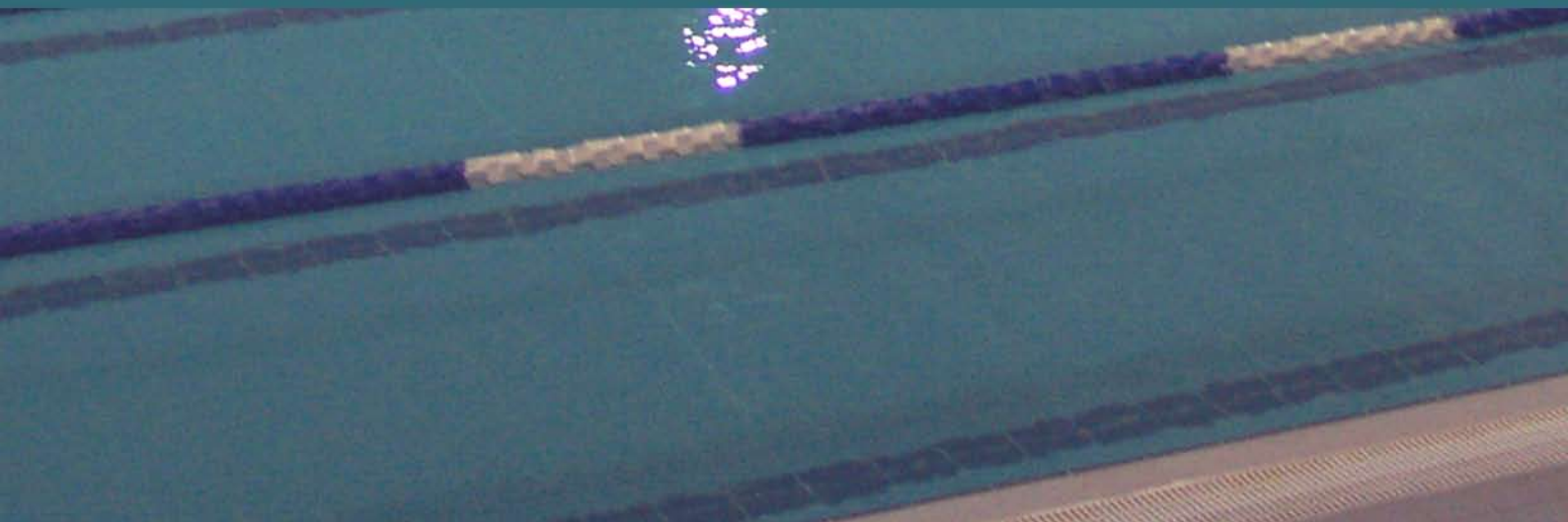


AQUATIC AND NETBALL PRECINCT MASTER PLAN DEMAND AND ISSUES PAPER



ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This document summarises the findings from a literature review, demographic and demand assessment and stakeholder consultation.

The document identifies key markets and proposed facilities to support future demand.

This research will guide Etch in the development of a master plan for the proposed Yarra Ranges Aquatic and Netball Precinct at Swinburne University (refer to attachment 1 for master plan and site plan).

This document is not a feasibility study. The following clubs and organisations were contacted as part of this assignment:

Lilydale & Yarra Valley Netball Association, Lilydale Surf Club, Lilydale Tennis Club, Lilydale Soccer Club, Doncaster Hockey Club, Melbourne Water, Lilydale County Health Centre, Swinenergy, Swinburne University, Lilydale High School, Lilydale Heights College, Glenvale School, Lilydale West Primary, Lilydale Primary St. Patricks Primary, Councils EO Recreation Services, Council's Contracts and Development Co-ordinator.

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PRELIMINARY DEMAND ASSESSMENT

Swinburne University

The Swinburne University has 684 TAFE and 1359 higher education students and staff at the Lilydale Campus. Most students are between the age of 18 and 30 years (some 90% of students fall within this age bracket).

The focus of the university courses is on business, IT and social science / TAFE courses hospitality and health (a future big push for the campus).

The University has two basic asphalt outdoor basketball courts that are in very poor condition and used infrequently. The University also runs a childcare centre.

Staff and students have access to the Swinergy Sports Centre at the Hawthorn Campus including being a member of the SSAA sports program. However the distance to this facility means students from Lilydale do not access these sport and recreation opportunities. The general public can use the Swinergy Sports Centre and the same model is proposed at the Lilydale Campus.

The University's key interest in this proposal is to bring a sport and recreation facility to their campus for their students. They believe the facility will better connect the University with the community. The facility will also: offer students part time job opportunities, attract international students and address the issues with the condition of the child care centre by providing it in a future facility.

Demographic influences

Demographic characteristics are key influences on the demand for recreation activities. Participation in recreation, and the perception of value of open space and facility provision is generally influenced by demographic characteristics.

Age and gender are principal determinants of recreation preferences and levels of activity. Generally, higher levels of participation in recreation correspond to higher levels of income, and education. Unemployment, higher numbers of older people and those people born in non-English speaking countries, typically constrain participation.

Population

The resident population of Yarra Ranges in 2006 was estimated at 137,698¹. The Victoria in Future document prepared by the Department of Sustainability and Environment predicts the population for the municipality will increase to around 147,835 by 2031. This does however assume that the urban growth area will be extended. This is likely to be the case. The population is large and is continuing to grow, however at a slow rate.

Most growth is likely in the north of Yarra Ranges and includes the communities of Yarra Glen and Healesville.

The population is not evenly distributed. Approximately 44% live in urban areas while the remaining 56% are spread across small townships and the rural balance of the Shire.

¹ ABS 2006

With 46% of the population living in urban areas, most of which are in Lilydale, the consolidation of aquatic activities and the provision of a facility that offers diverse aquatic, health and fitness opportunities for a broad cross section of this community should be explored.

The current provision of sporting and outdoor recreation pursuits may not reflect the high proportion of females in the population and recreation planning must consider gender preferences for activities, as well as constraints to participation in outdoor pursuits for women with young families. It will be increasingly important to ensure social opportunities for exercise that may appeal to females, and support facilities that enable women to participate.

Generally, people who are unemployed or engaged in home duties may not have the same opportunities as others to participate in recreation activities away from home.

There are an increasing proportion of older adults in the community and number of families without children in Yarra Ranges. These characteristics suggest there is likely to be an increasing demand for social activities, indoor and outdoors.

The following table shows the total Shire's population in 2006, and the projected population in 2031. These figures assume significant additional land is not released for urban development, which in fact may be the case.

Table 1: Population Projections

	2006	2011	2016	2021
Population	144,993	147,758	149,622	151,436

Source: Department of Planning and Community Development – Victoria in the Future 2008

Age

The major differences between the age structure of Yarra Ranges and that of Victoria as a whole are as follows:

- A *larger* percentage of 12 to 17 year olds (9.8% compared to 8.2%)
- A *larger* percentage of 50 to 59 year olds (14.2% compared to 12.6%)
- A *smaller* percentage of 70 to 84 year olds (5.7% compared to 7.9%)
- A *smaller* percentage of 25 to 34 year olds (11.8% compared to 13.8%).

The largest changes in age structure in this area between 2001 and 2006 were in the age groups:

- 60 to 69 (+2,657 persons)
- 50 to 59 (+2,190 persons)
- 25 to 34 (-2,186 persons)
- 5 to 11 (-1,283 persons).

The population over the next 25 years will age dramatically. The proportion of people aged 14 years and less will halve, while those aged 60 years and over will double. However it is also expected that there will be significant increase in population if the urban growth boundary moves out. This means that the additional resident population is likely to include more young families who are trading up or moving out for lifestyle and affordability reasons.

Car ownership

Higher percentage of dwellings with two or more motor vehicles (65.2%) compared to the Melbourne Statistical Division (51.6%).

Income

There are similar income levels in Yarra Ranges compared to the Melbourne Statistical Division. The median weekly income for persons aged 15 years and over was \$474 compared to \$481 for the Melbourne Statistical Division.

The median household income for Yarra Ranges was \$1,078 compared to \$1,079 for the Melbourne Statistical Division.

Ancestry

16.2% of the population in Yarra Ranges was born overseas, and 6.7% were from a non-English speaking background. This is compared to 23.9% and 17.4% respectively for Victoria.

Participation rates in sport and physical activity are therefore likely to be higher in Yarra Ranges than for Melbourne or Victoria as a whole, where there are higher proportions of people born in non English speaking countries.

The dominant non-English speaking country of birth in Yarra Ranges Shire was Netherlands.

Education

Analysis of the qualifications of the population in Yarra Ranges Shire in 2006 compared to Victoria shows that there was a larger proportion of people holding formal qualifications (Bachelor or higher degree; Advanced Diploma or Diploma; or Vocational qualifications) and a similar proportion. The higher the education obtained the higher the likely participation rate in physical activity.

Disability

There are 18,945 people with disabilities in Yarra Ranges. This makes up 13.6% of the total population.

There has been a steady rise in the underlying disability rate in Australia with an increase in the proportion of Australians with disabilities from 15% in 1981 to 19% in 1998 (3.6 million people).

The major factors influencing this increase are:

- People generally living longer and acquiring disabilities as they age
- People with pre-existing disabilities are living longer
- Changes in social attitudes may have made many people feel more comfortable about identifying as having a disability
- This market is an important to address in any new recreation facility – especially the aquatic facilities.

Demand For Activities

There is no current local source of demand information for activities that may be accommodated in a facility of this nature. Some indication of the size of the market can be established using state and national participation rates.²

As a basic indicator of demand, participation in selected indoor and outdoor activities can be projected using these participation rates and the current population of adjacent suburbs.

Table 2: Likely numbers of people participating in the core activities being considered for this centre

NETBALL		SWIMMING (ORGANISED ONLY)		
Likely no. Participating	Existing membership	Likely no. Participating	Existing membership	Likely no. Participating organised & non organised
1652	1600	1610	80	5163

AEROBICS / FITNESS ORGANISED & UNORGANISED		WEIGHT TRAINING	
Likely no. Participating	Existing membership	Likely no. Participating	Existing membership
2263	Est. 1000	1025	Est 1000

² The Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS) conducted for the Standing Committee on Recreation and Sport (SCORS) identifies the participation rates for sport and recreation across a number of activities at a national and state level for people aged over 15 years.

The ABS also publishes Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities, however these are not available by age group or at the state level.

The market potential for gym and fitness activities is likely to be in order of 7500 people, excluding non residents students. It is estimated that there are some 2500 current gym and fitness memberships in surrounding suburbs.

Activities with a high demand among person under 15 years of age include swimming and netball. These activities are likely to have high participation rates among the young people in Yarra Ranges.

The demand for activities that are supported by swimming pools, is estimated at 5100 excluding lessons. The market for organised swimming is likely to be in order of 2000 people. Current there are 80 swim club members.

The demand for netball activities has been estimated at 1600 members. There are already 1600 member sin the Netball Association. This suggests netball has the least opportunity to grow, even with new facilities.

Other groups

The Yarra Ranges community is ageing with the largest increases in age groups being recorded within the ages of 60 to 69yrs and 50 to 59 yrs. The number of people aged 14 years and younger is expected to halve. The number of persons aged 60 years and older is projected to double over the next 25 years.

Health Services in Yarra Ranges were consulted as part of this project. They identified the importance of developing a facility that has warm water pools, gymnasium and group fitness areas to support the health needs of an ageing population. These facilities will attract older adults to the facility. The direct health benefits of the future facility will include a reduction in preventable chronic diseases in Lilydale.

KEY MARKETS FOR A FUTURE FACILITY

Indoor Gym /Fitness Market

The proposed location of a facility at Swinburne University, supports the development of facilities that provide for a fitness market. There are over 2000 university students at Swinburne University who may use the facility to keep fit and active. The University indicates: *Further, physical education and human movement is part of the secondary schools curriculum, and a facility that accommodates these sport science programs would be attractive to the schools.*

Fitness is the key market for students. The University seek facilities that support SSAA activities. They seek activities that support the University Games sports, with a focus on those that are more leisure focused. There is a high demand for gym and aquatic activities at Swinburne University.

There is strong support for the development of a gymnasium, group fitness rooms and fitness pools by the University, local secondary schools and Lilydale Swimming Club. Recent research suggests 'Multiple group fitness rooms with a range of classes' is the second most important factor in making a decision to join a health club - behind 'professional staff and knowledgeable trainers'.³

A 50 or 25 metre lap swimming pool that can provide for aqua programs and a well equipped gymnasium and group fitness rooms is desired by these groups to meet the fitness needs of this market.

There are approximately 13% of the Shire population with a disability. It does not appear that there are accessible aquatic facilities for people with a disability in Lilydale or surrounding suburbs. Any pool or gym provided in this project should be fully accessible and provide state of the art facilities to address this market.

Competitors

There are a number of private gyms within a few kilometres of Lilydale. These include gyms with pools and those providing for specific segments such as older adults, young people and women.

Private facilities include: Lilydale Squash and Fitness Centre, (1500 members) Curves Lilydale, Fenix Fitness Mooroolbark, Contours Mooroolbark, Flex Trim and Tone Mooroolbark, and Fernwood Chirnside Park. See Attachment 2.

Swim Lessons

Learn to swim and the schools swimming programs are a large potential market for a future indoor aquatic centre in Lilydale.

There are four primary schools and five secondary schools within two kilometres of the proposed site. Also, there are a high proportion of young families in Lilydale that would access learn to swim programs.

The existing public facilities at Lilydale (outdoor 50m) and Kilsyth do not meet contemporary standards for learn to swim. Furthermore, in Lilydale's outdoors pool's case, it is only open part of the year. The outdoor 50m pool will however be important for young swimmers transitioning from lessons to squads, and for school and club carnivals.

³ Member satisfaction survey from leading industry organisations – the International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association (IHRSA), the HealthClub Development Company and Les Mills International.

Competitors

There are other private facilities in Lilydale. The Lilydale Squash and Fitness Centre has a 15m salt water pool kept at a temperature of approximate 32 degrees. The pool depth ranges from 1.0m at the shallow end to 1.6m at the deep end. It is used for lessons, programs and hydrotherapy.

Indoor Aquatic Competition and Programs

A number of stakeholders have identified the need for a pool that can be programmed for different levels of learning, and fitness activities.

A warm water pool with a depth of 900-1.4m (or a height adjustable floor) would enable a wide range of users and activities to be accommodated. This would allow for varied depths and broaden the focus of this water space to enable aquatic programs like water aerobics be run from the pool.

A 50m indoor pool that provides for fitness programs such as Aquarobics, Hydrocycle, as well as lap swimming and competition swimming is desirable. If a 50m pool was provided it could replace the outdoor 50m pool at the end of its useful life.

Lilydale Swimming Club

The Lilydale Swimming Club has over 80 members and caters for children aged 6 years and above. The vast majority of membership is from the later years of primary and secondary school. They also have a fitness squad.

Sessions are held in the morning (four times a week) and the evening (four times a week, for one to two hours. These concentrate on stamina, speed & stroke correction.

Dry land training is available for senior swim and junior swim squads on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. The club also hosts a number of events including club aggregates (inter club competition), club championships and 2 major competitions per season.

The club currently use the Kilsyth Indoor Pool. They seek greater access to the facility and believe that they will be able to grow their club if times were available at a future facility, for club swimming.

The club would like to see a multi user, friendly aquatic and recreation facility developed. They require a good quality pool that serves squad training.

Competitors

The future of Kilsyth as an indoor facility is uncertain, and given the considerable future growth in rural areas around Lilydale and the nature of existing facilities there is likely to be demand for a 50m indoor competition and fitness pool in Lilydale.

Given the age of the outdoor facility pool and the likelihood of Kilsyth being retained as an outdoor pool in the long term, the provision of an indoor 50m pool in Lilydale would relieve the pressure on these facility and allow consolidation. The nearest indoor 50 m pool is located at Ringwood.

Indoor Leisure Water Market

There is a demand for leisure water offering play experiences for children and young people at the proposed facility. No facilities nearby currently provide for this market with the exception of the toddlers pool at Kilysth.

There are a large proportion of young families and people aged 12 to 17 years in Lilydale. Also, the proposed location is central to a number of local primary and secondary schools in Lilydale. Leisure water could offer a unique play and social experience to young people.

It may be possible to provide leisure water attached to the program pool. A water slide targeting older children may also provide a competitive strength for the centre. This could extend beyond the pool hall outside, and return to a small splash down pool.

Other associated services

Clinical Health Services

The Health Services in Yarra Ranges expressed the importance of having clinical rooms at the facility for physiotherapy, massage, etc.

With an increasing ageing population and likely increase in people with disabilities, there is a demand for providing clinical services that complement the services already provided in Lilydale.

Some aquatic centres are now providing attendant care services to assist people with a disability to utilise aquatic and recreation facilities.

Child Care

There is an existing childcare centre at the Swinburne University. This facility is heavily used and a valuable asset to the University and community. The demand for childcare will continue, with a high proportion of young families residing in Lilydale.

The Swinburne University has expressed their desire for the childcare centre to be relocated into a future aquatic and recreation facility. The consultants support this approach. A childcare service will enable parents to access aquatic and recreation facilities and will add to the viability of the overall facility.

Café and associated services

There will be demand for a café in conjunction with the pool. The service would need to complement that currently provided by the University cafeteria and restaurant. It could potentially service a market to include outdoor lake environment users. Desirably it should provide a social focus to the facility and provide a meeting and lounge area.

The centre may also be able to facilitate walking and cycling or other lake related use. Services such as boot camps and personal trainers that use the outdoors could be accommodated, in addition to potential bike hire.

Netball

Lilydale And Yarra Valley Netball Association

The Lilydale and Yarra Valley Netball Association (LYVNA) have 1600 registered members and over 200 teams. The association caters for young people (juniors) and adults (seniors). LYVNA activities include Funnet sessions for 5 to 7 year olds, netball competitions for all age groups and all standards, as well as representative teams and training.

The LYVNA currently use the McDermott Avenue Netball Facility in Mooroolbark. The facility has 10 asphalt courts and pavilion however is in very poor condition, does not meet the needs and increasing demands of netball in Yarra Ranges and has inadequate car parking.

Currently, competition is conducted on Saturday from 9am to 3:45pm in the Spring Season and 9am to 4:45pm in the Winter Season. Training is conducted every night except on Saturdays from 4pm to 9pm.

The LYVNA is seeking a new home. The association's key interest in this proposal is for a regional 12 court netball facility be established with access to change facilities, office/time keeper/administration area, storage, viewing area, shelter and umpiring and first aid facilities. The association has stated they would require 150 car spaces to accommodate their activities.

The LYVNA is keen to see two of the courts enclosed as part of the proposal or in a future stage.

The new basketball/netball stadium being developed at Pinks Reserve is designed to provide an additional two indoor courts (total five courts). At the time of submitting for funding to the State Government, Council negotiated access to the indoor courts and agreed times of use for netball with the Kilsyth Basketball Association.

The Kilsyth Basketball Association will manage the indoor sports stadium. A lease agreement between Council and the Kilsyth Basketball Association outlining the terms of access to the indoor sports stadium will be establish. This agreement will identify access to the indoor courts and the agreed times of use for netball.

The original plans for Pinks Reserve were to provide outdoor netball courts following the indoor sports stadium development.

The key concerns of LYVNA are access to the indoor sports stadium and provision of 12 outdoor courts. If access to the indoor courts can be guaranteed and a commitment is made to the development of 12 outdoor courts, the needs of netball will be met.

If an outdoor court facility was developed in conjunction with the Swinburne University the indoor courts at Pinks Reserve and University facilities could complement each other in providing for the training and competition needs of LYVNA. However there is unlikely to be demand for both facilities, although the indoor courts (if not used by netball) would be taken up quickly by futsal and other minor sports or programs.

The Lilydale High School has an indoor sports stadium that is currently used for club basketball. The school is located adjacent to the Swinburne University and therefore, it would not be advisable to create another location where indoor courts are provided in Lilydale. It may be more viable to add further courts to this space or negotiate access for netball and relocate the current club basketball competition to the new indoor sports stadium at Pinks Reserve.

There are two options for providing the needs of netball to be considered.

Option one is to establish 8-12 outdoor netball courts at Pinks Reserve and provide access to the 5 indoor courts at agreed times as originally planned. Currently the courts are undersized for netball. This issue would need to be addressed. This option may be a better fit than including outdoor netball with an aquatic and fitness facility. The outdoor netball courts are unlikely to be highly used by students.

Option two is to establish 8-12 outdoor netball courts at Swinburne University and provide access to the indoor courts at Lilydale High School at agreed times. Currently the indoor courts are undersized for netball. This issue would need to be addressed.

Option three is to establish 8-12 outdoor netball courts and 2-4 indoor courts at Swinburne University. Providing indoor courts are more likely to be used by the University.

In addition, the feasibility of accommodating the facility requirements (including car parking) of the University, aquatic centre and netball courts on the proposed site will need to be determined.

Climbing

There is demand for additional recreation activities that would suit the university and schools market, add to the diversity of recreation opportunities currently available in Lilydale and have some connection with strengths of the area. Rock climbing is one such activity. It can be provided as an indoor or an outdoor facility.

The Swinburne University is seeking recreation activities for their students and their SSAA sports program already provides for outdoor sports such as water skiing, skiing and snowboarding. The University supports the concept of providing a rock-climbing wall and sees it as an opportunity to enhance their existing SSAA sports program.

The local secondary schools offer a VET Outdoor Education course where students can obtain a Certificate II in Outdoor Education. The schools have identified that a rock-climbing wall would add value to the existing offer and support the VET program.

These outdoor education and rock climbing activities occur in the region at location such as at the Cathedral Range, Buxton.

The provision of a rock-climbing wall (either indoors or outdoors) will provide the centre with a competitive edge over other indoor sport and recreation centres in the region.

Swinburne University has an Explorers Club which visits indoor climbing gyms, and other locations such the Grampians and Cathedral ranges.

Competition

The closest climbing centre to Lilydale is a large private centre in Nunawading⁴: See Attachment 2 for images of climbing facilities.

Futsal And Sport Training

The local soccer clubs were consulted as part of this project to determine the demand for a social futsal competition.

Currently players in Lilydale play futsal outside the municipality at Bayswater and Croydon. However the soccer clubs believe that if futsal was provided in Lilydale, the activity would attract greater participation because the proposed location would be more convenient and closer to where they live. Typically futsal is played indoors, however in other states it has developed on outdoor courts. It will be difficult to find suitable surface for outdoor courts that can be used for other sports.

Synthetic multiuse courts and a futsal competition would also be attractive to the University, however netball will require hard courts suitable for competition. The University are seeking flexible recreation facilities that offer diverse sport and recreation activities to their students.

Acrylic surfaced multiuse courts could be used as an alternative training venue for local sporting clubs. The facility would enable Council to undertake maintenance works to playing fields while still accommodating the training needs of local sports clubs such as Australian Rules football, football (soccer) and cricket.

One sand fill artificial grass surface could provide for futsal/tennis and hockey, however there appears to be limited demand for these other sports. One indoor court could provide for futsal, however if a synthetic grass soccer field was provided it would be more logical to locate this with the existing outdoor soccer fields.

Lilydale Tennis Club suggests there is no demand for additional tennis courts at University site. The current facility can cater for an increase in tennis membership. The Club will seek additional synthetic grass courts when plexi pave courts require an upgrade in 5 years time.

⁴ **Hardrock** 16-18 Varman Ct Nunawading, Victoria
3131 03 9894 4183 <http://www.hardrock.com.au>
Opening Hours Hardrock Nunawading Weekdays
12pm to 10pm. Weekends 11am to 7pm.

SUMMARY OF FACILITIES SUPPORTED BY DEMAND AND SUPPLY ANALYSIS

Based on the demand information collected for the project, and a brief review of supply of competing facilities the desirable components of a indoor outdoor sport and aquatics facility include the following water bodies:

- A 50m (8-10 lanes) indoor swimming pool for some indoor lap swimming, competition and carnivals and well as fitness activities such as aquarobics and hydrocycling
- A 25m pool would be an option here but this is less desirable in the long term
- A large 20m+program pool that can provide for multiple programs at the same time and potentially has a adjustable height floor. These facilities would provide for swim lessons and aquatic programs, and warm water activities
- Toilet and change facilities (wet area)
- Additional warm water leisure water play is desired. This should offering play experiences for preschool children and young people. These two activities may be provided in the same water body. This would be enhanced by a water slide
- Gymnasium and group fitness rooms and associated toilet / change facilities
- Child care centre
- Lounge and cafe
- Health clinic rooms

- Rock climbing facility (optional)

There is demand for an indoor / outdoor regional netball centre in Lilydale. This would include 8-12 outdoor courts and 2-4 indoor courts, and associated clubroom and toilets / change rooms, canteen and associated facilities. This facility could be provided on this site or at an alternate location.



Yarra Ranges Aquatic Centre Masterplan - Proposed Floor Plan
Shire of Yarra Ranges



Area Schedule

Multi-Purpose Room 1	200 m ²
Multi-Purpose Room 2	200 m ²
Cleaners	20 m ²
Gym Store	32 m ²
Store 1	45 m ²
Gym Health Assessment	10 m ²
Gymnasium Office	11 m ²
Gymnasium	506 m ²
Staff	28 m ²
General Admin	64 m ²
Office 1	14 m ²
Store 2	12 m ²
Control / Reception	132 m ²
Cafe	103 m ²
Cafe Prep	15 m ²
Store 3	17 m ²
Pool Store 2	45 m ²
Pool Office	23 m ²
First Aid Room	32 m ²
Health & Wellness Suites	156 m ²
Cafe Male	10 m ²
Cafe Female	10 m ²
Creche	172 m ²
Creche Office	9 m ²
Creche Kitchen	16 m ²
Creche Amenities	16 m ²
Creche Store	26 m ²
Outdoor Play	309 m ²
25m 10 Lane Pool	710 m ²
Spectator Seating	88 m ²
Pool Plant	303 m ²
Pool Store 3	82 m ²
Sauna	11 m ²
Group Change 1	42 m ²
Group Change 2	42 m ²
Accessible / Family Change 1	9 m ²
Accessible / Family Change 2	9 m ²
Warm Water Pool	231 m ²
Spa	51 m ²
Leisure / Program Pool	648 m ²
Toddlers Pool	48 m ²
Change Villages	29 m ²
Female Change	81 m ²
Male Change	81 m ²
Accessible / Family Change 3	9 m ²
Accessible / Family Change 4	9 m ²
Pool Store 1	35 m ²
Circulation	1329 m ²

Total Area 6080 m²

BUILDING &
LANDSCAPE

Job Number: **EJ-0785**

Drg No: **SK-04**

Scale: **N.T.S**

Date: **19/07/2010**

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Yarra Ranges Aquatic Centre Masterplan - Site Plan
Shire of Yarra Ranges



ATTACHMENT 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2008 – 2018

Purpose

The Recreation and Open Space Strategy provides a framework to guide Council's decision making in providing recreation and open space services and infrastructure in Yarra Ranges.

The strategy outlines short and long-term actions for the next 10 years.

Key findings relevant to the master plan

The strategy identifies swimming as the second most popular activity undertaken by residents in Yarra Ranges.

Key issues with Council's aquatic facilities focus on access, transport, financial viability and the condition of facilities rather than distribution.

The strategy supports the Aquatic Strategy 2007 recommendation to conduct a "business case analysis in the Urban Precinct (Lilydale) regarding the areas capabilities of meeting municipal, sub-municipal and local needs".

Furthermore, a key recommendation is for Council to "investigate partnership opportunities for the provision of aquatic, health and fitness facilities with large education providers such as Swinburne University in Lilydale".

There are currently 14 outdoor netball facilities providing 36 courts to the Yarra Ranges community.

The strategy identifies the need to co-locate outdoor netball courts at field sport venues following the union between football and netball associations in the area at the state level. There is also support for multiuse surfaces for both tennis and netball.

The strategy references a feasibility study undertaken by @leisure in 2005 that investigated the provision of a netball facility in Chirnside Park. The relocation of netball to the proposed site has fallen through due to site constraints.

The strategy highlights the concerns with the existing netball facility at McDermott Avenue. The facility is in poor condition and there is a lack of car parking, as well as change and pavilion facilities.

The findings above support a proposed aquatic, leisure and netball complex at Swinburne University in Lilydale. Key reasons are:

- Poor condition of existing aquatic facilities in the urban area (Lilydale)
- Poor condition of the existing netball facility
- There is a demand for aquatic, health and fitness activities in the urban area (Lilydale)
- The Lilydale and Yarra Valley netball competition is strong and the relocation of the facility to a more suitable site with support facilities such as pavilion and change facilities will support the growth of the sport.

YARRA RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL AQUATIC FACILITIES STRATEGIC PLAN 2007 – 2017

Purpose

The Aquatic Facilities Strategic Plan involved a review of the demand, use, condition and operation of aquatic facilities within Yarra Ranges. The strategy outlines a prioritised 10 years development plan.

Key findings relevant to master plan

Four aquatic “districts” were identified.

The plan recommends one indoor aquatic facility be provided in the Shire. The proposed site could provide an aquatic facility to serve the urban district, which is presently served by the Lilydale Outdoor Pool and Centenary Pool in Kilsyth.

In 2005/06, the Lilydale Outdoor Pool:

- Attracted 14,293 visits
- Generated \$59,380 income (\$3.76 per visit)
- Incurred operational costs of \$59,237
- Incurred maintenance costs of \$23,993
- The minimal additional visits required for the venue to be cost neutral is 15,800
- The technical audit recommends upgrade to the main pool, the filtration and circulation systems and upgrade to access and support amenities. The cost of upgrading was estimated at \$240,000
- Stakeholder comments suggest that there is capacity to increase the use of the facility and a demand for aquatic programs and education.

THE CENTENARY POOL IN KILSYTH

This pool:

- Attracted 164,135 visits
- Generated \$315,566 income (\$6.71 per visit)
- Incurred operational costs of \$306,543
- Incurred maintenance costs of \$103,668
- The minimal additional visits required for the venue to be cost neutral is 47,000
- The technical audit recommends replacement of the dome over the pool due to its age and inefficient use of energy, refurbishment of the 50m pool, upgrade piping, and pool concourse area, replace the small indoor pools and improve the condition of the outdoor pools. The estimated probable cost of undertaking these works was in order of \$12-15M
- Stakeholder comments highlight the poor condition of the facility and suggest there is a demand for year round use of an aquatic program and education pool.

Yarra Ranges aquatic facilities incurred an operational deficit of \$1.28M in 2005/06. This figure has constantly grown over recent years.

The strategy estimates an additional 199,800 visits would be required across all nine public aquatic facilities to break even. It also makes comment that it this is *“unlikely to be achievable with the current mix and nature of facilities available”*.

The key concerns for Council with the existing provision of aquatic facilities are:

- The low use recorded for a number of aquatic centres
- The small district catchment populations served by some aquatic centres
- The age and continuing decline in the physical condition of the majority of the pools
- The Shire's ageing population (who may be a key market segment).

The review found that the only visitation increase was recorded at the new Yarra Junction Centre. It also found that indoor pools in the municipality meet a wide range of all year aquatic markets and attract significant use where outdoor facilities struggle to reach markets beyond the local area.

Key demographic influences identified include:

- The population is large (139,000) and continuing to grow. This suggests that the population can support more than one viable aquatic facility
- The age of the population will increase over the next 25 years. However traditional aquatic demand drops dramatically after 44 years.

The report suggests the population does not support the existing number of aquatic facilities. It commends the consolidation of aquatic facilities and the redevelopment of existing facilities to serve future demographic needs, if an aquatic service is to be retained on a sustainable basis.

The following development and redevelopment actions were recommended for Yarra Ranges:

- Consolidating provision in each district
- Diversifying the leisure activities within aquatic centres
- Providing a greater range of programs and activities at each venue
- Strengthening the presentation, positioning and access to each venue.

With respect to the urban district, the strategy recommends Council "undertake a business case analysis regarding the area be capable of meeting municipal, sub-municipal and local needs and determine options for a preferred location of a new aquatic facility".

The Aquatic Strategy provides strategic support for the preparation of this master plan.

CHIRNSIDE PARK NETBALL FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY, 2006

Purpose

The Chirnside Park Netball Facility Feasibility Study investigated the feasibility of providing netball courts at Chirnside Park, considering existing netball facilities in the municipality.

Key findings relevant to master plan

The report found that Kimberley Park Reserve in Chirnside Park would be the preferred site to develop two netball courts in the Chirnside area; however there wasn't the demand or available resources to justify constructing two floodlit outdoor courts for training purposes.

The report determines the condition of outdoor netball courts to be a major concern and in need of refurbishment.

The report reviewed potential sites for the development of a netball facility. These sites include:

- Oxley College
- Mooroolbark Heights Secondary College
- Pinks Reserve, Kilsyth.

The review suggests that there is sufficient space to develop outdoor netball courts at Pinks Reserve to support three indoor courts and that a master plan would need to be developed to provide the changes required to vehicle and pedestrian movement.

YARRA RANGES NETBALL FACILITY FEASIBILITY STUDY, 2008

Purpose

The Netball Facility Feasibility Study investigated options for the development of a regional netball facility that will support the development of the Lilydale and Yarra Valley Netball Association and existing clubs, as well as the future growth of netball across the municipality.

Key findings relevant to the master plan

Key demographic influences identified in the report include:

- Young people are key users of netball / indoor stadium facilities
- In Yarra Ranges, the number of young people (0-24 years of age) will decline over the next 14 years from 36.9% to 29.4%
- The municipality will experience slow but steady population growth for the next 30 years.

The study profiles the use, issues and needs of the Lilydale and Yarra Valley Netball Association (LYVNA):

- The Association lease ten asphalt courts and clubrooms at McDermott Avenue
- Competition is on Saturday from 9am to 3.45pm in the Spring Season and 9am to 4.45pm in the Winter Season
- Training is conducted every night except on Saturdays from 4pm to 9pm. There is a demand for additional lighting for training

- Coaches and Umpire courses are held throughout the year at Yarra Valley Grammar and Lilydale High School. These venues are hired to run these courses
- There are 1600 registered members
- Issues include ongoing court deterioration, inadequate car parking, and no change facilities. There is a demand for training facilities and night or mixed competition
- Specific facility needs include: access to two indoor courts, 12 outdoor courts with six courts lit, change facilities, office/time keeper/administration area, storage, canteen facilities, spectator viewing and shelter area and umpiring and first aid facilities
- The club recognises that if indoor courts were provided, they would need to be shared
- There is reluctance to partner basketball because of a fear of playing “second fiddle” to the sport (who play the same peak demand spots).

Netball Victoria indicate that they support the development of both indoor and outdoor courts and that the number of courts being sought by LYVNA is realistic given the Association’s strong participation;

Netball Victoria does not provide direct funding however will advocate for funding through external funding programs such as Sport and Recreation Victoria’s Community Facilities Funding Program.

The following key issues and future facility needs were identified for a regional netball facility:

- The existing site at McDermott Avenue is constrained in size and location (within a residential area)
- Balcombe Reserve is favoured by LYVNA
- Seville Reserve is located outside the catchment area
- Pinks Reserve is favoured by Council and is acceptable to LYVNA. This facility rated highly in the site assessment
- Oxley Reserve is unacceptable due to insufficient runoffs. This facility rated highly in the site assessment if the courts were reconfigured.

The estimated probable cost the proposed netball facility with indoor and outdoor courts is in order of \$9-10M.

YARRA RANGES ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

Purpose

The Environmental Strategy presents policy directions that ensure Council considers the environment in its decision making.

Key findings relevant to master plan

There are three key strategic policy directions in the plan, established with objectives, actions and measures:

- Reducing our human footprint
- Protecting natural assets and enhancing biodiversity
- Facilitating environmental stewardship in Yarra Ranges

Key measures for consideration in this master plan are:

- Integrate ecological sustainable development in planning
- Use energy from renewable sources with no or low emissions
- Develop facilities that demonstrate model sites of innovative water efficiency
- Integrate water sensitive urban design requirements in planning
- Proactively manage the soil health
- Provide appropriate alternatives to onsite wastewater management and / or improved management practices
- Tourism and recreation activities to be complementary to the protection and enhancement of natural assets

- Protecting and enhancing indigenous vegetation is of highest importance and measures should be put in place.

YARRA RANGES DISABILITY ACTION PLAN: A COMMUNITY FOR EVERYONE 2007-2009

Purpose

The Disability Action Plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of Council as a service provider in upholding the rights of all members of the community to receive equal treatment and opportunity.

Key findings relevant to master plan

The plan provides a policy and action plan centred around four key areas:

- Leadership and advocacy
- Access to premises and facilities
- Programs and services
- Staff awareness.

The following principles underpin the policy and action plan:

- People with a disability share the same rights and responsibilities as all members of our community
- People with disabilities have the right to access and participate in the activities of the community of the Shire of Yarra Ranges
- A person with a disability is an individual first and must not be defined by their disability
- The need of people and disabilities change across their lifespan, as do the needs of all people.

Council is committed to assess access issues in all layout plans under the access to premises and facilities key result area. Access and inclusion will be a focus of this master plan.

The plan highlights Council's support for the proposed facility to provide access to the benefits an aquatic and netball facility offers to all ages and abilities.

YARRA RANGES PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PLAN, 2005

Purpose

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan provide strategic direction for the development of pedestrian and bicycle networks within Yarra Ranges.

Key findings relevant to master plan

Key components of the plan include:

- A network of paths through the Lilydale, Mooroolbark and Chirnside Park area that connect communities to schools, sporting reserves, community facilities and urban centres
- Walking circuits to all major townships and suburbs throughout the Shire to provide for, and encourage, daily walking based exercise.

The master plan will consider the relationship between the proposed facility and the existing and proposed trail routes including those circumnavigating the Lilydale Lake.

ATTACHMENT 3: CONSULTATION FINDINGS

The findings from the stakeholder interviews undertaken as part of this project has been provided to Council in excel format.

ATTACHMENT 4: DETAIL OF LIKELY COMPETING GYM AND FITNESS FACILITIES

Gym Name	What facilities do you have?	Members	Cost of a Membership?	Business Hours
Lilydale Squash & Fitness Centre/ My first gym	Creche \$3.50 per child Group classes - yoga, circuit, spin etc. Pool facility for aqua aerobics. Separate female gym available. Squash courts.	about 1500	Monthly plan - \$62.90 (12 month contract) Upfront Plan - \$285 (3month) \$455 (6 month) \$695 (12 months)	Mon -Fri 6am – 9.30pm Saturday 8am - 4pm Sunday 9am -4pm
Curves	No creche. Circuit training only. Specific 30 min program.		\$59 per month + joining fee. Special on all throughout the year. Winter special is...free all winter.	Mon, Wed, Fri - 6 – 11.30am + 2.30 – 7pm Tues + Thurs 7 – 11am + 2 -7pm Saturday + Sunday 8 – 11am
Fenix	Creche is provided Classes include pump, aerobics, spin. Female only gym available.		Around \$60+ per month	Mon - Fri 6am - 9PM Sat / Sun – 8am – 5pm
Contours	No child minding facilities. 29 minute work-out on a circuit program.		\$59 per month + \$29 joining fee (first month fee)	Mon + Wed 6am - 8pm Tues + Thurs 6.30am - 7.30pm Fri - 6.30am - 7pm Saturday 8am - 1pm
Fernwood	Creche is provided for \$5.50 (1 1/2hr) \$3 per extra child. All classes provided. Steam room and massage chair, shower facilities. Free program updates every 6-8wks. Breakfast provided every day before 9AM for free. Women's only gym.		Approx. \$20per wk	Mon - thurs 6AM - 9PM Fri - 6 -8PM sat 8 -4PM Sun 8 - 2 pm

ATTACHMENT 5: CLIMBING FACILITIES



The nearest climbing facility in Nunawading.

The following image shows the climbing wall in the Forum. The University of Newcastle's indoor aquatic and recreation facility.



Indoor climbing wall: the Forum

The alternative is to provide an outdoor climbing facility such as the one below:



Climbing facilities in Malmo Sweden.



Climbing wall Burney Vic

