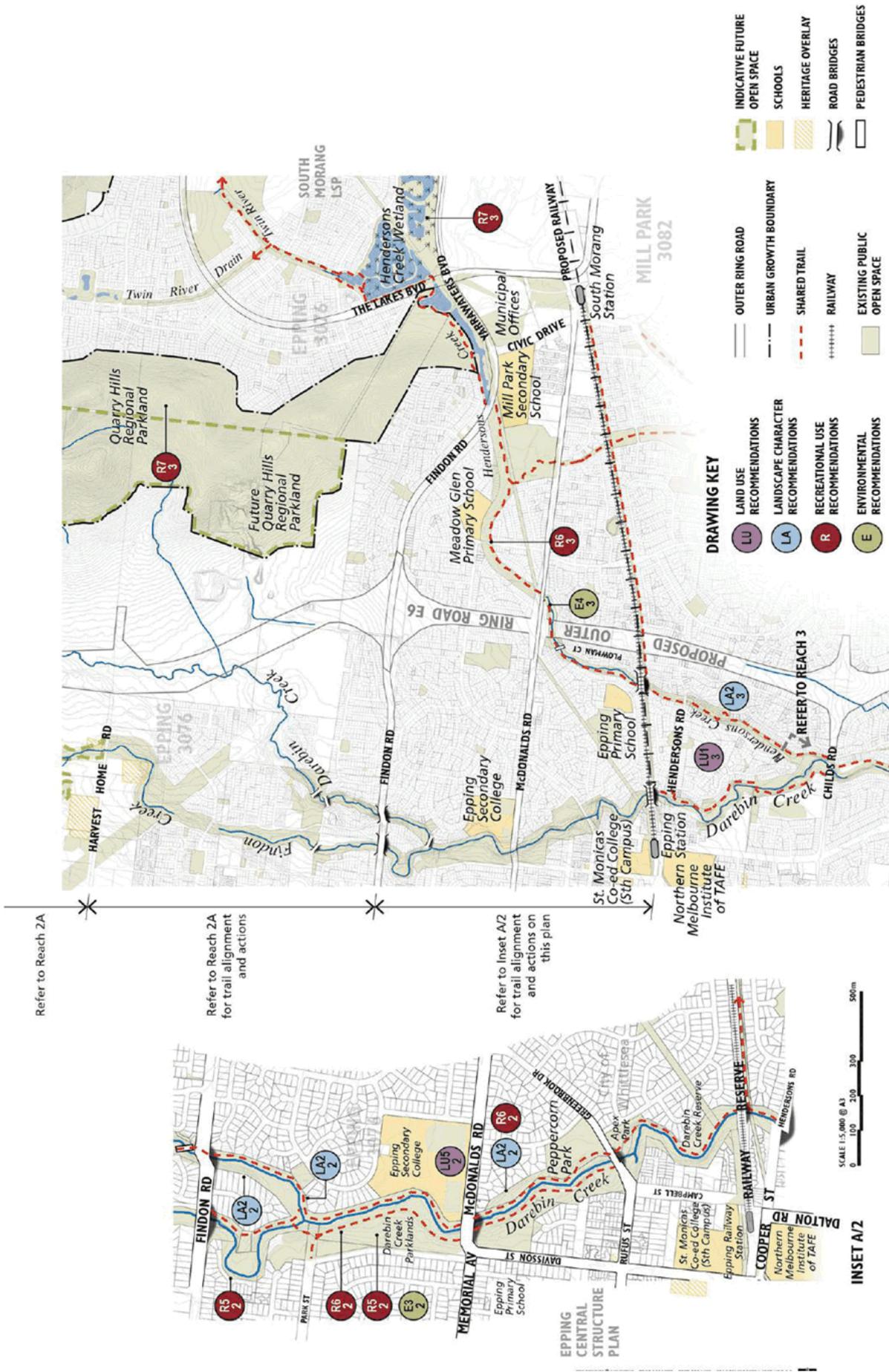
No stamp required if posted in Australia



  
 Darebin Creek Management Plan  
 Reply Paid 2157  
 PRAHRAN VIC 3181

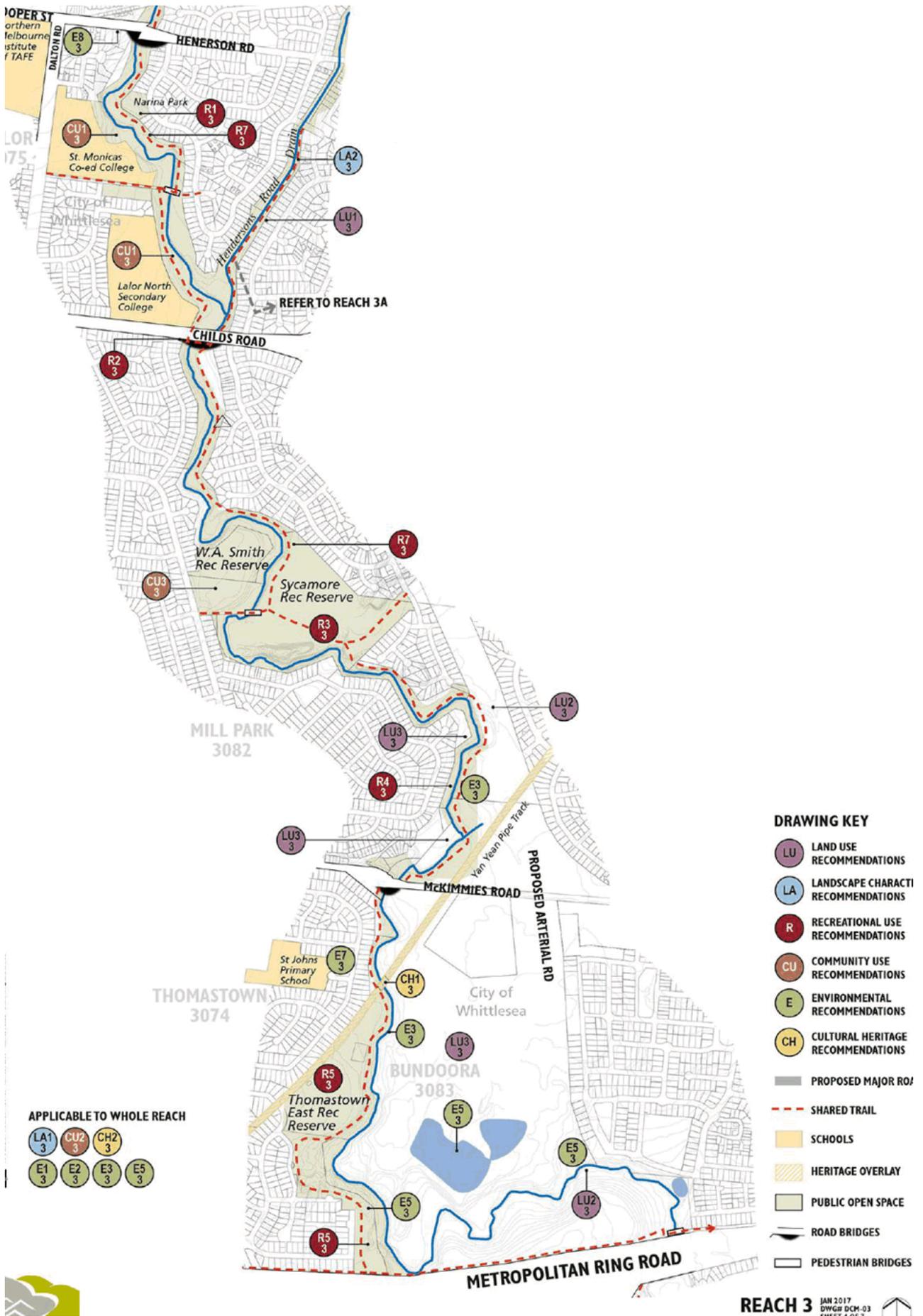




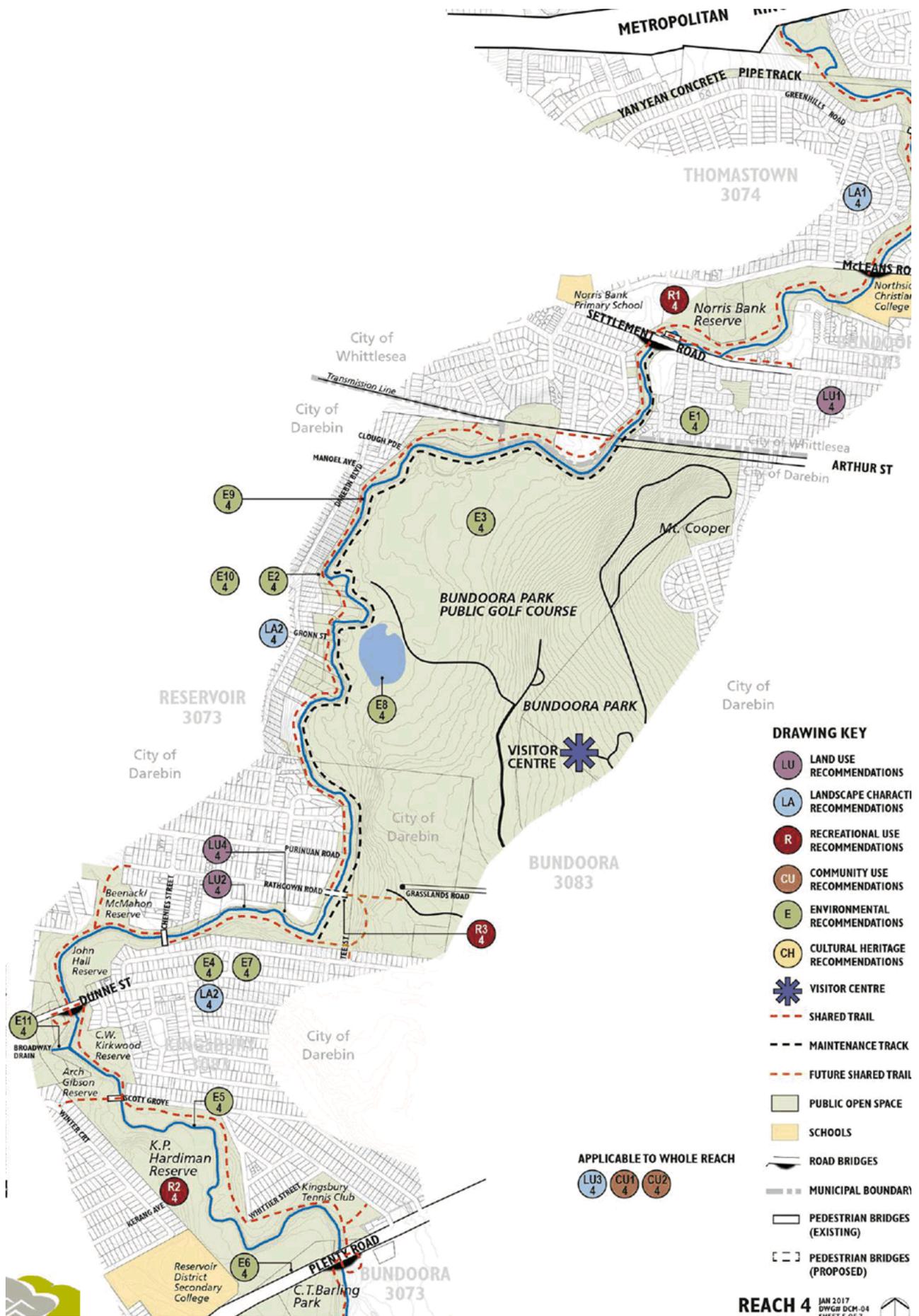


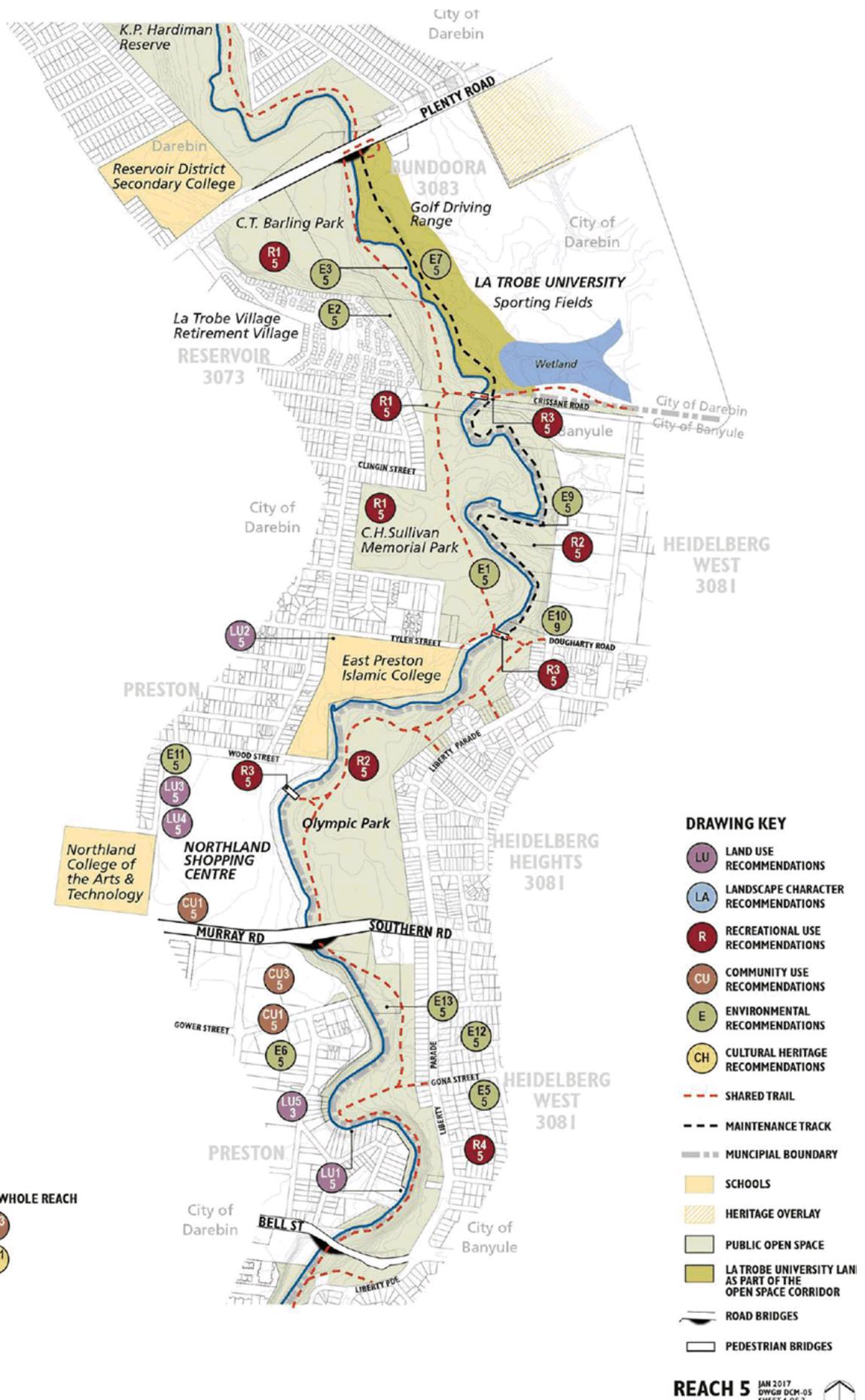
**REACH 2B AND HENDERSONS CREEK (REACH 3)**

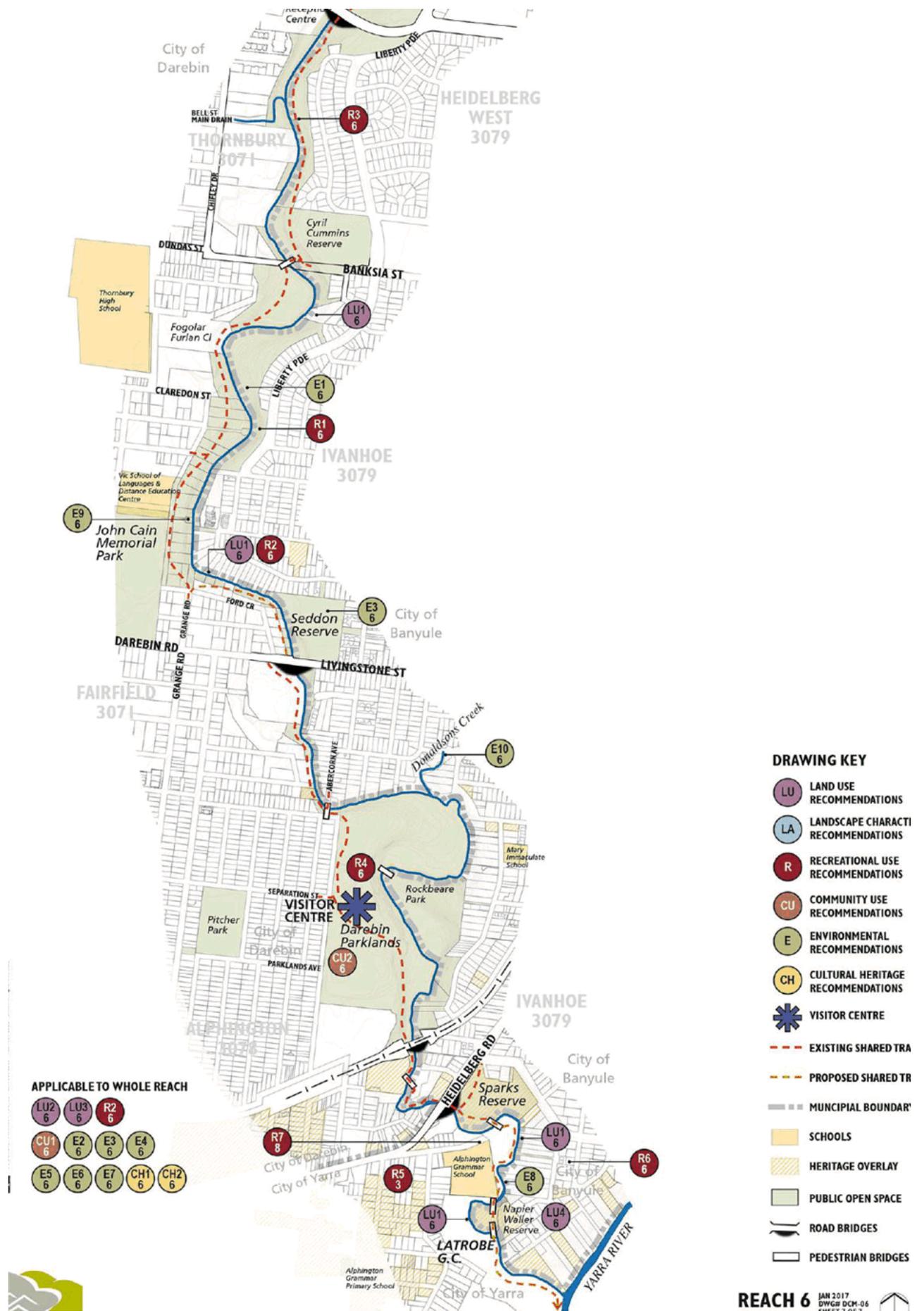
PLAN 2017  
DWG#R DCH-28  
SHEET 2 OF 7  
DATE: 11/08/2016 09:51



REACH 3 JAN 2017 DWG# DCH-03







REACH 6 JAN 2017 DWG# DCH-06



**8.8 APPOINTMENT OF ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO THE DAREBIN ABORIGINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Author:** Coordinator Equity and Diversity

**Reviewed By:** Director Community Development

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**Report Background**

At its meeting held on 27 February 2017 Council endorsed the appointment of members to Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC). Two members have since resigned.

This report seeks Council's endorsement to replace these members with two other Aboriginal representatives who have expressed their interest. Co-opting of new members should vacancies arise was endorsed through the Committee's Terms of Reference by Council.

**Previous Council Resolution**

At its meeting held on 27 February 2017, Council resolved:

*'That Council*

- (1) Appoint Alan Brown; Caine Muir; Carol Harrison; Cheryl Harrison; Ellie Jean Singh; Erica Higgins; Jenaya Kastamonitis and Jo-Ann Proctor as community representatives of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee for a 24 month period in alignment with the Terms of Reference.*
- (2) Endorse co-opting of 2 vacancies onto the Committee as identified and in accordance to Terms of Reference guidelines.*
- (3) Endorse the Draft Terms of Reference.*

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 5 - Involving our diverse community

The Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan 2012 - 2017

**Summary**

The DAAC has been a long standing advisory committee to Council with clear terms of reference.

Eight members were appointed and endorsed by Council in February 2017. Two members have since resigned.

In order to fulfil the terms of reference two community representatives are required to be appointed to fill the vacancies caused by the resignations. Terry Mason and Charles Pakana, have expressed interest in being appointed to the DAAC.

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That** Council endorses the appointment of Terry Mason and Charles Pakana as new members of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee in accordance with the DAAC Terms of Reference.

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### Introduction

Darebin City Council has a long standing commitment and relationship with the Darebin Aboriginal community.

The DACC was established following agreement between Council and the former Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Council to implement a new advisory structure that would further strengthen membership and community participation, capacity and level of engagement and influence on Council matters. The DAAC was established in 2011.

The DACC is an advisory committee to Darebin City Council with a purpose to provide strategic advice and guidance while advocating on issues and barriers affecting Aboriginal community in the Darebin region.

### Issues and Discussion

As set out in the committee Terms of Reference: *'If a community member resigns within six months of appointment the selection panel will reconvene and select a replacement from the unsuccessful candidate at the most recent expression of interest process. The candidate will be recommended to Council for appointment.'*

Officers from the selection panel have convened and recommend two candidates for appointment based on their extensive experience, interest and the contribution they would make in providing strategic advice and guidance to Council to improve the health and wellbeing and human rights outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander people in Darebin.

The proposed new members are:

- **Terry Mason**

Terry is an Aboriginal man who has been a resident of Reservoir since 2016. Terry is an academic currently in employment and is well known across the Aboriginal education sector. He was chairperson of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) representing Aboriginal workers and academics in the education sector. Terry's critical thinking and expertise around Aboriginal community matters (historical and current) political savvy and eagerness to seek better outcomes for Aboriginal community will compliment and work well with other DAAC committee members.

- **Charles Pakana**

Charles is a (Tasmanian) Aboriginal man who has been a large part of the Victorian Aboriginal community for some many years now. Charles is an established writer and artist and currently works with 3KND Aboriginal radio with his current affairs show 'Community Connections'. Charles would make a great contribution to the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and the work it does and is known by most members of the DAAC committee.

**Options for Consideration**

Council can choose to appoint or not appoint the recommended members to the DAAC.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

The operation of the DAAC is within Councils operating budget.

**Risk Management**

If the vacancies are not filled the diversity and capacity of the Committee would be impacted. There would also be the potential for reputational damage.

**Policy Implications****Economic Development**

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

**Environmental Sustainability**

There are no other factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

**Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

This recommendation is consistent with the Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan 2012-2017 and Councils Equity and Inclusion Strategy 2012-2017.

**Other**

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

**Future Actions**

- If endorsed, Council will write to the two community members (Terry Mason and Charles Pakana) to invite them to join the DAAC.

**Consultation and Advocacy**

- Current members of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee at the 6 September 2017 meeting.
- Aboriginal Contact Officer
- Coordinator Equity and Diversity
- Manager, Creative Culture and Events

**Related Documents**

- Council Minutes – 27 February 2017

**Attachments**

- Terms of Reference Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (**Appendix A**)

**Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

**Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners of the land and respects and recognises Aboriginal communities' values, living culture and practices, including their continuing spiritual connection to the land and their right to self-determination**

### **1. Background**

Darebin City Council has a long standing commitment and relationship with the Darebin Aboriginal community.

The Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee (DAAC) was established following agreement between Council and the former Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Council (DATSICC) to implement a new advisory structure that would further strengthen membership and community participation, capacity and level of engagement and influence on Council matters. The DAAC was established in 2011.

### **2. Purpose and Objectives of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Group**

DAAC is an advisory committee to Darebin City Council with a purpose to provide strategic advice and guidance while advocating on issues and barriers affecting Aboriginal community in the Darebin region. The DAAC will receive reports and provide input into Council's policy and decision making processes.

The DAAC monitors the implementation of, reviews and evaluates the Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan (DAAP) which expires at end of 2017. The DAAC assists in the development of future Aboriginal plans.

#### **2.1 Policy Context**

DAAC supports Council's goal to build a safe, inclusive and equitable

Community where all feel socially well connected, respected and valued as articulated in the Council Plan 2013-2017 (page 39). Moreover under Strategy 2.8: *Human Rights and Access and Inclusion*, council commits to develop and implement policies , strategies and framework that support access and inclusion and human rights for all.

Under Strategy 2.9: *Equity, Diversity and Inclusion* Council commits to promote equity and contribute to building an empowered community that values our diversity, is inclusive, continues to celebrate the vibrancy and vitality that all forms of diversity bring to our neighbourhoods and where everyone is supported to engage and participate fully in all aspects of community life.

The aims and objectives of DAAC are further underpinned by Council's rights based *Equity and Inclusion Policy (2012-2015)*. The objective of this policy is for Council to:

*Work with and for the Darebin community in a way that recognises and acts to change the multiple and complex ways in which discrimination and poverty create barriers that limit people's rights and abilities to achieve their full potential and a life of dignity and well-being.*

Council's Statement of Commitment (1998) articulates Council's long standing partnership and undertaking to the Aboriginal Community. The DAAC's purpose is underpinned by this commitment (Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan 2012-2017 (page 7). Finally, DAAC directly supports and contributes to the aims of the Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan (2012-2017) to; *"increase Aboriginal community participation through advocacy of issues affecting Aboriginal community and to inform and improve Council decision making in relation to policy and service delivery"*.

## **2.2 Guiding Principles**

The guiding principles of DAAC are grounded in a social inclusion and human rights based framework, affirming:

- Respect and recognition of Aboriginal communities' values, living culture and practices, including their cultural and spiritual connection to land and the rights to self-determination.
- Aboriginal people who live, work or study in Darebin have the right to equal access to services, projects and programs initiated by Darebin City Council and to participate in all aspects of community life,
- The right of all Aboriginal people in Darebin's to live without fear of discrimination or any form of social disadvantage,
- The need for continued Aboriginal community participation and awareness raising in processes of advocacy and community-based action to address barriers to equality, health, education and social justice in closing the gap in Darebin.

### **2.3 Objectives:**

The Objectives of Darebin's Aboriginal Advisory Committee are:

- Develop and maintain strong relationships between Council and the local Aboriginal community so as to be a connection between Council and the Aboriginal people of Darebin
- Monitor Council's progress and provide feedback on the implementation of the Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan (DAAP)
- Provide input into the review and evaluation of the DAAP

- Raise awareness and advocate for improved access to Council services by Aboriginal people and cultural relevance and appropriateness of all Council services, policies and programs.
- Facilitate Council's access to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents, businesses, stakeholders and community leaders.
- Assist council to identify and remove barriers to equal participation for Aboriginal people and community
- Advocate for Aboriginal community in Darebin, promoting recognition of Aboriginal contributions to our community and enhance understanding about barriers to social inclusion, self-determination and equality facing Aboriginal people and community in the Darebin region
- Contribute in the monitoring and evaluation of council policies, projects and services that impact or that may potentially impact Aboriginal people, notably by receiving progress reports on the implementation of the DAAP.

### **3. Membership of DAAC**

Membership of DAAC is made up of:

- Councillor representative (s) to chair the Committee
- Community members consisting of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents and service providers
- Representative of Wurundjeri Tribe Lands and Compensation Heritage Council Incorporated (Traditional Owners)
- One Council officer and others as required

- Apart from Councillor(s) and officers, the Committee's membership should not exceed twelve.

### **3.2 Membership Diversity**

The committee should reflect the full diversity of the Darebin Aboriginal community in terms of;

- Age
- Gender balance
- Aboriginal status (Youth, Elders)
- Education and employment status
- Role within community

The Committee will seek to build and reflect diversity within membership and be inclusive in practice.

### **3.3 Sitting Fee for Aboriginal Membership**

To allow diversity in participation and taking into account the multiple responsibilities and Aboriginal people have to their cultural obligations both in their work roles and wider community responsibilities and to acknowledge and value Aboriginal member's cultural knowledge, advice and guidance, the Council will provide Aboriginal members with a sitting fee of \$60.00.

### **3.4 Role of Members**

DAAC members will fulfil their role by:

- Attending meetings and making a commitment to actively contribute to the activities of the Committee.
- Advocating on behalf of the Aboriginal community and building a collaborative relationship with Council.
- Providing input, views and advice on the implementation of the Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan (DAAP) Strategy (2012-2017)
- Providing advice to Council on the development of new policies and strategies using a cultural lens to highlight potential barriers to access for Aboriginal community.

- Assisting in shaping and promoting but not limited to, a range of projects, notably Councils' celebrations of NAIDOC, Reconciliation and other significant Aboriginal events.
- Facilitating Council's engagement with the Aboriginal community and assisting Council to connect with Aboriginal organisations, people and networks - taking into account the different perspective, diversity and many cultural complexities of Aboriginal community.

#### **4. Terms and Method of Nomination of Members**

##### **4.1 Method of Nomination**

Nomination for the appointment of members of DAAC will be called through an expression of interest process and reviewed by an internal Council selection panel. The process will be advertised widely through appropriate promotion in local newspapers, promotion on Council's website and by communication to Aboriginal community organisations and Aboriginal community public email listings where deemed appropriate. The selection panel provides a recommendation to Council on the successful candidates.

##### **4.2 Terms of Appointments**

Appointments to the committee will be for a period of two years. Three months prior to the end the term, the Aboriginal Contact officer will review appointments and a subsequent expression of interest invited (as per the process is 4.1 above).

Members will have the option to reapply for a further two years (once only).

- All appointments will be determined by Council.
- If a member does not attend at least two (2) meetings (half of the minimum number of meetings to be held) meetings per year without prior notification being given, their position may be considered vacant.

- Councillor representation is decided at a Council's Special Meeting in November each year.
- Community members are two year appointments, with all members eligible to reapply for membership at the end of the two year term.
- Members can serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms.
- If a vacancy occurs it will be filled at the discretion of Council and made effective through a letter signed by Council's Chief Executive. Members nominated to fill a vacancy are appointed for the remainder of the term of current members only.

#### **4.3 Replacement of Members**

- If a Councillor resigns at any time, a replacement will be appointed by council at the next practicable Council meeting
- If a Community member resigns within six month of appointment the selection panel will reconvene and select a replacement from the unsuccessful candidate at the most recent expression of interest process. The candidate will be recommended to Council for appointment.
- If a Community member resigns within six months of the end of their term, they will not be replaced.
- If a Community member resigns at any other time, DAAC shall determine an appropriate mechanism for selecting a replacement, with any appointments to be made to Council.
- Members may be replaced at any time by resolution of Council

## 5. Meetings and Procedures

### 5.1 Meetings

- The Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee will meet at Council's offices a minimum of four (4) times a year, with the possibility to organise additional meetings as required.
- Dates and times of the meetings will be determined by Council, taking into consideration members' constraints and the need to allow participation from a wide range of Aboriginal people across the municipality.
- Assistance with attendance is offered in the way of sitting fees (see 3.2.above) to allow engagement in participants.
- Meeting will be held in the Council conference room (unless otherwise notified) and will be from 4.00 pm to 6.00 pm (unless otherwise notified)
- Should a change in meeting room or time be required membership will be notified by the Darebin Council staff
- Members unable to attend a scheduled meeting are required to notify the meeting organiser prior to the meeting taking place  
Light food and coffee/tea/ juice are supplied by Council.

### 5.2 Chairperson

A nominated Councillor will act as Chair of the Committee. Where two Councillors are appointed to the committee, they will share the role of Chair.

In the absence of Councillors at a meeting, the Committee members will determine to appoint a Chair for the purposes of conducting the meeting.

The responsibilities of the Chair include:

- Guiding the meeting according to the agenda and time available.
- Facilitating productive discussions, with care not to enter into operational matters and ensuring members understand these are outside of the scope of the committee.
- Assisting members to abide by the Code of conduct (see 5.4. below), including by taking action in case of breaches.
- Reviewing and approving minutes before distribution as needed.
- Where appropriate, updating Council on the progress and discussions of DAAC, e.g. through Councillors' reports at Council meetings.

### **5.3 Officer support**

Darebin City Council's Aboriginal Contact Officer will take responsibility for providing executive support to the Committee including provision of meeting agendas and minutes.

- Committee agendas will be forwarded to DAAC members by email no later than one week (five working days) before a scheduled meeting.
- Minutes will be provided to Committee members no later than two weeks (ten working days) after a scheduled meeting, including details of proceedings and clearly expressed resolutions (where applicable), and including relevant documentation as attachments where necessary.
- Records of agendas and minutes will be maintained in accordance with *Public Records Act* requirements.

## 5.4 Recommendations to Council

The role of the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee is to provide advice to Council. As such it does not have any decision-making powers. The role and input provided by DAAC members is valued however. Council receives submissions from a wide range of stakeholders and all submissions are considered in Council's decision-making processes.

Where the Committee needs to make recommendations to Council, a consensus of all members present will be sought. In the absence of such consensus, and provided there is a quorum of at least half of the members (apart from Councillor(s)/Chair and officer(s) present at the meeting, the recommendation will be put to a vote with the majority recommendation being endorsed as the Committee's. Officers can never take part in the vote. In the event of a tie, the Chair may exercise a casting vote.

It is up to the supporting officer to follow up on the Committee's recommendations, including deciding on the most appropriate means to report back on it to Council or internal departments.

The Committee **does not have an operational role and may not direct Council staff** in the performance of their duties.

## 5.5 Conduct of Committee members

Members will:

- Act honestly and treat others with respect. Failure to do so will be dealt with by the Chair as appropriate.
- Exercise reasonable care and diligence.
- Not make improper use of their position or make improper use of

information acquired because of their position.

Where there is a requirement for confidentiality, this is to be noted in the minutes if the matter arises during a meeting, or made clear to members if arising in communication outside of a meeting (e.g. provision of a draft policy ahead of a meeting, for discussion and feedback at the meeting), and addressed accordingly.

Members must disclose a conflict of interest in relation to any matter the Committee is concerned with or that the Committee will, or is likely to, consider or discuss. The conflict of interest, including the nature of the relevant interest, must be disclosed before the matter is considered and must be recorded in the minutes.

Members of the Committee are ***not authorised to speak to the media or make public statements on behalf of the Committee (and much less Council)***, unless the member is a Councillor. In that case, any engagement with the media will be in accordance with Council's standard media and communications policy.

Members are authorised to disclose general information such as objectives of the Committee, membership procedures, list of activities and information in regard to any issues that have already been previously dealt with and approved in the Committee's discussions.

Members must ensure that new issues raised by the public or community are brought back to the Committee for consideration before any public information or response is provided publicly in relation to the issue.

## **6. Induction**

Prior to starting their term, Committee members are required to attend an induction session provided by Council and which informs

the Committee about Council's role, services, policies and organisational structure.

All new members, including Councillor representatives will be provided with an information/resource package by the supporting officer consisting of:

- Meeting schedule
- Terms of Reference
- Relevant Council Strategies
- Council Structure – including organisational chart and Councillors
- Community Profile
- Membership list
- Officer contact details

## **7. Monitoring and Evaluation**

Operations of DAAC will be evaluated annually via a number of methods (including reflective self-evaluation of the Committee) to ensure that the Committee is achieving its objectives. Results of the evaluation will be reported in an annual progress report submitted to Council detailing the Committee's activities and achievements.

The Terms of Reference for the Committee are to be reviewed annually no later than October (prior to the statutory meeting) and any changes are to be endorsed by Council.

**8.9 APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

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**Report Background**

The Audit Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed by the Council pursuant to section 139 of the *Local Government Act 1989* to assist Council in fulfilling its requirements relating to internal control mechanisms and external reporting requirements. The Committee comprises two Councillors and three external members, one of whom is a Chairperson.

**Previous Council Resolution**

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

**Summary**

Following the cessation of the contract for Mr Michael Said, Chairman of the Darebin City Council's Audit Committee, Council was required to appoint a subsequent representative to the role of External Member of the Audit Committee in April 2017. A selection process commenced to appoint a replacement with an advertisement being placed in *The Age* on 6 May and the *Preston and Northcote Leader* newspapers in the week immediately following 6 May. The advertisements sought expressions of interest for an external member appointment to the Audit Committee. A total of eleven high calibre applications were received.

The Mayor, Councillor Rennie and Director Corporate Services reviewed all applications and were able to meet with their preferred applicant in mid-June 2017. A preferred candidate was put to the Council meeting on the 3 July 2017. Unfortunately, the offer was declined and necessitated an alternative independent Audit Committee member to be selected.

Accordingly, the Mayor and Councillor Rennie, returned to the remaining candidate list and arranged an interview with their next preferred candidate in October, 2017. Following due consideration and applicable reference checks both have recommended the appointment of the \_\_\_\_\_ (as detailed in the confidential resume circulated to Councillors prior to the Council Meeting of 20 November 2017), as an external member of Council's Audit Committee.

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That** Council endorses the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ (as detailed in the confidential resume circulated to Councillors prior to the Council Meeting of 20 November 2017) as an external member of Council's Audit Committee for a three year term (concluding December 2020) with an option of a further one year term by mutual consent (concluding December 2021).

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### **Introduction**

The Audit Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed by the Council pursuant to section 139 of the *Local Government Act 1989* to assist Council in fulfilling its requirements relating to internal control mechanisms and external reporting requirements.

The Committee comprises two Councillors and three external members, one of whom is the Chairperson.

### **Issues and Discussion**

The Audit Committee plays an important role in assisting Council with its oversight of financial management, risk management, internal controls and external reporting. It forms a key part of Council's governance framework. The external members on the Audit Committee require a high level of expertise and commitment to fulfil their role.

The Director Corporate Services commenced a selection process and, through an advertisement in *The Age* on 6 May 2017 and the *Preston and Northcote Leader* newspapers in the week immediately following 6 May 2017, sought expressions of interest for an external member appointment to the Audit Committee.

Applications were sought from suitably qualified people with skills in finance, risk management, audit committee governance and local government experience.

Eleven applications of a high calibre were received. The Mayor, Councillor Rennie and Director Corporate Services reviewed all applications against the key selection criteria, including consideration of qualifications and business and Committee/Board experience and knowledge.

Following review and shortlisting of applicants, the Mayor and Councillor Rennie met with their preferred applicant in mid-June 2017 and following due consideration has recommended the appointment of their preferred candidate, Ms Janine Bush.

The Council subsequently endorsed the appointment of Ms Bush at the Council meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July. An offer of appointment was arranged by the Director Corporate Services which was provided to Ms Bush. Unfortunately, following deliberation, Ms Bush declined the offer due to specific work requirements.

Accordingly, the Mayor and Councillor Rennie, returned to the remaining candidate list and arranged an interview with their next preferred candidate in October, 2017. Following due consideration and applicable reference checks both have recommended the appointment of the \_\_\_\_\_ (as detailed in the confidential resume circulated to Councillors prior to the Council Meeting of 20 November 2017), as an external member of Council's Audit Committee.

### Options for Consideration

1. Council endorses the appointment of the recommended candidate, \_\_\_\_\_ (as detailed in the confidential resume circulated to Councillors prior to the Council Meeting of 20 November 2017), as an external member of Council's Audit Committee for a three year term (concluding December 2020) with an option of a further one year term by mutual consent (concluding December 2021). ***This is the recommended option.***
2. Council endorses the appointment of the recommended candidate, \_\_\_\_\_ (as detailed in the confidential resume circulated to Councillors prior to the Council Meeting of 20 November 2017), as an external member of Council's Audit Committee for a term other than three years with an option of a further one year term by mutual consent. Not recommended.
3. Council does not endorse the appointment of the recommended candidate and asks that the selection of applicants is reconsidered. Not recommended.

### Financial and Resource Implications

External Audit Committee members are currently paid an annual allowance of \$1,435 per meeting and payment will be made in accordance with Council's Budget.

### Risk Management

The recommended candidate has extensive knowledge and experience in governance, audit and risk within the community sector and state government and will be able to provide additional review and knowledge within Council's management of governance, audit and risk frameworks.

### Policy Implications

#### Economic Development

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

#### Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

#### Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

There are no factors in this report which impact on human rights, equity and inclusion.

#### Other

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

### Future Actions

Once authorised, the Director Corporate Services will write to \_\_\_\_\_ (as detailed in the confidential resume circulated to Councillors prior to the Council Meeting of 20 November 2017), as an external member of Council's Audit Committee and formally offer the position of Audit Committee external member for a three year term, with an option of a further one year term by mutual consent.

The Director Corporate Services will also acknowledge and inform all other applicants of their unsuccessful application.

The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2017. An induction process for \_\_\_\_\_ (as detailed in the confidential resume circulated to Councillors prior to the Council Meeting of 20 November 2017) will be undertaken prior to that meeting to further familiarise her with Darebin and the Audit Committee.

### **Consultation and Advocacy**

- Mayor, Cr. Kim Le Cerf
- Councillor Susan Rennie
- Director Corporate Services

### **Related Documents**

- Audit Committee Charter

### **Attachments**

- Confidential Resume (**Appendix A**) Confidential - enclosed under separate cover

### **Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

**8.10 INSTRUMENTS OF DELEGATION – SPECIAL COMMITTEES****Author:** Coordinator Council Business**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

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**Report Background**

This report proposes formal delegation of authority by Council to the Planning Committee, Hearing of Submissions Committee and Bundoora Homestead Board of Management as indicated in the respective Committee Charters endorsed by the Council at its Special (Statutory) meeting on 13 November 2017.

**Previous Council Resolution**

At its meeting held on 14 November 2016 Council resolved that:

*That:*

- 1. Council pursuant to section 86(3) of the Local Government Act 1989 resolves to delegate to the Planning Committee, being a Special Committee established by resolution of the Council, the functions, duties and powers set out in the Instrument of Delegation enclosed as Appendix A to this report subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.*
- 2. Council pursuant to section 86(3) of the Local Government Act 1989 resolves to delegate to the Hearing of Submissions Committee, being a Special Committee established by resolution of the Council, the functions, duties and powers set out in the Instrument of Delegation enclosed as Appendix B to this report subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.*
- 3. Council pursuant to section 86(3) of the Local Government Act 1989 resolves to delegate to the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management, being a Special Committee established by resolution of the Council, the functions, duties and powers set out in the Instrument of Delegation enclosed as Appendix C to this report subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.*
- 4. The Instruments of Delegation come into force immediately the common seal of Council is fixed to the Instruments.*
- 5. Previous Instruments of Delegation which are inconsistent with, or superseded by, these Instruments of Delegation are hereby revoked.'*

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 6 - Open and Accountable Democracy

**Summary**

This report proposes formal delegation of authority by Council to the Planning Committee, Hearing of Submissions Committee and Bundoora Homestead Board of Management as indicated in the respective Committee Charters endorsed by the Council at its Special (Statutory) meeting on 13 November 2017.

The respective Instruments of Delegation remain in force until revoked or varied by Council resolution.

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That:**

- (1) Council pursuant to section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989* resolves to delegate to the Planning Committee, being a Special Committee established by resolution of the Council, the functions, duties and powers set out in the Instrument of Delegation enclosed as **Appendix A** to this report subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
  - (2) Council pursuant to section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989* resolves to delegate to the Hearing of Submissions Committee, being a Special Committee established by resolution of the Council, the functions, duties and powers set out in the Instrument of Delegation enclosed as **Appendix B** to this report subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
  - (3) Council pursuant to section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989* resolves to delegate to the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management, being a Special Committee established by resolution of the Council, the functions, duties and powers set out in the Instrument of Delegation enclosed as **Appendix C** to this report subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
  - (4) The Instruments of Delegation come into force immediately the common seal of Council is fixed to the Instruments.
  - (5) Previous Instruments of Delegation which are inconsistent with, or superseded by, these Instruments of Delegation are hereby revoked.
- 

## Introduction

Council at its Special (Statutory) meeting on 13 November 2017 established the Planning Committee, Hearing of Submissions Committee and Bundoora Homestead Board of Management as Special Committees for the 2017/2018 Council year pursuant to section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989* with the purpose, membership, scope of activity and delegated authority as detailed in the respective Committee Charters adopted at that meeting.

Each of the special committees has delegated authority from Council. A formal *Instrument of Delegation* is required.

The respective *Instruments of Delegation* remain in force until revoked or varied by Council resolution.

## Issues and Discussion

### Planning Committee

The Planning Committee has delegated authority under section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* to determine applications and minor amendments to Development Plans within the framework set out in the Committee Charter.

The attached *Instrument of Delegation (Appendix A)* has been prepared in accordance with section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989* for Council to formally delegate the required authority to the Planning Committee under section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

There are no changes to the Planning Committee *Instrument of Delegation* which was last reviewed and approved by the Council on 5 December 2016 for the 2016/2017 Council year.

### **Hearing of Submissions Committee**

The Hearing of Submissions Committee has been established to hear and report to Council on submissions received by Council in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The Committee has authority to hear any person who has requested to be heard in support of a written submission which the person has made under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

The Committee reports as required to a subsequent meeting of the Council. The Committee also arranges for a separate report on each specific matter heard by the Committee to be submitted for formal consideration by the Council.

The attached *Instrument of Delegation (Appendix B)* has been prepared in accordance with section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989* for Council to formally delegate the required authority to the Hearing of Submissions Committee.

There are no changes to the Hearing of Submissions Committee *Instrument of Delegation* which was last reviewed and approved by the Council on 5 December 2016 for the 2016/2017 Council year.

### **Bundoora Homestead Board of Management**

The Bundoora Homestead Board of Management has been established to manage the operation of Bundoora Homestead Arts Centre. Subject to the limitations outlined in the Committee Charter, the Board (Special Committee) has Council's powers, duties and functions under the *Local Government Act 1989* to manage Bundoora Homestead Art Centre.

The attached *Instrument of Delegation (Appendix C)* has been prepared in accordance with section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989* for Council to formally delegate the required authority to the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management.

There are no changes to the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management *Instrument of Delegation* which was last reviewed and approved by the Council on 5 December 2016 for the 2016/2017 Council year.

### **Options for Consideration**

There are no options associated with this information.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

Nil

## Risk Management

Given that Council has endorsed that the Planning Committee, Hearing of Submissions Committee and the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management as special committees without this instrument of delegation Council is breaching section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

## Policy Implications

### Economic Development

Nil

### Environmental Sustainability

Nil

### Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Nil

### Other

The delegation of Council powers to Committees is a long established practice facilitated and regulated by the *Local Government Act* to share the decision making load and to develop expertise in particular areas of Council activity.

The proposed *Instruments of Delegation* are based on models developed by Council lawyers.

## Future Actions

The *Instruments of Delegation* will be held in the Register of Delegations which is available for inspection by the public.

## Consultation and Advocacy

- Maddocks
- Manager Governance and Corporate Information.

## Related Documents

- Council Minutes – 5 December 2016

## Attachments

- Instrument of Delegation - Planning Committee (**Appendix A**)
- Instrument of Delegation - Hearing of Submissions Committee (**Appendix B**)
- Instrument of Delegation - Bundoora Homestead Board of Management (**Appendix C**)

## Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

## DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

## INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION – 2017/2018

1. Council, pursuant to the powers of delegation conferred on the Council by section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, HEREBY DELEGATES to the Planning Committee, being a Special Committee established by resolution of the Council, all of the Council's powers, functions and duties relating to the consideration and determination of applications for permits and minor amendments to Development Plans under section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.
2.
  - 2.1 This delegation operates until it is earlier revoked or varied but otherwise is for an unlimited period of time.
  - 2.2 This delegation does not cease to operate merely because of a change in the title or description of the Special Committee provided the Special Committee continues to commonly undertake some or all of the powers, functions or duties previously undertaken.
  - 2.3 This Instrument of Delegation is in substitution for and replaces any and all previous delegations (including any and all variations made to such delegations) given to the Special Committee.
3. The powers, functions and duties delegated are to be exercised or performed by the Special Committee:-
  - 3.1 in accordance with such guidelines, policies or protocols, or any combination of them as may be adopted from time to time by the Council as applying to such exercise and performance; and
  - 3.2 subject to any conditions or limitations in the relevant legislation or this delegation.

- 4. The Special Committee must:
  - 4.1 keep such records in relation to the exercise of the powers, functions and duties delegated as the Council by resolution decides or the relevant legislation, guidelines or policies or any combination of them require; and
  - 4.2 provide to the Council such information and documents as may be necessary or expedient to enable the Council to review all decisions made by the Special Committee under this delegation.

DATED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2017.

**THE COMMON SEAL** of )  
**DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL** )  
was affixed on )  
with the authority of the Council: )

.....  
Chief Executive

## DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL

## HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS COMMITTEE

## INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION – 2017/2018

1. Council, pursuant to the powers of delegation conferred on the Council by section 86(3) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, HEREBY DELEGATES to the Hearing of Submissions Committee, being a Special Committee established by resolution of the Council, all of the Council's powers, functions and duties relating to the hearing of submissions received by Council in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
2.
  - 2.1 This delegation operates until it is earlier revoked or varied but otherwise is for an unlimited period of time.
  - 2.2 This delegation does not cease to operate merely because of a change in the title or description of the Special Committee provided the Special Committee continues to commonly undertake some or all of the powers, functions or duties previously undertaken.
  - 2.3 This Instrument of Delegation is in substitution for and replaces any and all previous delegations (including any and all variations made to such delegations) given to the Special Committee.
3. The powers, functions and duties delegated are to be exercised or performed by the Special Committee:-
  - 3.1 in accordance with such guidelines, policies or protocols, or any combination of them as may be adopted from time to time by the Council as applying to such exercise and performance; and
  - 3.2 subject to any conditions or limitations in the relevant legislation or this delegation.

- 4. The Special Committee must:
  - 4.1 keep such records in relation to the exercise of the powers, functions and duties delegated as the Council by resolution decides or the relevant legislation, guidelines or policies or any combination of them require; and
  - 4.2 provide to the Council such information and documents as may be necessary or expedient to enable the Council to review all actions taken by the Special Committee under this delegation.
  - 4.3 arrange for a separate report on each specific matter heard by the Committee, to be submitted for formal consideration by the Council.

DATED this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2017.

**THE COMMON SEAL of** )  
**DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL** )  
was affixed on )  
with the authority of the Council: )

.....  
Chief Executive

## DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL

**BUNDOORA HOMESTEAD  
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT****INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION – 2017/2018****1. PREAMBLE**

- 1.1 Darebin City Council ("the Council") at its meeting held on 13 November 2017, pursuant to its powers set out in section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989* ("the Act") established for the 2017/2018 Council year, a Special Committee of Councillors, Council staff and other members to be known as the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management to manage the operation of Bundoora Homestead Art Centre ("the purpose").
- 1.2 In order to fulfil the purpose, Council by this Instrument delegates to the Special Committee pursuant to section 86(3) of the Act the following powers, duties and functions.

**2. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS**

- 2.1 Ensure effective management of the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre buildings and grounds as a heritage, cultural and recreation facility for the community.
- 2.2 Provide an exhibition facility where high quality contemporary, fine and decorative art works can be displayed and studied.
- 2.3 Enable accessibility and foster an appreciation of the arts by all sections of the community.
- 2.4 Celebrate, through the Board's programs, the diverse cultures of the municipality of the City of Darebin.
- 2.5 Enhance the position of the City of Darebin as a place proud to foster and assist with the appreciation and development of arts and cultural activities
- 2.5 Facilitate and support community involvement in the program and operations of the Homestead.
- 2.6 Seek to maximise funding from external sources and minimise recurrent expenditure contributions from the City of Darebin.
- 2.7 Ensure the Centre operates within the Committee objectives and the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre service plan.

- 2.8 Adopt policies and strategies for the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre.
- 2.9 Overview financial operations of the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre.
- 2.10 Explore and obtain external funding contributions to the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre through grants, sponsorships, gifts and donations.

### 3. POWERS

- 3.1 Council's powers, duties and functions under the *Local Government Act 1989* to manage the Bundoora Homestead Art Centre are delegated to the Committee.
- 3.2 The Committee is empowered to develop strategies and policies to meet its objects in accordance with the Council adopted business plan and budget.

### 4. GUIDELINES AND LIMITATIONS

- 4.1 Council may by resolution vary or revoke this delegation.
- 4.2 A power, duty or function delegated to the Special Committee shall be exercised in accordance with this Instrument of Delegation and be subject to the conditions and limitations contained in this delegation.
- 4.3 The delegation of a power, duty or function by Council does not prevent the exercise of the power, duty or function by the Council.
- 4.4 Any act or thing done in the performance of a power, duty or function by the Special Committee has the same force and effect as if it had been done by Council.
- 4.5 The later revocation or variation of the delegation shall not invalidate an act of the Special Committee done within the scope of this delegation.
- 4.6 A copy of this delegation shall be kept in the Council's Register of Delegations.
- 4.7 The Special Committee shall not:
  - 4.7.1 Delegate any of the powers, duties or functions hereby delegated to it.
  - 4.7.2 Borrow money.
  - 4.7.3 Enter into any contracts for an amount not approved in a Budget endorsed by the Council.



## 9. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO PETITIONS, NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS

### 9.1 DRAINAGE INVESTIGATION FOR MAIS STREET, PURINIAN ROAD AND ST VIGEONS ROAD, RESERVOIR

**Author:** Drainage Engineer/Project Manager

**Reviewed By:** Executive Manager City Plan and Transformation

---

#### Report Background

This report is in response to a Notice of Motion No. 331 from the Council meeting held on 13 February 2017.

#### Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 13 February 2017, Council resolved:

*That Council:*

- (1) *Officers report back with a detailed plan as soon as practicable to address the multiple storm water problems in Purinian Road, Mais Street and St Vigeons Road, Reservoir that were evident in the stormwater event in January 2017 when 85 mm of rain fell in the area.*
- (2) *Consider the improved use of rainwater as a resource, not only a waste product.*
- (3) *Any capital works identified in the officer report be referred to the 2017-2018 budget for consideration.*

#### Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

#### Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

- Storm Water Asset Management Plan 2016
- Darebin Drainage Study 1998

#### Summary

On 29 December 2016 an intense one hour rain event resulted in localised flooding and substantial overland flows in the area of St Vigeons Road, Miranda Road, Purinian Road and Mais Street, Reservoir.

Low points in the road reserves of St Vigeons Rd and Miranda Road were flooded to a depth of 0.3 metres and substantial surface flows of a similar depth were encountered along a major overland flow path between St Vigeons Road and Miranda Rd which impacted upon private properties. Dwelling floors of five residential units at 70 Purinian Road were flooded, a garage door at 73 Purinian Road was damaged due to spill over from the Mais Street intersection and various Council drainage pit lids were displaced due to the hydraulic pressure of overloaded drainage (see **Appendix A**)

Council received fifteen reports of drainage concerns in this area resulting from the storm that were addressed at the time or as part of the investigation forming the basis of this report.

Rainfall data from the nearest official recording station indicates that the daily rainfall in the area would have been around 85mm. More informative data was not available to determine the intensity of the storm however it is evident that most of the daily rainfall occurred during a one hour period of the storm and this indicates that the rain event would have well exceeded the 50mm required for a one hour 1-in-100 year rain event.

### **Overland flow between St Vigeons Road, Miranda Road and Purinuan Road**

The low point and major drainage path from St Vigeons Road to Purinuan Road was identified by the "Darebin Drainage Study 1998" as requiring upgrading to cater for a 1-in-100 year rain event.

Subsequently, in 2002, major upgrading of the drainage was undertaken on the section of drainage pipe between Miranda Road and Purinuan Road (light blue in **Appendix A**). These works have since proven successful in reducing flooding in this section, as intended. However, completion of the recommended upgrade works between St Vigeons Road and Miranda Rd has not yet been implemented (dark blue in **Appendix A**).

The cost of upgrading this section of drainage pipe to a larger capacity pipe is \$220,000. These works would relieve flooding along the overland flow path, the low points in St Vigeons Road and Miranda Road, and resolve the issue of pit lids being displaced by overloaded drainage.

It is proposed that the works be considered for funding in the 2018/19 budget.

### **Flooded dwelling floors at 70 Purinuan Road**

Dwelling floors of five units at 70 Purinuan Road have been flooded twice over recent years due to surface flow from rear abutting Miranda Road properties.

The Council easement drain at the rear of the Miranda Road properties (pink line in **Appendix A**) was designed and constructed around fifty years ago to cater for a 1-in-5 year rain event in accordance with design standards of that time. The capacity of the existing 225mm diameter drain is now substandard with regards to current design guidelines which provide for a 1-in-10 year rain event and increases in runoff due to the progressive trend for larger building footprints and greater impervious areas.

Since construction of the drain several multi-unit developments have been introduced in Miranda Road adjacent to the rear boundary of 70 Purinuan Road which have placed increased pressure on the capacity of the existing drain and contributing to surface flow crossing property boundaries into lower lying properties.

Upgrading of the easement drain at the rear of 3 to 19 Miranda Road to function in accordance with current standards and improve protection for downstream properties such as 70 Purinuan Road would cost an estimated \$100,000. Due to the complexity of the works and time required for design and construction, completion of the works would not occur until next financial year. It is proposed that the works be considered for funding in the 2018/19 budget.

**Flooding of properties on the south side of the Mais Street / Purinuan Road intersection**

Properties on the south side of the Mais Street/Purinuan Road intersection have been impacted by surface flow spilling from the road reserve on several occasions over recent years as a result of high intensity storms. In addition a garage door at 73 Purinuan Road was damaged as part of the rain event on 29 December 2016.

Due to the steepness of underground drainage in Mais Street entering the Purinuan Road intersection pipe flows are under extreme hydraulic pressure resulting in displacement of drainage pit lids and surcharging of pipe flows onto the surface of the intersection. The added surface flow cannot be accommodated by the existing drainage network and flows spill into lower lying properties abutting the south side of the intersection.

The provision of upgraded underground drainage at the intersection (green line in **Appendix A**) would reduce surface flows and mitigate impact on abutting properties and it is proposed that the works include diversion of the increased captured stormwater flows to discharge into the existing Council wetland in Beenak/McMahon Reserve at an estimated cost of \$100,000. Due to the complexity of the works and time required for design and construction, completion of the works would not occur until next financial year, it is therefore proposed that the works be considered for funding in the 2018/19 budget.

**Use of rainwater as a resource and not only as a waste product**

Diversion of the additional piped stormwater to the wetland will not only relieve pressure on the main drainage network servicing the overland flow path between St Vigeons Road and Purinuan Road but will also enable water quality treatment and enhance the operation of the wetland by welcomed periodic flushing.

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

**That:**

- (1) Funding of \$220,000 for upgrading drainage between St Vigeons Road and Miranda Road be referred for consideration as part of the 2018/2019 Capital Works Program.
  - (2) Funding of \$200,000 for upgrading drainage at the rear of 3 to 19 Miranda Road, Reservoir (including adjacent to the rear of 70 Purinuan Road) and from the Mais Street / Purinuan Road intersection to the wetland in Beenak/McMahon Reserve be referred for consideration as part of the 2018/2019 Capital Works Program.
- 

**Introduction**

On 29 December 2016 an intense one hour rain event resulted in localised flooding and substantial overland flows in the area of St Vigeons Road, Miranda Road, Purinuan Road and Mais Street, Reservoir. Low points in the road reserves of St Vigeons Road and Miranda Road were flooded to depths of 0.3m and substantial surface flow of similar depths was encountered along a major overland flow path between St Vigeons Road and Miranda Road that impacted upon private property.

Dwelling floors of five residential units at 70 Purinuan Road were flooded, a garage door at 73 Purinuan Road was damaged due to spill over from the Mais Street intersection and various Council drainage pit lids were displaced due to the pressure of overloaded drainage

Council received fifteen reports of drainage concerns in this area resulting from the storm that were addressed at the time or as part of the investigation forming the basis of this report. Rainfall data indicates that the intensity of the storm exceeded a 1-in-100 year rain event.

The overland flow path between St Vigeons Road and Miranda Road has been identified as part of the 'Darebin Drainage Study 1998' where it was recommended that Council drainage be upgraded to cater for a 1-in-100 year rain event. These works are yet to be implemented at an estimated cost of \$220,000.

### **Issues and Discussion**

Opportunities for the improved use of rainwater as a resource, not only a waste product, has been considered in relation to the proposed outcomes of this report. Given the limited space available within the drainage reserves/easements in the area no practical options for capturing and reusing the stormwater were identified at these particular locations, however an opportunity has been identified for the proposed upgraded underground drainage from the Mais Street/Purinuean Road intersection to be diverted to the existing wetland in Beenak/McMahon Reserve for water quality improvement and to enhance the operation of the wetland by periodic flushing.

### **Options for Consideration**

Provision of the proposed drainage improvements to mitigate flooding of dwelling floors at 70 Purinuean Road and damage to property at 73 Purinuean Road are considered to be of high priority and worthy of implementation in the shortest possible time frame.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

- Funding of \$220,000 for upgrading drainage between St Vigeons Road and Miranda Road be referred for consideration as part of the 2018/19 Capital Works Program.
- Funding of \$200,000 for upgrading drainage at the rear of 3 to 19 Miranda Road, Reservoir (including adjacent to the rear of 70 Purinuean Road) and from the Mais Street / Purinuean Road intersection to the wetland in Beenak/McMahon Reserve be referred for consideration as part of the 2018/2019 Capital Works Program.

### **Risk Management**

Given that Council is aware of the flooding of dwelling floors at the five units at 70 Purinuean Road and damage to private property at 73 Purinuean Road the proposed upgrading of drainage to reduce these impacts would remove potential criticism and potential litigation against Council from property owners, residents and insurance companies for not taking action to reduce the known flood issues.

### **Policy Implications**

#### **Economic Development**

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

#### **Environmental Sustainability**

An opportunity has been identified for the proposed upgraded underground drainage from the Mais Street/Purinuean Road intersection to be diverted to the existing wetland in Beenak/McMahon Reserve for water quality improvement and to enhance the operation of the wetland by periodic flushing which will have positive impact upon environmental sustainability.

### **Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion**

There are no factors in this report which impact on human rights, equity and inclusion.

### **Other**

There are no other factors which impact on this report.

### **Future Actions**

Given allocation of the proposed funding as part of the 2018/2019 Capital Works Program the drainage upgrade projects will be scheduled to be carried out in 2018/2019.

### **Consultation and Advocacy**

- Engineering Services and Infrastructure Maintenance have responded to concerns received from residents in the area in relation to the impact of the rain event on 29 December 2016.
- Drainage Engineer
- Drainage Maintenance Inspection Officer
- Coordinator Bushland Management
- Team Leader - Darebin Creek
- Acting Director Operations and Environment

### **Related Documents**

- Storm Water Asset Management Plan 2016
- Darebin Drainage Study 1998
- Council Minutes – 13 February 2017

### **Attachments**

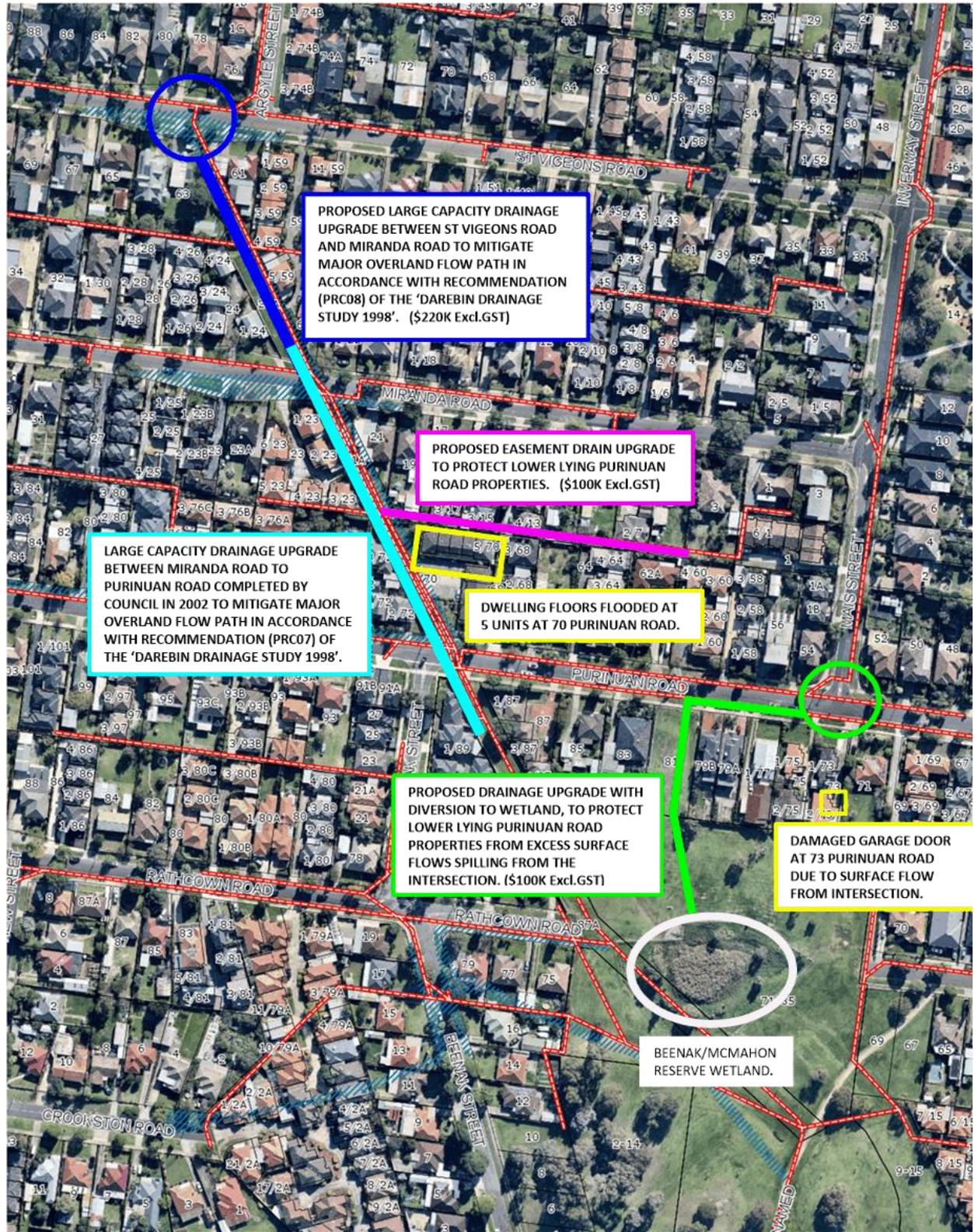
- Drainage Plan (**Appendix A**)

### **Disclosure of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

**ATTACHMENT-A**



Whilst every endeavour has been made to ensure that the information in this product is current and accurate, the City of Darebin does not accept responsibility or liability whatsoever for the content, or for any error or omissions contained therein. © City of Darebin

**10. NOTICES OF MOTION****10.1 CAMPAIGN BY UNITED VOICE****Councillor: Susan RENNIE****NoM No.: 339**

---

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 20 November 2017, it is my intention to move:

**That Council:**

- (1) *Notes the new campaign by United Voice which is addressing sexual harassment and assault in the hospitality industry.*
- (2) *Notes that the campaign is asking venues to agree to the following five point pledge:*
  - i. *Demonstrate zero tolerance including removing staff or patrons who sexually harass staff or patrons.*
  - ii. *Promote zero tolerance by displaying a Respect is the Rule window sticker and posters in staff and patron areas.*
  - iii. *Establish a contact person for complaints questions and concerns.*
  - iv. *Show managers and staff the Respect is the Rule training video.*
  - v. *Distribute 'Respect is the Rule' fact sheets to all managers and staff.*
- (3) *Expresses its support for this campaign, and encouragement for businesses to sign up through council newsletters, a media release, social media and other communications with local catering businesses and venues.*
- (4) *Strongly encourages all businesses that provide catering to council to sign up.*

**Notice Received: 7 November 2017**

**Notice Given to Councillors 14 November 2017**

**Date of Meeting: 20 November 2017**

## 11. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

### 11.1 AUDIT COMMITTEE

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The Audit Committee is an Advisory Committee appointed, pursuant to section 139 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, to assist Council in fulfilling its responsibilities relating to internal control mechanisms and external reporting requirements.

A meeting of the Audit Committee was held on 2 October 2017. A summary report of the meeting is attached as **Appendix A** to this report. The minutes of the meeting, incorporating the reports considered by the Committee, have been circulated to Councillors.

<b>Recommendation</b>
-----------------------

**That** the Report of the Audit Committee meeting held on 2 October 2017, be received and the Committee Recommendations be adopted.

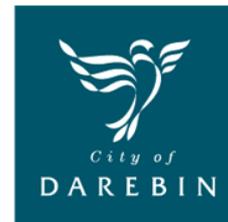
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#### Related Documents

- Nil

#### Attachments

- Summary Audit Report - 2 October 2017 (**Appendix A**)



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# SUMMARY REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Monday 2 October 2017

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AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

2 OCTOBER 2017

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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE  
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT DAREBIN CIVIC CENTRE  
350 HIGH STREET PRESTON ON MONDAY 2 OCTOBER 2017**

---

THE MEETING OPENED AT 2.34PM

## 1. PRESENT

### *Members*

Mr Terry Richards (Chairperson)  
Ms Lisa Tripodi (Independent External Member)  
Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Committee Member)  
Cr. Susan Rennie (Committee Member)

### *Internal Auditor*

Mr Martin Thompson (Senior Partner, Audit and Assurance - Crowe Horwath)

### *External Auditor*

Mr Remy Szpak (Financial Audit Manager – VAGO)

### *Officers*

Sue Wilkinson - Chief Executive Officer  
Andrew McLeod - Director Corporate Services  
Ms Jacinta Stevens – Director Governance and Compliance  
Mr Michael O’Riordan – Financial Accountant  
Ms Gracie Karabinis – Manager Corporate Risk and Audit

### *Minutes*

Melanie Nitchoy - PA to Director Corporate Services

## 1.1 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

Prior to commencement of the meeting, Mr Richards, Acting Chairperson called for nominations for election of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson to the Audit Committee for the next twelve months.

<b>Committee Decision</b>
---------------------------

**MOVED:** Ms L Tripodi  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

**That** Mr Terry Richards be appointed as the Chairperson of the Audit Committee for the next twelve months.

**CARRIED**

---

Page 1

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

2 OCTOBER 2017

---

<b>Committee Decision</b>
---------------------------

**MOVED:** Mr T Richards  
**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

**That** Ms Lisa Tripodi be appointed as the Deputy Chairperson of the Audit Committee for the next twelve months.

**CARRIED**

## **2. APOLOGIES**

Mr Allan Cochrane – Chief Financial Officer

## **3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil

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## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

2 OCTOBER 2017

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**4. REGISTER OF INTERESTS**

Audit Committee members are asked to declare any conflicts of interest. The following record of members' disclosures will remain until amended by the member concerned.

Mr Terry Richards

- Latrobe City Council

Ms Lisa Tripodi

- City of Greater Geelong
- City of Moonee Valley
- Knox City Council

**5. CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING**

<b>Committee Decision</b>
---------------------------

**MOVED:** Mr T Richards

**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

**That** the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 28 August 2017 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

2 OCTOBER 2017

**6. STANDING REPORTS****6.1 AUDIT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN - OCTOBER 2017 - AUGUST 2018****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

The attached draft Work Plan from October 2017 – August 2018 reflects reports to be tabled at the following meetings, in line with the Audit Committee's Duties and Responsibilities under its Charter, and the Strategic Internal Audit Plan July 2017 – June 2018:

- October 2017
- December 2017
- February 2018
- May 2018
- August 2018

Once the Committee has agreed, the Work Plan will be implemented accordingly.

**Consultation**

- Director Corporate Services
- Chief Financial Officer
- Audit Committee Chair

**Committee Decision****MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receives and, subject to any changes made by the Committee, adopts the Work Plan – October 2017 – August 2018.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

2 OCTOBER 2017

**6.2 AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2018****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

As per the Audit Committee Charter, the Committee is required to meet at least four times a year, with the authority to convene additional meetings, as circumstances arise.

The proposed meeting dates for the Audit Committee for 2018 are:

- Monday, 5 February
- Monday, 7 May
- Monday, 27 August (Ordinary and Financials)
- Monday, 12 November

Meeting rooms and times will be finalised once the meeting schedule is confirmed. All meetings will take place at the Darebin Civic Centre, 350 High Street, Preston.

**Consultation**

- Director Corporate Services
- Chief Financial Officer
- Audit Committee Chair

**Committee Decision****MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

**That** the Audit Committee adopts the proposed Audit Committee meeting schedule of 5 February, 7 May, 27 August and 12 November 2018.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

2 OCTOBER 2017

---

**7. FINANCIAL REPORTS****7.1 FINANCIAL REPORT - 2 MONTHS ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017****Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

---

**Report Background**

Under the Local Government Act 1989, at least every three months the Chief Executive Officer is required to present to the Council a statement comparing the budgeted with the actual revenues and expenses for the financial year to date.

**Previous Council Resolution**

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 6 – A leading, modern and open Council

**Summary**

A comprehensive financial review has been undertaken for the two months ended 31 August 2017 to assess the financial performance of Council year-to-date. The outcome of the review indicates that Council has achieved a year-to-date operating surplus of \$104.25 million, which is \$2.90 million ahead of budget and capital works expenditure of \$2.65 million, which is \$1.15 million behind the budget.

All material variations have been explained in the report.

<b>Committee Decision</b>
---------------------------

**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

**That** the Audit Committee receives the contents of the "Financial Report for the two months ended 31 August 2017" included as **Appendix A** to this report and notes the year-to-date actual and budget operating and capital results.

**CARRIED**

---

Page 6

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

2 OCTOBER 2017

**7.2 COUNCIL INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT 12 MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2017****Author:** Financial Accountant**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Report Background**

The Australian Government Guarantee Scheme for Large Deposits and Wholesale Funding (the Guarantee Scheme) formally commenced on 28 November 2008. The Guarantee Scheme was amended from 1 February 2012 where the level of cover on deposits was reduced to \$250,000 per person/entity per institution.

**Legislative framework**

Council is governed by the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") which contains specific provisions on investments. The relevant sections of the Act are included in **Appendix A** of this report.

The current policy provides a framework within which the investment of Council funds is to be undertaken by authorised Council officers. The policy sets out:

- Objectives being pursued through the investment of surplus funds
- Legislative requirements
- Types of approved investments
- Parameters for exposure to credit risk, product risk and institutional risk
- Criteria to assist in selecting investments
- Processes for evaluating and reporting investment performance against established benchmarks.

**Ethical and sustainability considerations**

To strengthen Council's commitment to socially responsible investments the current investment policy was amended in June 2013 to include under the section of 'objectives / principles' the following statement;

'All financial institution to be selected for investments must indicate their commitment to core values of integrity, trust, customer service and the highest ethical standards along with their strong commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)'.

Additional guidance surrounding the divestment in financial institutions directly investing in the fossil fuel industry was provided in July 2016.

To ensure Council will move away from directly investing in any company for whom the extraction, production, refining, or distribution of fossil fuels forms a core part of their business strategy, nor in any company whose principal business involves providing infrastructure or services to companies previously mentioned.

To adopt a positive screening approach for Council's investment with financial institutions:

- a) Actively invest with fossil free financial institutions within the Darebin City Council Investment Policy parameters; and

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- b) Advocate for fossil free financial institutions to improve their credit rating and financial rate of return.

Council's Investment Strategy will give preference to ADIs that state they do not finance fossil fuel projects if the investment transaction is compliant with Council's Investment Policy and the rate of investment is within 0.05 percentage points when compared against other investments available to Council at the time.

As at 30 June 2017, 64% of all invested funds were placed with fossil fuel free financial institutions and ADIs (30 June 2016: 51%).

**Previous Council Resolution**

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 6 – a leading, modern and open Council

**Summary**

A comprehensive review of Council's investment portfolio has been undertaken for the twelve months ended 30 June 2017. The Council's investment portfolio has earned \$1.72 million in interest on investments with term deposits and cash investments earning an annualised rate of 2.44% (June 2016: 2.81%). As at 30 June 2017, the Council's investment portfolio was valued at \$74.15 million (June 2016: \$60.59 million).

**Committee Decision**

**MOVED:** Mr T Richards  
**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

That the Audit Committee receive the contents of this report.

**CARRIED**

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## 8. RISK MANAGEMENT

### 8.1 INFORMATION SERVICES: DISASTER RECOVERY AND BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN UPDATE

**Author:** Chief Information Officer

**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

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#### Report Background

Digital and Information Services (**DIS**) department has a Disaster Recovery (DR) and Business Continuity Plan (BCP) which is updated periodically. The last update for the DR plan was completed in June 2017, and DIS has played an active role in updating Council's BCP from early 2017 which is being led by Corporate Risk and Audit. DIS's robust DR plan was successfully followed for the Preston Civic Centre major power outage in June 2017. This report provides future plans for Council's DR plan, the projects for which fall under the recently adopted Digital Transformation Strategy.

#### Previous Council Resolution

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

#### Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

#### Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Excellent Service:

- Provide an efficient and productive Council administration that delivers excellent customer care that is responsive, accessible and inclusive.

#### Summary

The purpose of the DIS Business Continuity Plan is to:

- Safeguard the council's computer based information and IS resources;
- Ensure that adequate policies, procedures and resources are in place to:
  - Minimise the risk and impact in the event that a disaster occurs;
  - Facilitate the recovery process so that the council's essential computer assisted services can be resumed at the earliest opportunity;
- Ensure that IS staff members are aware of their responsibilities in the event of a disaster.

In summary, the DIS policy regarding backup, storage and recovery may be stated as follows:

- To ensure that all significant server based components of the IS network are regularly and frequently backed up, and securely stored, in a manner which facilitates reliable and timely recovery;
-

**AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT**

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- To identify and provide the elements which must be incorporated in the desktop Standard Operating Environment (SOE), to enable users to avoid loss of data.

**Committee Decision**

**MOVED:** Mr T Richards  
**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

**That** the Audit Committee receives and notes this update in relation to Digital and Information Services Disaster Recovery Plan and Business Continuity Plan.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**8.2 CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS  
CONTINUITY PLANNING UPDATE****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

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**Summary**

As a regular requirement of the Audit Committee, the Manager Corporate Risk and Audit is responsible for providing progress reports on the ongoing implementation of Council's Risk Management Framework.

This report provides an update of Council's current risk management status in relation to its Proactive Risk Management projects, practices and performance and Business Continuity Planning.

<b>Committee Decision</b>
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**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. S Rennie

That the Audit Committee receives and notes this report.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**9. INTERNAL AUDIT****9.1 INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT****Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

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**Summary**

The internal auditors, Crowe Horwath, have provided a report as at 21 September 2017 to update the Audit Committee on Council's internal audit activity since the meeting held on 17 July 2017.

**Consultation**

- Executive Management Team
- Senior Management

<b>Committee Decision</b>
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**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

**That** the Audit Committee receives and notes the attached Internal Audit Progress report prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**9.2 MEMORANDUMS OF AUDIT PLANNING FOR UPCOMING AUDITS****Author:** PA to Director Corporate Services**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services

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**Summary**

As part of the implementation of Council's audit program for 2017, Crowe Horwath has prepared Memorandums of Audit Planning (MAPs) for the following audits:

- CAMMS Follow Up Review
- Financial/Governance Controls (sundry debtors, purchasing cards, rates debtors)

These MAPs have been signed off by management.

**Consultation**

- Senior Management

<b>Committee Decision</b>
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**MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

**That** the Audit Committee receives and notes the following Memorandums of Audit Planning prepared by the internal auditors, Crowe Horwath: CAMMS Follow Up Review and Financial/Governance Controls (sundry debtors, purchasing cards, rates debtors).

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**9.3 VICROADS INFORMATION PROTECTION COMPLIANCE REPORT****Author:** Coordinator Civic Compliance**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance**Summary**

The VicRoads Information Protection Agreement Compliance Report was undertaken to:

1. Review the key controls surrounding access to VicRoads information in order for Council to provide an annual certification to VicRoads over its compliance with the Agreement for the review period.
2. Review the points and obligations as governed under the issued Information Protection Agreement (IPA) by VicRoads.

The Council has been provided with an independent audit certification which will be forwarded to VicRoads in accordance with its obligations under the Agreement.

Council has an active information protection program in place that is supported by experienced Officers and an adequate operational framework.

The report from Council's internal auditors noted two areas of non-compliance. These are:

**a) Inadequate protection of confidentiality of Information**

Management Response: An audit of all users has been completed to ensure that all users with access to Vic Roads data in pathway and objective have a genuine operational need for this access and have signed a Confidentiality Deed.

**Timeframe:** Completed.

An IT Governance Officer was appointed on 26 July 2017. This person is responsible for developing the security model framework for Council's information systems, which will include procedures such as the employee lifecycle and the access controls.

**Timeframe:** key elements of the framework will be developed by the end of October 2017.

The **Infomart tables** will be identified and appropriate security applied at the database level rather than application level. This measure may impact on other reports but Darebin accepts this risk given the importance of this finding.

**Timeframe:** 26/08/2017

**b) Nominated User breaches**

Management Response: Provision has been made to ensure that the nominated representative and a deputy be advised off all new and existing employees via the People and Development Department.

This will provide the nominated representative the information to ensure that all exiting employees are deactivated within the 3 hour window.

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Additionally recruiting managers in the affected business units have been reminded of their obligations to ensure that they advise the nominated representative of new, existing and returning employees within their units.

**Timeframe:** resolved on 26 July 2017.

All other audit findings were compliant with the VicRoads Information Protection Agreement.

**Consultation**

- Craig Bruckner – Coordinator Civic Compliance
- Paul Edwards – Team Leader Business Performance
- Angelo Luczek – Records Management Coordinator
- Ben Ragg – Chief Information Officer
- Rob Miskec – Customer Business Systems Coordinator
- Harry Singh – Senior Business Analyst and Project Manager

<b>Committee Decision</b>
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**MOVED:** Mr T Richards

**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

**That** the Audit Committee receive and note the attached report, VicRoads Information Protection Agreement Compliance Report prepared by the Internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**9.4 INTERNAL AUDIT - EXECUTIVE SUMMARY CAMMS FOLLOW UP REVIEW****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

The Internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath, have provided a report of findings as at August 2017 reviewing the organisation's Outstanding Audit Recommendations as per report titled "Audit Recommendations Compliance Report" tabled at the Ordinary Audit Committee meeting of 17 July 2017.

The review from Crowe Horwath was requested by the Chair of the Audit Committee to address the following, acknowledging a number of audit recommendations remained outstanding for a significant period of time:

1. Has the audit finding been superseded by a later audit and or audit finding?
2. Is the risk rating still valid?
3. Does the latest management comment match the original audit finding for purpose?
4. Does the time frame appear reasonable for the adoption of any audit recommendation?
5. Does the solution suggested/offered by Management satisfy the finding?

A total of 20 internal audit reports were assessed against the above criteria stemming back to May 2013 until April 2017.

The review by Crowe Horwath was solely based in the CAMMS report – Audit Recommendations Compliance Report tabled at the Ordinary Audit Committee meeting of 17 July 2017. There was no consultation or assessment undertaken in conjunction with management regarding the report and/or management responses.

Overall, the review conducted Crowe Horwath identified that the information provided to the Audit Committee was found to be inadequate. Of the 99 recommendations listed within the Audit Recommendations Compliance Report:

- 51 or 51% of the total management comments recorded were inadequate; and
- Of the 51, 54% (28) did not record a 'latest management comment' as at June 30, 2017

It was identified however, through consultation with Corporate Risk and Audit following completion of the review that the information within the Audit Recommendations Compliance Report did not provide the initial date of completion of when audit recommendations were originally due. Please note this matter is currently being addressed by the System Administrator. Equally, since the previous Ordinary Audit Committee meeting, significant attention has been placed on addressing outstanding recommendations with some actions now addressed and finalised.

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**Consultation**

- Director Corporate Services
- Manager Corporate Risk and Audit
- Risk and Insurance Advisor

<b>Committee Decision</b>
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**MOVED: Mr T Richards****SECONDED: Cr. S Rennie****That the Audit Committee:**

1. Receives and notes the attached report, CAMMS Follow Up Review of August 2017, prepared by Internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath.
2. Acknowledges further action has been taken by the organisation to address outstanding audit recommendations since the previous Ordinary Audit Committee Meeting of 17 July which is not reflected in the attached report.
3. Recognises that the review by Internal Auditors, Crowe Horwath was undertaken independently on the basis of the "Audit Recommendation Compliance Report" tabled at the previous Ordinary Audit Committee Meeting of 17 July without consultation with management.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**9.5 OUTSTANDING INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIONS****Author:** Manager Corporate Risk and Audit**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

This report provides an update on progress towards addressing outstanding recommendations, as at 18 September 2017, since the last ordinary Audit Committee meeting held, Monday, 17 July 2017.

A total of 32 reports have been uploaded into Audit Manager to allow the system to register and track any type of review activity, in an interactive and real time environment. Of the 32 reports within the system, 12 (37.5%) have addressed all recommendations identified through the internal audit process.

Of the remaining 20 reports, a total of 190 recommendations have been identified with 96 (51%) completed, 58 (31%) remain overdue from their original due date of completion, and 36 (18%) scheduled for completion.

A significant amount of work has been undertaken through the Corporate Risk and Audit department together with the Executive Management Team to review the number of outstanding audit recommendations with respective Council Officers. As a result, we have seen an increase in audit recommendations being addressed and closed, acknowledging there is still a number of recommendations that remain overdue.

The attached report provides a summary of the 58 recommendations that remain outstanding, their risk rating as well as their initial date of completion and the revised date for completion.

**Consultation**

- Executive Management Team
- Senior Officers
- Risk and Insurance Advisor
- Council Officers with assigned internal audit recommendations

**Committee Decision****MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Cr. K Le Cerf

**That** the Audit Committee receives and notes this report on Outstanding Internal Audit Actions.

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**10. PROCUREMENT****10.1 PROCUREMENT POLICY UPDATE AND NON-CONFORMANCE REPORT****Author:** Coordinator Procurement and Contracts**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

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**Report Background**

On an annual basis Council is required to review its procurement policy and submit it to Council for approval.

The report sets out the amendments made to the previous procurement policy dated 3 October 2016, whilst also taking into account additional Council resolutions made since 12 December 2016.

**Previous Council Resolution**

At its meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Audit Committee resolved:

*That Audit Committee:*

- (1) *The Audit Committee receive and note the Non Conformance Report as at 1 January 2017 attached as Appendix A to this report.*
- (2) *The Audit Committee were advised that the Non-Conformance Report is presented monthly to the Executive Management Team for their attention and action.*
- (3) *The Non-Conformance Report be presented annually to the Audit Committee, at the same time that the Procurement Policy is presented for review.*

This matter is not the subject of a previous Council resolution.

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

**Summary**

On an annual basis Council is required to review its procurement policy and submit it to Council for approval. The Procurement Policy August 2017 was endorsed at the Council Meeting held on August 21, 2017.

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## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**Recommendation****That** Audit Committee:

- (1) Note the revised Procurement Policy August 2017
  - (2) Note the Procurement Non-Conformance Report dated August 1, 2017
- 

**Committee Decision**

**MOVED:** Mr T Richards  
**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

**That:**

- (1) The Audit Committee Note the revised Procurement Policy August 2017
- (2) The Audit Committee Note the Procurement Non-Conformance Report dated August 1, 2017
- (3) The delegations schedule be attached to the Procurement Policy for transparency

**CARRIED**

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**AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT****2 OCTOBER 2017**

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**10.2 PROBITY PRACTITIONER'S REPORT****Author:** Coordinator Procurement and Contracts**Reviewed By:** Director Civic Governance and Compliance

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**Report Background**

This report is in response to a recommendation from the Audit Committee meeting held Monday August 28, 2017

**Previous Audit Recommendation**

At its meeting held on Monday August 28 2017, the Audit Committee recommended:

1. Darebin's procurement / purchasing policy requires contracts over a certain \$ value to include probity services and therefore a probity practitioner's report as a result (may be advisory or audit). The attachment shows a number of contracts that would fall into that category and it is likely there will also be similar \$ value contracts awarded in the subsequent period up to 30 June 2017. The Audit Committee would like to sight a copy of each relevant probity practitioner report as part of the October 2017 meeting AC papers or (as an alternative) the responsible officer / person attends the October meeting and presents on probity undertaken in context for all relevant contracts. Please arrange for this to occur.

**Previous Briefing(s)**

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

**Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy**

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

**Summary**

Council's current procurement policy has a requirement that a probity auditor/advisor is appointed for all tender activities greater than \$1,000,000.

It is also a requirement that on each occasion a probity plan is completed. As part of the Purchase Accreditation Committee (PAC) approval process this probity plan must be submitted along with a Strategic Procurement Plan. Approval from PAC is required prior to the initiation of a tender process.

The probity plan addresses the following but not limited to. Project approach, probity requirements, Probity principles including, obtaining value for money, fairness and impartiality, transparency, accountability, confidentiality, identifying conflicts of interest and evaluation process.

There is a clear difference between a probity advisor and probity auditor. This is best explained with the following;

"A probity adviser provides pro-active on going independent advice on probity matters and issues, including reviewing, from a probity perspective, the proposed market documentation

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(e.g. RFT documentation) monitoring and overseeing the process and providing report(s) as required by the client.

A probity auditor provides Independent audit and appropriate sign-off at the conclusion of the Project whether the processes that were conducted actually fulfilled the requirements of the project process and the project conduct and were within the terms of prescribed procurement policies, rules and guidelines.

Both roles cannot be performed by the same entity.

In practice, as the probity auditor cannot advise on the process, and many processes need probity advice whilst they are proceeding, it is more usual for entities to engage probity advisers, rather than auditors, if only one probity practitioner is engaged.

<b>Committee Decision</b>
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**MOVED: Mr T Richards**

**SECONDED: Cr. K Le Cerf**

**That the Audit Committee note this Probity Practitioner's Report and Appendix A.**

**CARRIED**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE SUMMARY REPORT

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**11. GOVERNANCE****11.1 INVESTMENT POLICY****Author:** Chief Financial Officer**Reviewed By:** Director Corporate Services**Summary**

Council's Investment Policy has been updated to reflect Council's positive screening approach for investment with financial institutions.

Council will give preference to Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions that state they do not finance fossil fuel projects if the investment transaction is: (a) within the risk and counterparty parameters and (b) the rate of investment is within 0.05 percentage points when compared against other investments available to Council at the time.

The credit and counterparty credit frameworks have been amended to allow a greater percentage to be invested with institutions which do not finance fossil fuel projects.

**Consultation**

- Council
- Director Corporate Services
- Financial Accountant

**Committee Decision****MOVED:** Mr T Richards**SECONDED:** Ms L Tripodi

**That** the Audit Committee notes that the revised Investment Policy (attached as **Appendix A**) as adopted by Council on 19 June 2017:

- (1) Incorporates both the previous Investment Policy and the Fossil Fuel Investment Policy.
- (2) Has eased the credit and counterparty credit frameworks to allow a greater percentage to be invested with institutions which do not finance fossil fuel projects.

**CARRIED**

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**12. CONFIDENTIAL**

Nil

**13. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Director Corporate Services advised that a Safety Management System Audit against AS/NZS 4801 and Victorian OHS Regulations was undertaken by Minerva Consulting Group. Findings and an action plan of this audit will be brought to the December 2017 Audit Committee meeting.

**14. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Audit Committee will be held at 2.30pm on Monday 4 December 2017 in the Darebin Civic Centre, 350 High Street Preston.

**15. COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONFERENCE**

Nil

**16. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 4.01pm.

## 12. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

### 12.1 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS HELD

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An Assembly of Councillors is defined in section 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989* to include Advisory Committees of Council if at least one Councillor is present or, a planned or scheduled meeting attended by at least half of the Councillors and one Council Officer that considers matters intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision.

Written records of Assemblies of Councillors must be kept and include the names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending, the matters considered, any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending, and whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the assembly.

Pursuant to section 80A (2) of the Act, these records must be, as soon as practicable, reported at an ordinary meeting of the Council and incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.

An Assembly of Councillors record was kept for:

- Darebin Environmental Reference Group – 27 September 2017
- Darebin Disability Advisory Committee – 2 October 2017
- Darebin Energy Foundation – 5 October 2017
- Preston Business Advisory Committee – 11 October 2017
- Preston Business Advisory Committee – 18 October 2017

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That** the record of the Assembly of Councillors held on 27 September 2017 and 2, 5, 11 and 18 October 2017 attached as **Appendix A** to this report, be noted and incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

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#### Related Documents

- *Local Government Act 1989*

#### Attachments

- Assembly of Councillors (**Appendix A**)



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Darebin Environmental Reference Group
	<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 27 September 2017
	<b>Location:</b>	Conference Room, 350 High Street, Preston
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) Cr. Trent McCarthy (arrived at 7.20pm during item 1)
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Libby Hynes, Sam Green
	<b>Other:</b>	Darebin Environmental Reference Group members
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		No Councillor apologies

The Assembly commenced at 7.00pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	DERG terms of reference and committee review	No disclosures were made
2	Council Procurement Policy and Environmental Purchasing Code	No disclosures were made
3	Draft ESD Building Policy	No disclosures were made
4	Solar Saver – new program	No disclosures were made
5	Darebin says no to single-use plastics	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 9.05pm

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Sam Green
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Environmental Education and Promotions Officer



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Darebin Disability Advisory Committee
	<b>Date:</b>	Monday 2 October 2017
	<b>Location:</b>	Function Room, Darebin Civic Centre
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Julie Williams and Cr. Susanne Newton
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Robyn Mitchell, Gillian Damonze, Christine Mulholland and Karla Coombes
	<b>Other:</b>	Representative of Encompass House, representative of Melbourne Polytechnic and community representatives.
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		Shadi Hanna and Katherine Kiley

The Assembly commenced at 11.00am

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Present and apologies	No disclosures were made
2	Matters arising from previous minutes / drop off zone	No disclosures were made
3	Round table check in	No disclosures were made
4	Context setting to agenda items on work experience and employment opportunities for people with disability at Council.	No disclosures were made
5	Melbourne Polytechnic	No disclosures were made Cr. Williams entered the meeting at 11.43am
6	Jobs Victoria	No disclosures were made
7	General Business	No disclosures were made
8	Meeting feedback	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 1:10pm

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Christine Mulholland
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	MetroAccess Officer



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Darebin Energy Foundation
	<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 5 October 2017
	<b>Location:</b>	Conference Room, 350 High Street, Preston
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor), Cr. Susan Rennie (Chair), Cr. Lina Messina
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Libby Hynes, Sally MacAdam, Sue Phillips, Oliver Vido, Allan Cochrane
	<b>Other:</b>	Darebin Energy Foundation members
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		Cr. Gaetano Greco

The Assembly commenced at 6.35 pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Introduction of members	No disclosures were made
2	Climate Emergency Plan and feedback relating to Darebin Energy Foundation	No disclosures were made
3	Darebin Energy Foundation Terms of Reference- revisions needed based on Climate Emergency Plan	No disclosures were made
4	Foundation model	No disclosures were made
5	Foundation role brainstorm	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 8.30 pm

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Libby Hynes
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Manager Environment and Community Outcomes



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Meeting with Councillor representatives on the Preston Business Advisory Committee to develop the Preston Central Business Plan
	<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 11 October 2017
	<b>Location:</b>	Red Room, Darebin Civic Centre
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Julie Williams, Cr. Lina Messina
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Wendy Dinning, Therese Ceniti, Gary Cattran
	<b>Other:</b>	Preston Central Marketing Coordinator Representative from i.e. Community Partners
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		n/a

The Assembly commenced at 4.25

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Briefing provided on the Preston Market marketing and community engagement plan (in the context of developing the Preston Central Business Plan) by representative from i.e. Community Partners	No disclosures were made Therese Ceniti and representative from i.e. Community Partners, left the meeting at 4.50pm.
2	Preparation for Preston Business Advisory Committee (PBAC) planning afternoon to confirm the Preston Central Business Plan.	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 5.30

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Wendy Dinning
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Business Development Coordinator



## ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

<b>ASSEMBLY DETAILS:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Meeting with Preston Business Advisory Committee to finalise the Preston Central Business Plan
	<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 18 October 2017
	<b>Location:</b>	Function Room, Darebin Civic Centre
<b>PRESENT:</b>	<b>Councillors:</b>	Cr. Julie Williams (from 4.10pm), Cr. Lina Messina
	<b>Council Staff:</b>	Wendy Dinning, Gary Cattran
	<b>Other:</b>	Preston Central Marketing Coordinator Representatives from Preston Business Advisory Committee Members Representative from Chatterbox Projects (facilitator)
<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		Representatives from Preston Business Advisory Committee Members

The Assembly commenced at 3.00

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Finalise actions based on discussion with the Preston Business Advisory Committee members.	No disclosures were made
2	Based on finalised actions, allocated budget for the 2017/18 year.	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 5.32

<b>RECORD COMPLETED BY:</b>	<b>Officer Name:</b>	Wendy Dinning
	<b>Officer Title:</b>	Business Development Coordinator

### 13. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

**Recommendation**

**That** Council note the Reports by Mayor and Councillors.

## 14. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

The Chief Executive Officer, pursuant to section 77(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act), has designated the following items to be confidential:

### 14.1 Construction Of Shared Path Bridge Over Darebin Creek At Dundas Street, Thornbury - Awarding Of Contract)

This item is designated confidential because it is a contractual matter pursuant to section 89(2)(d) of the Act.

### 14.2 Agreement with Microsoft Corporation

This item is designated confidential because it is a contractual matter pursuant to section 89(2)(d) of the Act.

## CLOSE OF MEETING

<b>Recommendation</b>
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**That** in accordance with section 89(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council resolves to close the meeting to members of the public to consider the items designated confidential by the Chief Executive Officer.

## RE-OPENING OF MEETING

<b>Recommendation</b>
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That the meeting be re-opened to the members of the public.

**15. CLOSE OF MEETING**

