



DONVALE RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

OCTOBER 2013





Our vision for Manningham is for a strong, vibrant and well connected community that values its unique lifestyle and the protection of our open spaces.

Manningham is fortunate to have more than 300 parks and reserves. We are proud to have one of the largest networks of open space in metropolitan Melbourne covering 17 per cent of our municipality.

Enjoying the fresh air, sights, sounds and scents of our parks and reserves is good for the mind, body and soul and they also play an important role in bringing our communities together, providing meeting places and opportunities to socialise and get active.

One of our significant areas of open space is Donvale Reserve, a sporting hub for the local community and home to six sporting clubs and a preschool.

This Reserve supports the active participation of more than 800 Club members and 100 volunteers throughout the year and many local residents access the Reserve regularly to walk, play and exercise with family and friends.

The Donvale Reserve Management Plan has been developed in consultation with a wide range of users and it will ensure the reserve meets the needs of both the sporting and local community now and into the future.

I would like to thank the community for their contribution to the consultation process as it has greatly assisted us to identify the issues and opportunities which have shaped the development of the recommendations.

Jim Grivokostopoulos

Mayor



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Executive Summary

Publicly owned open space and reserves improve our physical and psychological health, strengthen our communities and make our cities and neighbourhoods more attractive places to live and work.

Manningham City Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas that accommodate a range of facilities and services and/or open space areas with a range of uses and purposes including informal recreation and landscape values. Such areas are important community assets and due to competing priorities and limited funding for development, it is crucial to plan and prioritise the use, development and management of these areas.

Donvale Reserve is situated in the south of the municipality on Mitcham Road, Donvale, has an area of approximately 11 hectares and provides a range of sporting and recreational opportunities to the residents of Donvale and the wider community.

The purpose of the Donvale Reserve Management Plan is to guide future use, development and management of Donvale Reserve.

The Reserve is currently used by clubs, schools and residents for a preschool, football, cricket, soccer and tennis. The Reserve is also used casually by local residents less formal recreational activities, such as basketball, netball, jogging, walking and dog walking.

Facilities within the Reserve include preschool buildings, two sports pavilions, which accommodate football, soccer and cricket clubs, four sports ovals, sports clubhouse accommodating tennis, six en tout cas and four synthetic clay tennis courts, two outdoor courts (one netball and one basketball), two sets of cricket nets, playground, public toilet block, covered picnic area, walking paths and areas of open space and car parking.

Currently the Reserve caters for the following clubs and groups, as well as other Manningham residents:

- Donvale Football Club
- Donvale Magpies Junior Football Club
- Donvale Cricket Club
- Donvale Tennis Club
- St. David's Cricket Club
- Doncaster Rovers Soccer Club
- Donvale Sports Club
- Montessori Early Education Centre
- Local schools

The Management Plan includes aims and objectives for the Reserve, as well as long term recommendations for actions including capital works. It will be used as a resource document for Council officers in the planning, development and management of the Reserve and will also be available to the community to assist in understanding Council's vision for the Reserve.



Vision

The vision for Donvale Reserve is to maintain and protect a valuable community resource that provides the Donvale community with a range of sporting, recreational and social opportunities.

Principles

The principles which have guided the development of the Donvale Reserve Management Plan are:

- To prioritise development and management opportunities in line with community needs and expectations.
- To provide landscapes and facilities for a range of recreational/sporting and community activities where people can come together and feel safe.
- To encourage participation in a range of sporting, recreational and social activities.
- To maintain facilities/landscapes in optimum condition.
- To minimise the impact of sporting and recreation pursuits on surrounding residents.

Following discussions with stakeholders, observation of trends and consultation with residents, the following four objectives are proposed to guide the recommendations for the future management of Donvale Reserve:

Objective 1: SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Improve the broad range of formal recreational services and programs based at the Reserve, including building and facility upgrades.

Objective 2: ACCESS

Improve pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular access to and within the Reserve to encourage greater use and increase perceptions of safety.

Objective 3: OPEN SPACE

Maintain and enhance opportunities for informal recreation at Donvale Reserve.

Objective 4: ENVIRONMENT

Protect the existing environment and encourage improved environmental practices in association with future use, development and management of the Reserve.

The implementation of these four objectives guide the actions outlined in section five to be undertaken to implement the Plan.



1. Introduction

Donvale Reserve is classified as a regional Reserve in Manningham's Public Open Space Strategy 2004.

The Reserve is currently used by clubs, schools and residents for activities including preschool, football, cricket, soccer and tennis. The Reserve is also used casually by local residents for informal recreational pursuits such as basketball, netball, jogging, walking and dog walking.

1.1 Manningham's Open Space

The City of Manningham covers 113 square kilometres. The municipality has a population of 111,296 residents (2011, ABS Census) and includes the suburbs of Bulleen, Doncaster, Doncaster East, Donvale, Lower Templestowe, Templestowe, Park Orchards, Warrandyte, Wonga Park and North Ringwood. The Yarra River provides the northern boundary to Manningham and the Koonung Creek forms the southern boundary.

The Manningham open space network covers 19.8 square kilometres and represents 17% of the area of the municipality. It comprises over 300 parks and reserves. The City has one of the largest networks of parks and open space in Metropolitan Melbourne.

Manningham City Council's vision for public open space is:

"an open space network which provides a range of active and passive recreation opportunities in accordance with community needs, which is readily accessible, conserves and enhances the natural and cultural resources of the municipality, contributes to the local economy, and offers an amenable environment in which to live, work and visit for current and future generations" (2004 Public Open Space Strategy).

Manningham City Council is involved in the provision of open space recreation opportunities because it believes that there are a number of benefits that derive from participation in, and provision of, a diverse range of quality recreation opportunities including social, health, environmental, urban liveability, cultural and economic benefits. Specific benefits in these fields include:

Social/Health

Environment is a major influence on health. By providing high quality open space networks Council can create an environment that is supportive of health and encourages activity that reduces prevention of disease. Activities within open space areas such as walking have health benefits such as improved cardiovascular fitness, lower blood pressure, stronger muscles and bones and decreased stress. Open space areas are also social spaces that provide links with the broader community and encourage social connections.

Environment

Open space provides for important ecological aspects such as waterways, flora and fauna. Vegetation in open space provides habitat for wildlife and opportunities for people to connect with and appreciate nature.

Urban Liveability

Open space brings an aesthetic value to a neighbourhood by providing a "green break" between houses and roads.



Culture

Open space can be a venue for cultural displays, festivals, programs and activities. Open space can also have pre settlement or post settlement cultural and heritage significance associated with specific sites or features.

Economic

The economic benefit of open space can be measured in the spin-off effects of visitation and tourism and the role of high quality open space in attracting residents to Manningham and thus enhancing property values.

1.2 Management Plans

A Management Plan was developed for the Donvale Reserve in 1995 and reviewed 12 months later, following the implementation of the first stage of recommendations. The review was required as concerns had been raised regarding: the level of planning, incorrect capital costs; risk management issues not being addressed; insufficient consultation; and stage one implementation of recommendations resulting in decreased participation in sporting oval use. That review was endorsed in 1999.

Following the implementation of some of the recommendations in those plans, the issues of traffic entering the Reserve from local streets and the anti social behaviour taking place in the Reserve at night have been managed well. The closing of some Reserve entrances to traffic has relieved the traffic concerns and the removal of play equipment from hidden corners of the Reserve and bollards preventing cars entering those areas has reduced the anti social behaviour.

Other changes since the previous plans are that two tenants have been relocated from the Reserve, being the Chinese Youth Society Melbourne Soccer Club and Templestowe Eagles Soccer Club. The Templestowe Eagles Soccer Club has moved to Wilson Reserve, Doncaster and the Chinese Youth Society Melbourne Soccer Club to Boronia Grove, Doncaster East.

The majority of the aims and objectives of the 1999 Management Plan have been achieved.

1.2.1 Purpose of the Plan

Manningham City Council prepares Management Plans for complex recreation areas such as Donvale Reserve that accommodate a range of facilities and services and/or open space areas with a range of uses and purposes including sporting reserves, conservation reserves, reserves of municipal significance, community recreation reserves and linear parks. Such areas are important community assets and due to competing priorities and limited funding for development, it is crucial to plan and prioritise the use, development and management of these areas.

The purpose of the Donvale Reserve Management Plan is to guide future use, development and management of Donvale Reserve.

The Management Plan includes a description of existing conditions, use and facilities within the Reserve and includes objectives and specific recommendations in relation to its future use, development and management, including recommended capital works over the next five to ten years.

The endorsed Donvale Reserve Management Plan will be used by Council Officers involved in planning, development and management of the Reserve and will help the community understand Council's vision, objectives and specific plans for the Reserve.



1.2.2 Methodology

The methodology for development and implementation of the management plan includes:

- Review of previous plans
- Review of changes since previous plan policy context, demographics etc
- Review and analysis of existing use and facilities
- Key stakeholder consultation ongoing
- Community consultation ongoing
- Development of a draft Management Plan
- Public exhibition and community consultation on draft Management Plan
- Consideration of submissions and adoption of final Management Plan by Council,
- Implementation of recommendations.

Key stakeholder and broader community consultation is a very important element of the development of a Management Plan.

The key stakeholders relevant to this Plan include:

- Surrounding residents
- Donvale Football Club
- Donvale Magpies Junior Football Club
- Donvale Cricket Club
- Donvale Tennis Club
- St. David's Cricket Club
- Doncaster Rovers Soccer Club
- Donvale Sports Club,
- Montessori Early Education Centre
- Donvale Netball Club
- Donvale Primary School, and
- Council staff across a number of areas; including the Reserve curator.

Community consultation has included:

- Asking for community input with an advertisement in the Manningham Leader, Manningham Matters and on Council's website
- 'Our Community's Voice' questionnaire sent to 986 residents surrounding the Reserve, members of tenant sporting clubs, preschool and reserve user groups
- Several meeting with representatives from the tenants' groups and Council officers.

Further details of the community consultation undertaken to date are included in Appendix 1.



1.3 Planning and Policy Context

The Donvale Management Plan has been prepared in the context of a wide range of relevant State and local legislation, strategies and policies relating to:

- management of public land;
- environmental issues;
- · cultural issues:
- · open space planning and management;
- · recreation planning;
- facility management;
- safety;
- amenity; and
- pricing.

The detailed planning and policy context is included as Appendix 2.

1.4 Demographic Analysis

A demographic analysis of the suburb Donvale based on the 2011 census is included as Appendix 3.

In summary the population of Donvale (12,318) is increasing, albeit slowly, and is also ageing. Unlike for the whole of Manningham, a high percentage of residents (68.5%) were born in Australia and most (74%) only speak English at home, with the most common countries of birth after that being United Kingdom (4%), China (3.4%), and Malaysia (2.2%).

Analysis of the number of persons shows we have 3.2% higher number of females living in Donvale. With 43% of households being made up of couples with children compared with 41% in City of Manningham. With 20% of the children being under five years the need to provide recreation opportunities for the families in Donvale will be recognised for years to come.

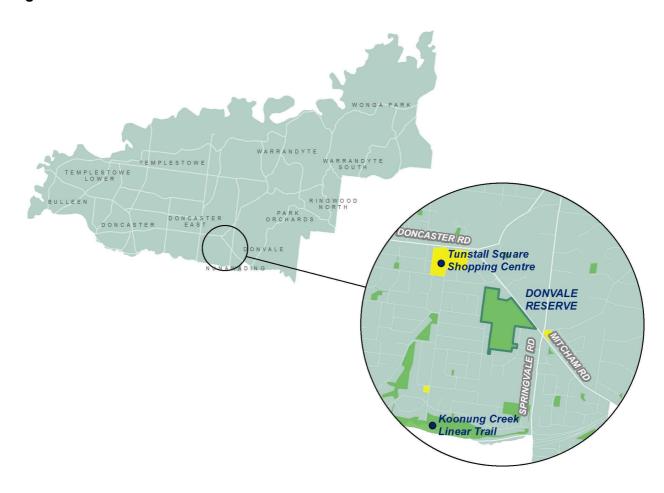
As well the number of persons usually resident in a household in Donvale compared with City of Manningham shows that there is a higher proportion of larger households (those with 4 persons or more). The number of lone person households is 18% which is also the average for Manningham. With the number of lone person households being 1 in 5 the need to offer opportunities to engage socially for mental health and wellbeing is very important. Overall there were 32.5% of larger households, compared with 31.4% respectively for the City of Manningham.



1.5 Location and Physical Characteristics

Donvale Reserve is situated at 36 Mitcham Road, Donvale just west of Springvale Road and approximately 400 metres east of Tunstall Square Neighbourhood Activity Centre.

Figure 1



As shown in Figure 2, the 11 hectare site has a frontage of approximately 200 metres to the southwest side of Mitcham Road. There is vehicular access to the Reserve from Mitcham Road (x2), Wright Avenue and Martha Street, as well as pedestrian access only from Gilka Street, Joy Street, Roy Street and Underwood Drive

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Figure 2 - Existing Conditions



Facilities for tennis are located in the northern part of the site, three ovals and a pavilion for soccer and cricket across the centre of the site and a fourth oval, pavilion for Australian Rules and cricket, two outdoor courts and public toilets and playground are located in the southern part of the site. Car parking facilities and footpaths are also provided within the Reserve.



1.6 Land tenure

Donvale Reserve is owned and managed by Manningham City Council. The land was progressively acquired with the first portion, 41 A Roy Street being purchased in November, 1960; the second, 17 – 19 Underwood Drive, in September, 1966; the third, the southern end of the Reserve in November, 1971; and the northern portion of land in May, 1973.

1.7 Environmental characteristics



Prior to European settlement the Donvale Reserve area supported a Valley Heathy Forest Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC). Originally widespread across the eastern suburbs of Melbourne, Valley Heathy Forest is today considered endangered in Victoria. Locally it is restricted to a handful of remnant patches, with the largest around the head waters of the Mullum Mullum Creek. The vegetation has been extensively cleared for agriculture and later urban development. Valley

Heathy Forest is described as a low, open forest or woodland (to 20m) dominated by a canopy of mixed eucalypts over a scatteredlayer of tall shrubs (to 5m) and a high cover of low to small ericoid, narrow-leaf and sclerophyllous shrubs (<2m). A full description of the EVC is included in Appendix 4.

Donvale Reserve is considered to have low vegetation value and visual appeal due to the dominance of the sporting ovals. The Reserve generally has an open aspect however it does contain a number of mature trees around the Reserve boundary that assist in offering the many abutting residences privacy.

1.8 Surrounding land use

1.8.1 Residential character

Donvale Reserve is surrounded by residential development of varying densities.

Development in Donvale commenced with subdivision of areas south of Doncaster Road in the 1950s. The larger lot, lower density areas of the suburb, such as those east of Springvale Road, date from the 1970s and 1980s.

Donvale today is an established residential area of both conventional, suburban lots and lower density areas.

The Reserve is located in the more densely populated area of Donvale, with the area being characterised by conventional and suburban lots and Mitcham and Springvale Roads creating a barrier to the low density residential areas in the east of Donvale. The residents located to the south of the Reserve comprise mainly of weatherboard and brick houses with well established gardens. Those areas to the west, northwest and northeast are homogeneous in character, slope southwards from the Doncaster Road ridgeline to the Koonung Creek valley and are linked together by high use secondary roads.

There are also several retirement villages in close proximity to Donvale Reserve which is an important consideration in relation to future planning of the Reserve.



Greenview Retirement Living

Greenview Retirement Village is situated at 33-37 Mitcham Road, opposite Donvale Reserve. It is privately owned and has a total of 72 double bedroom serviced apartments catering for 48 residents aged over 60 years, with an average age of approximately 83 years.

Aveo Pinetree Donvale

Aveo Pinetree Retirement Village is situated at 330 Springvale Road, also opposite Donvale Reserve, less than 500 metres away. It has 73 independent living units and in excess of 67 residents, all aged over 58 years up to 96 years of age.

1.8.2 Community facilities



Located at the corner of Doncaster and Tunstall Roads, Tunstall Square is a ten minute walk (400 metres) from Donvale Reserve and is the largest of Manningham's neighbourhood activity centres.

Tunstall Square's lively outdoor atmosphere is popular amongst visitors and residents, making the centre Manningham's largest and most visited neighbourhood centre.

A Structure Plan is currently being prepared for this Centre and surrounding areas including Donvale Reserve. The Structure Plan will establish a 20 year shared vision for the Activity Centre and surrounds. A proposed action relevant to the Reserve within the Structure Plan will be to provide directional signage from the Centre to the Reserve.

The Donvale Indoor Sport Centre (DISC) is a regional sporting facility located within a kilometre from the Reserve that supports a number of recreation organisations and activities such as basketball, gymnastics and table tennis.

Other open spaces within walking distance that offer opportunities for walking, exercising, walking the dog and bike riding include St Clems Reserve; Koonung Linear Park and Aranga Reserve (also offers a fenced area for dogs to play).

There are also five primary schools and three secondary schools within two kilometres of the Reserve, including Donvale Primary School, Heatherwood School, Beverley Hills Primary School, Donburn Primary, St Peter and St Paul Primary, East Doncaster Secondary College, Whitefriars College, Our Lady of the Pines Primary, Mitcham Primary, Carey Baptist Junior Grammar School, Milgate Primary, and, located in the City of Whitehorse is St Philips Primary, Whitehorse Primary and Mullauna College.

1.9 Planning Scheme provisions

Donvale Reserve is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) in the Manningham Planning Scheme. Relevant purposes of that zone include:

- 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.
- No planning overlay controls affect the Donvale Reserve.



Surrounding residential land is zoned as follows:

- Land to the south of the Reserve is zoned Residential 3. It is an area designated for incremental change where the future development vision is to encourage development that reinforces the existing front and rear setbacks and site coverage to provide opportunities for landscaping and retain areas of open space. In the Residential 3 Zone, a less intense urban form is encouraged.
- Land to the west, north-west and north-east (including land on the east side of Mitcham Road) is zoned Residential 1 and is also affected by Schedule 8 to the Design and Development Overlay (DD08). This area is designated for a substantial level of change where higher density development is encouraged based on its proximity to the main roads of Doncaster and Mitcham Roads and to Tunstall Square activity centre.
- Land further to the far north-east is zoned Low Density Residential Zone (LDRZ) and affected by the Schedule 1 to the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO1). This area is designated for low density residential living.



Figure 3 Manningham Planning Scheme Zones



2. Use of the Reserve

Donvale Reserve is a very popular and well utilised Reserve which predominantly provides for structured sport. It is home to a number of different organisations serving the community providing for Australian Rules Football, cricket, tennis, soccer and a preschool. In addition to two outdoor courts providing for informal netball and basketball there is a playground and a network of walking paths. The Reserve utilisation is at maximum capacity within its current management. Further access to the sport facilities during weekdays could be investigated.

There are many factors that demonstrate the important role this Reserve plays for the Donvale community, including:

- Six sporting clubs support the active participation of approximately 800 members and a further 100 members are involved in volunteer support activities.
- A high number of residents have access to the Reserve. The Planning Scheme zones that surround the Reserve support varying levels of residential density, with higher density development encouraged to the north of the Reserve.
- Demographic data shows that more than half of the population in Donvale is couple families with children. As well 39% of the population is over the age of fifty years and this figure is forecast to grow.

2.1.1.1 Actions

- Ensure that Donvale Reserve continues to meet the structured sporting needs of the community and in the future if the need for structured sport declines, that the Reserve is retained for its passive recreation values.
- Ensure that any proposed improvements to buildings stay within existing building envelopes.

2.2 Informal activities

2.2.1 Walking

Walking is the most participated activity in Manningham. Walking is often the easiest physical activity for people to undertake as it does not cost any money or require special equipment. Walking appeals to a wide range of people as it can be done while exercising a dog, pushing a pram or also by people with impaired mobility. It is also an activity that can be undertaken individually or within groups. Providing good pedestrian paths in the urban setting is also important in providing for convenient physical activity opportunities for local residents.

The Reserve has a good network of footpaths providing access to the Reserve from the surrounding residential neighbourhood as well as walking paths linking Reserve activities. However it is important that the paths are well maintained to encourage safe and greater use. Pathways to and within the Reserve are discussed in more detail in Section 4.7.1 Pathways.

2.2.2 Dog Activities

Donvale Reserve is classified as a dog 'off lead area' provided that dogs are kept under effective control at all times. For health and safety reasons, dogs must be on-lead at Donvale Reserve within 15 metres of the children's playground, at an organised sporting event (cricket and football) and at an approved function or public meeting.



2.2.2.1 Issues and opportunities

Feedback from the "Our Community' Voice" questionnaire showed that dog walking is a popular recreation activity at the Reserve and the majority of respondents indicated they felt safe when using the Reserve. They also felt they lived in a friendly community where people are walking around the Reserve regularly.

Some negative feedback has been received regarding dog owners not picking up after their dogs and disposing of the waste correctly. Dog owners need to be responsible both for having a dog under effective control for the safety of other Reserve users and for cleaning up after their dogs to ensure the enjoyment of the Reserve for everyone.

Council's Health and Local Laws officers have issued very few infringements in the vicinity of the Reserve and dog owner behaviour is considered good. Although there were a few requests for additional dog litter bins they are not warranted at this Reserve. Dog litter can be disposed of in the existing general litter bins at the Reserve, located next to the sport pavilions.

2.2.2.2 Action

• Ensure that Reserve signage clearly indicates the dog controls applicable to the Reserve and expected behaviours.

2.2.3 Play



Opportunities for play in the Reserve include a playground designed for the 1-9 year old age group, and a outdoor basketball and netball court, located in the east of the Reserve. The playground serves a large number of residents surrounding the Reserve as it is the closest play facility for more than 400 residential properties.

Other playspaces within a one kilometre radius include; St Clems Reserve, Argyle Reserve, Kevin Reserve, Astelot Reserve, Aranga Reserve and Koonung Creek Linear Park (Darvall Street). Play opportunities at these playgrounds are either small and/or cater only for the 1-8 years age group.

2.3 Formal activities

Donvale Reserve is the sporting precinct for south of Donvale. Approximately 90% of the Reserve area is managed for structured/organised sport. However areas allocated for organised sport are available for informal activities when not being used for sport.

During the weekdays tennis activities take place at most times, a Sports Development Program (SEDA) for young people pursuing a career in Sport and Recreation operates from the Donvale Sports Club pavilion and the early childhood education centre operates Monday to Friday. On weekday evenings and weekends the Reserve is used for training and competition for football, cricket, tennis and soccer.



2.3.1 Australian Rules Football

2.3.1.1 Donvale Football Club



The Donvale Football Club was founded in 1971 and was known at that time as the Donvale United Football Club. The Club changed leagues in the late 1980s to what is known today as the Eastern Football League (EFL). It started in the third division and moved to first where it stayed throughout the 1990s and early 2000s. Today the Club plays in Division 2 of a 4 division EFL competition.

The Donvale Football Club fields a senior, reserve and colts team and access the southern oval (1) for training and matches and the North West oval (2) for training.

2.3.1.2 Donvale Magpies Junior Football Club



Our Lady of the Pines Primary School formed a football team that used Donvale Reserve for many years to participate in the Catholic School Sport competition. This team was welcomed by the Donvale Sports Club in 2004 when it changed its name to Donvale Magpies Junior Football Club and progressively joined the Eastern Football League. The Club uses the southern oval (1) and North West oval (2) for training and competition and the pavilion adjacent to the northern oval (1).

The Club currently has six teams; U9's to U15's playing in the 2013 winter season and operate an Auskick program.

The Junior Football Club shares a number of its operations with the Senior Football Club, including volunteers, committee members, administration and website. Although the Club currently uses the pavilion, it is not a member of the Donvale Sports Club (refer to Section 4.1) and will need to consider this arrangement when a new lease is developed between Council and the Sports Club.

2.3.2 Sports Club

In the late 1980s the Donvale United Football Club (known today as the Donvale Football Club) and the Donvale Cricket Club formed the Donvale Sports Club. The lease agreement for the pavilion with Council dated 7 July 1987 was renewed in 1993 to reflect the new arrangement and the Sports Club's serving of alcohol.



2.3.3 Cricket

2.3.3.1 Donvale Cricket Club



The Donvale Cricket Club will be celebrating its 50th year anniversary next season after being founded in 1964 when it fielded a team to play C1 grade and a U16 age with the Box Hill Reporter Cricket District. The Club received a donation of storage space from East Doncaster Cool Stores and used this for three years for equipment storage and a place to meet.

The Club then moved into the new sports pavilion (1) for the 1967/68 season. The Club grew during the 1970s, fielding five senior and five junior teams and moved the

senior teams to the Eastern Suburbs Cricket Association and juniors to the Ringwood District Association.

The Club is able to host the Eastern Cricket Association Grand Final, the "Dunstan" Shield due to the high standard of playing facilities at the Reserve.

2.3.3.2 St David's Cricket Club



St David's Cricket Club was formed in 1965 where it joined the Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association. The club originally held close links to the St David's Anglican Church in East Doncaster and fielded just a single senior team in its first year. The next season saw a second senior team added and a junior program created. In the years following the club continued to grow with a third senior side being added in the early 1970s and junior teams competing in U12, 14 and 16s.

St David's Cricket Club currently uses the sports pavilion located in the north of the Reserve. It also uses the cricket nets and two ovals next to the pavilion. The Club

trains at the Reserve during the week 5pm – 10pm and competes on weekends Saturday 8am-12pm and Sunday (bi-weekly) 12pm-9pm. The Club's usage of the sports pavilion and grounds are managed under a seasonal licence agreement.

After some lean periods through the late 1990s and early to mid 2000s St David's added a veterans program around 2006 which now successfully runs two teams in the over 40s each season. The Club now also runs a Milo in2cricket program for young kids, in addition to its junior program that includes teams in Under 10, 12, 14 and 16 age groups. The senior club has more recently seen growth through recruiting and the nurturing of talent from the junior program. St David's re-added a fourth senior team in 2009 after having just 3 senior sides since 2001; in addition there are now two T20 sides that also play on Tuesdays.

The Club now has more than 200 members across all divisions. The Club is actively planning for sustained on-field success over the medium to long term. The Club's focus moving forward is to further improve and expand the junior programs to ensure its long term strength and viability.



2.3.4 Tennis

2.3.4.1 Donvale Tennis Club



The Donvale Tennis Club was formed in 1965 and was awarded Metropolitan Club of the Year by Tennis Victoria in 2004. The club has 6 en tous cas and 4 synthetic clay courts and floodlights on 8 of the tennis courts. The Club offers a range of programs, including: senior competition on Saturdays (all year) and Sundays (summer only); junior competition on Saturday mornings; Midweek Ladies – Tuesday and Thursday; Men's Veterans - Thursday; Night Tennis - Monday to Thursday; Social Tennis - Sunday am, Tuesday evening, Thursday am and Sunday am; and Tennis Victoria Pennant - Saturday and Sunday and a

coaching program for all levels and all ages.

The current lease agreement with the Donvale Tennis Club commenced 1 April 2004 with a term of three plus three years. The lease will be renewed this year in line with Council's Leased Community Facilities Pricing Policy, which will include a four year term with a further option of four years.

2.3.5 Soccer

2.3.5.1 Doncaster Rovers Soccer Club



The Doncaster Rovers were established in 1967. Today the Club's home facilities are located in Anderson Park, Doncaster East. In 1982 the Rovers reached division one competition and a higher standard of facility was required for that level. The Club proposed that part of Donvale Reserve be developed primarily as a soccer facility. There was great resistance from residents and other Reserve tenants to an enclosed soccer pitch and development of the proposed social club. The changes required the relocation of St David's Cricket Club to Bulleen Park, Donvale Cricket Club to Leeds Street and Doncaster Junior Football Club to Doncaster Reserve. The Rovers were found a suitable home at Anderson Park.

The Club has experienced a decline in numbers over the past six years from approximately 600 to 250 participants. The Club is hoping to turn this around and change the management to improve the provision of soccer. The Club has indicated that the Donvale pavilion and three soccer fields, located in the north east part of the Reserve, will only be used for training purposes as it is trying to encourage a better club community at its home venue at Anderson Park.

The Club continues to train juniors at Donvale Reserve during the winter season (summer season tenants are St David's Cricket Club).



2.3.6 Preschool

2.3.7 Montessori Early Education Centre



The Montessori Early Education Centre occupies a site on the eastern side of the Reserve adjacent to Mitcham Road.

MEEC Donvale is a community, not for profit organisation that offers education for children aged 2 to 6 years. It currently has 146 students or 125 families enrolled.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development provides 4 year old funding for 40 preschool enrolments and most parents qualify for the Child Care Benefit (CCB), Federal funding assistance for child care.

The Centre currently has: one group for 2 year olds; two groups for 3 years - 5 years (go onto State school system); two groups for 3yrs – 6yrs (this is the Montessori stream that includes prep year and progresses to Mitcham Primary that has a Montessori stream). The participants live mostly in Manningham (78%) and the remainder from Whitehorse (22%).



3. Sport, Recreation and Educational Facilities

3.1 Pavilion 1, Oval 1 and Oval 2

The Donvale Cricket Club, Donvale Football Club and the Donvale Magpie Junior Football Club use the sports pavilion located in the west of the Reserve and the southern oval (1) and north west oval (2). The Cricket and Senior Football Club, known as the Donvale Sports Club, have a lease agreement with Council and the Junior Football Club gains access to the pavilion via an informal agreement with the Sports Club. The Club's use of the sports ovals is managed with a seasonal license agreement between Council and the individual clubs.

The pavilion occupied by the Donvale Sports Club Inc was first constructed in 1966. Since then, the building has undergone extensive modification to accommodate the changing needs of the Club, including a major extension in 1988 for social space. The Club converted sections of the original change area to provide for a members social room and then in 1994 asked Council to refurbish and extend change facilities as they were no longer adequate. The Sports Club's financial position at this time was unable to support any further work. The Club continued to express the need for the redevelopment with a proposal in 2000 to fully fund a redevelopment and renew the lease, taking full responsibility for all maintenance of the pavilion. A successful grant application was made in 2000/2001 to Sport and Recreation Victoria for \$30,000 which was returned in 2002 as the Club was unable to fund the development.

The current lease agreement is in over hold, having been signed in March 2005 for a term of three years, and requires renewal. The current agreement is for the Sports Club to maintain the social area (as developed in 1988) and not pay a fee for use of the social space and for Council to maintain the change area, with the Club paying a fee for use of this area in line with Council's Seasonal Sports Pricing Policy.

Discussions regarding the lease recommenced in February 2010, with the Sports Club asking Council to manage the maintenance of the entire building. The outcome of this would be that the building would be placed on Council's Asset Management System. Even though this would add to Council's financial commitments for facility maintenance it is considered a positive outcome as the Donvale Sports Club pavilion is the only sporting pavilion in Manningham that is not managed by Council. Management of the building would ensure that the asset is maintained to a standard that will extend the life of the building. The Club would need to pay for the use of the building in accordance with the Seasonal Sports Pricing Policy, level one, being approximately \$7,500 annual. The Sports Club would also be required to undertake some maintenance on the social area of the building, where lack of maintenance has led to its poor conditions, before Council would take responsibility. The maintenance responsibilities were included in the March 2005 lease agreement, p.4. Item 11. Maintenance 11.1....the Organisation must at its own cost: (a) keep the Facility in the same condition as at the commencement of the term of this lease (fair wear and tear excepted).

Another benefit for the Sports Club renewing the lease agreement and relinquishing the social area to Council would be the opportunity for pavilion redevelopment in line with the Sports Pavilion Guidelines 2010, when the budget allows.



3.1.1.1 Issues and Opportunities

Pavilion

The pavilion requires substantial work to bring it up to current day standards and it is proposed to redevelop the facility. This proposal has been presented to the Clubs with the understanding that it would become a Council asset following the agreed undertaking of maintenance by the Sports Club and would be placed on Council's Asset Management System.

Two options have been considered by the Clubs:

- Option 1 Upgrade funded by Council within the current pavilion guidelines.
- Option 2 Upgrade beyond the guidelines with the Club fully funding the cost difference.

Lighting

The Donvale Football Club would like to have the opportunity in the future to be able to host night games. This would involve the floodlighting of Oval 1 to a minimum LUX standard of 100 for competition.

In 2011 a \$50,000 Community Facility Grant, Department of Community Planning and Development, Sport and Recreation Victoria was awarded for the upgrading of floodlighting at the Donvale Reserve southern oval (1) to benefit the Donvale Football Club. The floodlights will be used for training purposes. The poles have been fitted with a capacity to operate at 100 LUX if night competition was to take place.

There are a number of factors the Eastern Football League (EFL) consider before programming games for night competition, including:

- Minimum LUX requirement average 100, preference for 150 LUX to benefit spectators and players;
- Games programmed at the beginning or end of season, to avoid cold weather;
- Only games of interest likely to be played, those likely to attract spectators (eg. successful teams);
- Junior games potentially played also; and
- Fixturing, determined by clashes with AFL games- avoid high profile major AFL Friday night games as the spectators as more likely to be at home watching the football on TV.

On that basis Donvale Reserve could host night football or cricket but it would likely only be on a very limited number of occasions in any year and the Club would require Council approval before doing so. Council will consult with the surrounding residents and consider night competition following the review of the Floodlighting Policy.

Waste Bins

Currently two large bins are stored at the front of the pavilion and they are unsightly and limit pedestrian access around the pavilion. These need to be moved to another location that will be accessible for emptying. Council Waste Management Services can organise a crane truck to move these skips in consultation with the Club.



Coaches' boxes

Both the Cricket Club and Football Club have requested the relocation of the coaches' boxes on the southern oval (1) to the opposite side of the ground.

The relocation of the boxes is supported as their current position is creating a high level of traffic in that area, creating problems in front of the cricket nets and spectators are too close to coaching staff.

A request for the installation of coaches' boxes on the north west oval (2) is unable to be accommodated as it would compromise the size of the oval.

Electronic scoreboard

The Donvale Sports Club has requested the installation of an electronic scoreboard. The scoreboard currently in use was sponsored in August 2004 by Hutchison 3G Australia which was responsible for the telecommunications tower. Currently the responsibility for purchase, installation and ongoing maintenance of electronic scoreboards, is the responsibility of the clubs. Council is currently developing an electronic scoreboard policy and the Sports Club will need to abide by the Policy for their proposal.

Shade and seating

Additional planting is required for the north/west oval (2). However the Cricket Club's request for a permanent seating structure is not supported as it would compromise usage of the oval.

Sight screens

The Cricket Club has requested permission to erect sight screens to alleviate the glare created by car windows parked at the southern oval (1). This is the responsibility of the Club. Council can offer guidance on the dimensions and location when the Club is ready to purchase the screens.

Other opportunities:

The Donvale Football Club has requested the installation of high fencing for Martha and Roy Street to allow for people to funnel through the gates for the collection of an entry fee. This was requested when the 1995 Management Plan was developed and not considered at that time. Council's position on this issue has not changed and it is not be recommended, as a high fence would interfere with the aesthetics of the Reserve and service an event that takes place only nine times per year.

The Donvale Football Club has a mobile gate keeper box at the Mitcham Road entry point. The Club has requested a permanent structure be installed. As this structure is only required nine times per winter season and Council is not supporting the installation of additional structures at the Reserve, this request is not be supported. The portable gate keeper box has also been identified as a risk to the public in its current position; west side of pavilion, by Council's Risk Management Officer and will need to be addressed.

Other matters which need to be addressed include:

- The appearance of the area behind the pavilion (west side).
- The point of entry for players to the southern oval which is experiencing wear and tear.
- The drainage and fencing around the southern oval will need upgrading in part when the
 pathway is extended from the outside of the oval from the pavilion to the net/basketball
 courts.
- Tiered standing area to be continued north east from the pavilion approximately 20 metres.



3.1.1.2 Actions

- Renew the Donvale Sports Club lease following the Club addressing the identified maintenance issues and include the Donvale Magpies Junior Football Club in that renewed lease.
- Upon completion of the works include the Donvale Sports Club pavilion in Council's Asset Management System.
- Prepare concept plans, specifications and cost estimates to redevelop Donvale Sports Club in the short term.
- Redevelop the Donvale Sports Club pavilion in line with Council Sports Pavilion Guidelines.
- Ensure any proposed improvements to buildings are within the current building envelope.
- Any consideration of the future upgrade of the floodlighting for night competition will be done
 in consultation with residents and following the review of the floodlight policy.
- Relocate the two large skip bins from the front of the Donvale Sports Club pavilion to another location that will be accessible for emptying.
- Support the Donvale Sports Club to install an electronic scoreboard following the development of an electronic scoreboard policy and Council approval.
- Install a sight screen for the benefit of the Donvale Cricket Club to southern oval (1), in consultation with Council officers regarding location.
- Relocate the gate keeper box and place in storage when not in use.
- Continue the tiered standing area north east from the Donvale Sports Club pavilion approximately 20 metres.
- Relocate the coaches' boxes from the west side of the southern Oval (1) to the opposite side.
- Additional planting for the surrounds of the north west oval.
- Improve the appearance behind the pavilion (Westside).
- Install a mat at player entry to oval
- Upgrade drainage and fencing where relevant when extending the pathway.

3.2 Pavilion 2, Oval 3 and Oval 4

The St David's Cricket Club and the Doncaster Rovers Soccer Club has seasonal allocation of the pavilion (2) located in the north east of the Reserve and ovals (3 & 4) located in the north of the Reserve. The Cricket Club use the facilities for both training and competition. The Rover's use the facilities at Donvale Reserve as a secondary ground for training purposes only, with their home ground Anderson Park, East Doncaster hosting competition and senior training.

The pavilion was upgraded in 2011 as an outcome of the Eastern Region Soccer Strategy October 2007 which recommended the pavilion be brought up to Class B level standard.

3.2.1 Issues and Opportunities

Pavilion

The pavilion requires an access ramp from the connecting path of the pavilion to the car park. It is recommended that this be undertaken in the future.



Coaches Box

In the event that soccer competition takes place in the future at Donvale Reserve it is recommended that portable coach boxes or chairs are utilised. Permanent structures would interrupt the grounds use for cricket.

Shade structures and tree planting

The Cricket Club would like Council to consider installing some sheltered seating for spectators viewing the two ovals. The installation of additional structures to the Reserve is not supported, as it will encroach on the small amount of passive recreation area that remains at the Reserve. Instead it is recommended that shade trees be planting in these areas in a scattered approach to enhance the recreation value and provide shade for the spectators of sport. As well, park benches to be placed near the trees.

Bin cage

The Club has reported dumping of rubbish in the Club bins. To resolve this it is recommended to install a bin cage in the car park near the entrance to the pavilion.

Seating

The Club has requested seating to be installed in the earth bank in front of the pavilion. It is proposed that the area be planted for shade and that once the planting is established the possibility of seats being landscaped into the bank be investigated.

Lighting

There is currently no lighting to assist movement from the pavilion to the car park at night time.

The Cricket Club has requested the installation of floodlighting for the cricket nets area to enable better use of these facilities, in particular during the early months of the season. All floodlighting for sporting clubs is considered through the flood lighting policy that requires that the cost is shared evenly between the Club and Council (50% / 50%).

3.2.1.1 Actions

- Construct an access ramp from the car park to the northern pavilion.
- Install security lighting in the Mitcham Road car park, eastern entry and connecting path to pavilion.
- Plant shade trees and install seats on the northern surrounds of ovals 3 and 4 and in the earth bank in front of the pavilion.
- Install a bin cage for pavilion 2
- Install floodlighting for the cricket nets, northern side, in line with the floodlighting policy.

3.3 Cricket Nets

There are two cricket net facilities at the Reserve, one set accessed by the Donvale Cricket Club located on the southern oval (1) and another set close to St David's Cricket Club.



3.3.1.1 Issues and Opportunities

The cricket net training facility located on Oval 1 is a combined turf and three pitch synthetic facility. In addition, a fourth pitch exists for the storage of turf wicket covers. The (synthetic) cricket nets are unsightly and require maintenance and are currently open for community use. The Cricket Club has requested an upgrade and a covered storage area for its turf centre wicket covers.

In order to protect the oval (1) surface it is proposed that the cricket nets be closed to the community and be upgraded. The pitch used for storage of covers will remain uncovered as the equipment being stored is weather protection itself.

Community access would continue to be available to the nets at the north end of the Reserve (Oval 3).

3.3.1.2 Actions

- The cricket nets on the southern oval (1) undergo the following work:
 - o replace the steel and cyclone mesh netting;
 - o install gates;
 - o replace individual pitches with the installation of a sheet of concrete and synthetic cover across the entire (synthetic) facility.
- The cricket nets on the southern oval (1) be closed to the community.

3.4 Tennis Clubhouse and Courts

The tennis clubhouse has undergone improvements as a part of Council's Asset Management Strategy (AMS). As well four courts have been reconstructed from en tout cas to synthetic clay as part of the Tennis Strategy program and floodlighting has been installed on two courts.

3.4.1.1 Issues and Opportunities



The tennis facilities have had numerous improvement works over the last 5 years including:

- Clubhouse improvements re-roofing works, window and door replacement, and balcony railing replacement;
- Reconstruction of courts 7 and 8 from en tout cas to synthetic clay;
- Installation of floodlights on courts 7 and 8; and
- Reconstruction of courts 1 and 2 from en tout cas to synthetic clay.

The Club has no major works planned for the facility over the next 5 years. There is a further improvement required for the steps between the two levels of courts, when they are upgraded, additional fencing or extending the hand rail should be considered to prevent access.



3.4.1.2 Actions

- Renew Donvale Tennis Club lease in line with the Leased Community Facility Policy
- When the steps alongside the rock wall are replaced a fence or rail to be considered to prevent access.

3.5 Netball/Basketball courts

There are two outdoor courts located in the south east of the Reserve. One court is equipped for netball and the other for basketball. The courts were recently cleaned with a high pressure hose to remove the build up of moss. Currently neither court has formal use, with the exception of Donvale Primary School which accesses the courts occasionally for netball.

3.5.1.1 Issues and Opportunities

The current management of netball in Manningham is committed to competitions being held at one venue, adjacent to Manningham Templestowe Leisure Centre (MTLC). Manningham also provides outdoor netball courts suitable for training only and these are located at Warrandyte Reserve and Wonga Park Reserve. The Donvale Reserve netball court is currently not suitable for training.

The Donvale Netball Club is not satisfied with MTLC facility as it does not provide storage space for equipment, uniforms and administration; social area, function area and the Club wants a home. These needs could be met at Donvale Reserve.

Currently the Donvale Netball Club, founded in 1971, has 24 teams, made up of:

- 6 seniors teams (18 plus);
- 19 Juniors teams (under 9 Under 17); one U 9, four U 11, six U13, five U15, three U17 teams: and
- 16 participants in the Netsetgo program Under 8s.

All training takes place on Tuesday nights at MTLC. The reasoning behind having all training on one night is that MTLC has eight courts and the capacity to train all teams between 4.30pm – 7pm. It creates a club atmosphere, accessible by public transport (many participants catch a bus directly from school to MTLC), assists with parent transport (sisters train on the same night), volunteers can be drawn from the players and parents (ie older plays can coach younger players, before or after their own training). The juniors (U9 – U13) train 4.30pm – 5.30pm and the older girls U15 – U17 train 5.30pm – 7pm.

The Netball Club would like to access Donvale Reserve netball courts for the following purposes:

- Training for their open teams (18yrs plus);
- · Grading sessions;
- Alternative night for those who cannot train on Tuesday nights;
- Summer twilight competitions organised by the Club (the courts would need to have netball only hoops to be able to accommodate competition);
- Family tournaments;
- Father/daughter matches;
- Practice matches with country teams (eg. Healesville);



- Cross training general fitness work on oval adjacent to courts; and
- To call Donvale Reserve home.

Access to the clubroom would be required for:

- Storage of uniforms and equipment (balls) close to courts;
- Meetings;
- Information nights for parents;
- · Coaches meetings; and
- Umpire courses.

The Netball Club would also like to be prepared for the possibility of the Eastern Football League incorporating netball competition as the country league does. The EFL is considering a netball competition in the future. If realised, given current metropolitan Councils' preference for centralised venues, the competition would likely run at one district venue. The country league model would be considered by the EFL should funding be available for facility upgrades. The Donvale Football and Cricket Club are welcoming the Donvale Netball Club to join the Sports Club and have access to the facilities at the Reserve. Council and the EFL are very supportive of this partnership as it would encourage football and cricket facilities to be more community based resulting in better use of facilities.

Additional infrastructure would be required if the Netball Club was to call Donvale Reserve home, including:

- Courts to be brought up to standard for training;
- Pipe fencing to be filled with mesh to prevent balls rolling out of court;
- Priority for court upgrade would be for the northern court;
- Drinking fountain;
- Storage space (ideally near courts); and
- Shelter next to courts for bags, spectators/parents (consideration could be given to accessing the telecommunication tower in the event that the provider no longer requires the site).

The Netball Club would only be able to train on the courts with the multi-use rings and would require a single purpose netball ring to play competition.

3.5.1.2 **Actions**

- Resurface the northern net/basketball court, replace the towers and rings with the multi-use rings (a pole that can be rotated and used for both netball and basketball) and fill the pipe fencing with mesh.
- The Donvale Netball Club and the Donvale Sports Club commence discussions with regards
 to forming a partnership with the aim of the Netball Club joining the Donvale Sports Club,
 being considered with the lease renewal and being part of the planning for the proposed
 pavilion redevelopment.



3.6 Preschool Building

The site occupied by Montessori Early Education Centre, Donvale (MEECD) was previously occupied by Pinevale Preschool and had one building which was expanded in 1996 with a building to the west of the site and in 2001 with another building to the east.

MEECD use of the site at Donvale Reserve is managed through a lease agreement with Council, 10 years plus the option for a further 10 years that commenced in 1996. The additional buildings on the site were funded by and are the property MEECD. MEECD is responsible for all maintenance of the Council owned building with the exception of major structural damage. The responsibility of maintenance for the additional buildings is MEECD.

The current lease agreement ceases on 31 January 2016.

3.6.1.1 Issues and Opportunities

Montessori Early Education Centre requested an extension to the facility in 2011 to allow for an increase in size to a program room and a staff room. The works would have resulted in the loss of five car spaces. The proposed extension was not permitted as it was outside of the leased area.

The Reserve is considered at optimum use with car parking and traffic management being a concern that has been addressed during the past two Management Plan reviews. The issue of lack of car parking and access to the Reserve remains a concern, although the situation has improved. In order to prevent further encroachment on the open space and loss of car parking, further development beyond the existing envelope on this site is not supported.

MEECD has requested a further lease period of 10 years which will need to be assessed using the criteria from Council's Community Facilities Access and Allocation Policy, May 2013. The site may only be occupied by a community group or Council service that meets the eligibility criteria outlined in the Policy and weekday use only due to the traffic and parking issues associated with the Reserve on weekends.

3.6.1.2 Actions

- Ensure that any proposed improvements to buildings stay within existing building envelopes.
- Address the access concerns to the Noonan Way entry and linking the current Preschool site to the Reserve in the future if the site use allows (refer to section 4.2.1 and recommendation 2.13).

3.7 Other Reserve Infrastructure

3.7.1 Pathways

Walking is the most participated activity in Manningham. Walking is often the easiest physical activity for people to undertake as it does not cost any money or require special equipment. Walking appeals to a wide range of people as it can be done while exercising a dog, pushing a pram and by people with impaired mobility. It is also an activity that can be undertaken individually or within groups. Providing good pedestrian paths in the urban setting is also important in providing for convenient physical activity opportunities for local residents.

As well as providing a recreational opportunity, if thoughtfully planned, a path network within a reserve can not only link residents to other recreational and sport facilities but also enhance



independence, especially for children, and connectivity within the local community by providing paths which can be used to walk or cycle to schools, bus stops, shops and friends homes.

3.7.1.1 Issues and opportunities

Whilst Donvale Reserve is currently well linked to its neighbouring residential community by footpaths Council has recently developed a Principal Pedestrian Network (PPN) May 2013 for the municipality. The PPN comprises of a network of the key strategic pedestrian routes in the municipality which link primary destinations across the municipality and will attract higher volumes of pedestrian traffic. Primary destinations are defined as primary and secondary schools, larger activity centres, regional reserves with multiple pedestrian attractors and community and transport hubs.

The PPN Plan includes a route along the southern boundary of Donvale Reserve, linking Heatherwood Secondary School and the Tunstall Square Activity Centre.

Donvale Reserve has a good network of walking paths linking activities within the Reserve, however paths in the southern end of the Reserve are in need of some maintenance and there is also an opportunity to improve some linkages including:

- formalising a small section of pathway from the Underwood Drive car park to the Reserve to improve access to the netball/basketball courts from the car park; and
- improving access from the Donvale Sports Club pavilion to the netball/basketball courts. The path from the sports pavilion currently runs around the outside of the oval until it reaches the toilets where it travels up the embankment to the toilet block.

There are also opportunities to improve pedestrian access into the Reserve from Mitcham Road and from the current preschool site to other Reserve facilities should land uses in that part of the Reserve change in the future.

3.7.1.2 Actions

- Resurface the paths in the southern end of the Reserve.
- Formalise a small section of pathway from the Underwood Drive car park to the Reserve.
- Extend the pathway around the outside of the southern oval (1) to the netball/basketball courts.
- Improve the path up the embankment to public toilets by the installation of wide steps.
- Review pedestrian access to the Reserve at the southern end of its frontage to Mitcham Road, if the land uses in that part of the Reserve change in the future.
- Implement any relevant recommendations of the Principal Pedestrian Network when it has been endorsed by Council.

3.7.2 Playspace (including barbecue and picnic facility)



A playspace is located on the eastern side of Donvale Reserve in close proximity to Oval 1, car parking, toilets, walking path, basketball and netball courts. The playspace was relocated and upgraded in 2002. The play equipment is in good condition and will be upgraded as part of the Playspace Development Program once it can no longer be adequately maintained.



3.7.2.1 Issues and opportunities

Feedback during community consultation varied in relation to play facilities and specific requests included a larger playground, better and more interesting equipment, landscaping, picnic and barbeque facilities, different location, shade and a fence. Sports club users also commented that the playground is too far away from their clubrooms and Noonan Way is too busy for children to cross.

Taking into consideration access and centrality to local pedestrians, carpark and all sports club users, the current location has been assessed as the most appropriate location in the Reserve that contains a limited amount of informal open space. When the playspace is upgraded the need for fitness equipment will be considered.

The playspace is located 30 metres from the road and while fencing is not considered appropriate, landscape design could be improved to use planting as a natural barrier. Supervision of young children is important in any public place, including playspaces.

The St David's Cricket Club has requested funding a playspace in the northern part of the Reserve. The need for an additional playspace is not high and could be considered as a priority three recommendation and funds to be sourced externally. The usual process for playspace development will need to be followed including: use an accredited supplier, consult with the neighbouring residents (usually a 400m residential buffer), consider equipment that will hold the interest of children and no interruptions to the path of travel between facilities, add it to our Asset Management Strategy (AMS) and monitor it for liability and ongoing maintenance.

It is acknowledged that seating for playspace users is limited and there may an opportunity to provide more seating with associated shade.

The 1999 Management Plan recommended the installation of three picnic tables near the playground area, as well as a barbecue to be installed to complement the picnic area. At the time of implementation of that recommendation nearby residents did not support picnic and barbecue facilities close to the boundary of the Reserve with their properties. However, recent consultation has identified that many residents support the need for a barbecue and picnic facility to attract families to the Reserve.

3.7.2.2 **Actions**

In order to address the issues identified above the following actions are recommended:

- Install seating in the shade adjacent to the playspace.
- Upgrade the playspace (when required) to include a wider variety of play opportunities including traditional and natural play elements, landscaping and natural shade. In addition to this consideration to be given to fitness equipment.
- Install a picnic and barbecue area near the playspace and basketball/ netball courts following further consultation with residents.
- Install a playspace in the north of the Reserve, subject to external funding.

3.7.3 Public toilets

The public toilet located adjacent to Oval 1 and the play space was built in 1997. The building is in a good state and will have an approximate further life of 25 years.



3.7.4 Drinking fountains

The Reserve currently has one fountain west of the public toilet. The need for a drinking fountain in the north of the Reserve has been identified. When installing this fountain it is expected that a separate meter, if not already available be installed.

3.7.4.1 Action

• Install a drinking fountain in the north of the Reserve

3.7.5 Seating

Providing seats in reserves gives all users opportunities to rest and enjoy the moment. Seating also gives older or less active people the confidence to access the space knowing that there will be opportunities to rest and recover. They also allow for spectators to relax and enjoy the competition of community sport.

There are approximately 35 seats scattered throughout the Reserve.

3.7.5.1 Issues and opportunities

Several of the existing seats require maintenance including painting and adjustments to the levels on which the seats are located.

Both Cricket Clubs have requested additional seating around the northern ovals to enhance spectator experience. These will be considered following the proposed planting for the same areas. For the Donvale Cricket Club seating has been requested for the north west oval near the proposed crossing of Noonan Way, as well as at the opposite end of oval, without affecting the oval itself. In relation to the St David's Cricket Club seats have been requested between the pavilion and Oval 3 and between the car park maintenance gate and the eastern oval.

The Club's requests for seating will be considered following proposed planting in the same areas. Once the planting has been established the seats will be installed.

3.7.5.2 Actions

In order to address the issues identified above the following actions are recommended:

- Paint the existing seats scattered throughout the Reserve and where required build the ground up to improve use.
- Provide additional seating near the south east corner and north side of the north west oval (2).

3.7.6 Signage



There are two documents that guide the signage for Council reserves - the Outdoor Signage Guidelines 2011 and the Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy 2012.

The Outdoor Signage Guidelines relates to the front of reserve sign naming the reserve and the tenants. In order to avoid sign clutter and to ensure consistency and a high standard of



maintenance, reserve tenants are not permitted to display their own signage.

The Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property Policy requires sporting clubs to apply to Council for a permit to display either a community event board (real estate board) or club sponsor banner. The clubs at Donvale Reserve are permitted to display banners, once a permit is applied for, on the scoreboard, fencing around half the oval and the fencing directly in front of the pavilion. They are not permitted to display signs on the pavilion. The tenants of the northern pavilion do not have the opportunity to display advertising signs as they do not have either fencing or a scoreboard. They can however display temporary advertising signs on the day of competition and remove them at the end of the day.

Existing signage at the Reserve consists of the following:

- Eight information; 17 road and 7 warning signs; and
- Two Reserve signs at the Mitcham Road entrances.

3.7.6.1 Issues and opportunities

There a number of opportunities to upgrade signage to improve identification of the Reserve and provide clearer direction for vehicles and pedestrians.

3.7.6.2 Action

In order to address the issues identified above the following actions are recommended:

- Upgrade signage at the Reserve (with the exception of the road signs to remain) including:
 - The two Reserve entrance signs;
 - o new track markers at the six pedestrian entrances; and
 - Signs at the entrance on Mitcham Road to inform vehicles that Reserve is not a through road to Martha Street.

3.7.7 Landscaping

The landscape of Donvale Reserve is characterized by wide open grass areas bounded by groups of trees. Views are internal and the landscape is not highly visible from surrounding residential areas. The mature Eucalypts along Mitcham Road provide a break in the urban main road streetscape.

3.7.7.1 Issues and opportunities

The park landscapes is well established and to further improve the park amenity, only requires infill planting in some existing landscaped areas and some new clusters of large trees in a few underused open grass areas away from sporting fields. Some of these areas include:

- West of the northern set of cricket nets:
- Around the playspace and south to the netball courts;
- · South of the main oval; and
- Along some internal roads.

3.7.7.2 Actions

The following actions are recommended to address the identified issues:

Upgrade landscaping to Mitcham Road frontage;



- Infill planting in existing landscaped areas; and
- Plant clusters of canopy trees in defined areas.

3.7.8 Fencing

There are many properties that abut Donvale Reserve. Council pays half the price of a standard fence that adjoins a reserve that reaches a height up to 1.8 metres and is made of cyclone wire or paling. There are also private gateways leading into Donvale Reserve giving residents access from their own property. This is allowed with Council approval under the policy Access from Private Properties to Reserves. However residents' planting outside their boundary fence is not permitted.

3.7.9 Curator's shed

The curator's shed is a store room for equipment that is used by Council staff to maintain the ovals. It is located between pavilion 1 and the cricket nets.

3.7.9.1 Actions

The following actions are recommended:

- Seal and improve drainage to the entrance of the shed.
- Seal and link vehicle maintenance access roads/pathways from behind the curator shed to Noonan Way.

3.7.10 Telecommunication tower

On 31 August 2004, Council entered into a lease agreement with Hutchison 3G to erect a telecommunication tower at Donvale Reserve. Hutchison made a contribution to the sporting community as compensation for placing the telecommunications equipment at the Reserve. The Donvale Sporting Club was given a scoreboard, including storage and one floodlight pole.

Crown Castle took over the property management of this site on 1 September 2012 when Hutchison 3G went out of business.

3.7.10.1 Issues and opportunities

The formal term of the lease expired on 14 February 2013; however Council has received payment for a further 12 months and is awaiting a decision by Crown in relation to renewal of the lease. Crown Castle is currently reviewing all its sites and in some cases is not renewing agreements, as is the case with Colman Reserve, South Warrandyte.

The condition of the lease allows Council to retain the equipment if it desires or to request the leaseholder to remove it in the event the lease is not renewed. This includes the scoreboard, telecommunications control room (beneath the scoreboard), light pole and floodlighting equipment.

If Crown Castle does not renew the lease the floodlight pole and associated connections and all equipment should be required to be removed from the building and Council should retain the scoreboard and in situ building.

3.7.10.2 Action

• If Crown Castle does not renew the lease for the telecommunication tower, Council requests that it remove the floodlight pole and associated connections and all equipment from the building and Council retains the scoreboard and in situ building.



4. Safety Management

Risk assessments of the Reserve have been undertaken on two separate occasions in April 2012 and February 2013.

The assessment has identified the need for better clarity in relation to the relative responsibilities for Council and tenants, and the need for a procedure/process for reporting corrective actions to address identified issues.

The reporting of risks is a shared responsibility with the tenants and Council staff. The renewal of the sport clubs leases will assist the clubs to better understand their role. Newly created leases include a maintenance schedule that clearly identifies responsibilities.

Further to addressing the concerns identified through the risk assessment, safety will be addressed with the inclusion of the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principles. These will advise on the design of facilities and placement of trees/infrastructure within the Reserve.

To address a concern of safety for residents walking through the Reserve at night Council's Social & Community Services will facilitate a pilot Women Safety Session at the Reserve that is open for sporting club users and local residents. This will be in partnership with the Victoria Police, Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) and other organisations and conducted as a part of Healthy Lifestyle Week 2014.

4.1.1.1 Actions

- Undertake a risk audit when inspecting pavilions and the surrounds after each seasonal usage.
- Provide training to Council's curators in the identification and reporting of risk.
- Refer to Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Principles (CPTEDP) in relation to the design of future facilities at the Reserve.
- Council's Social and Community Services facilitate a pilot Women Safety Session as a part
 of Healthy Lifestyle Week 2014 at the Reserve that is open for sporting club users and local
 residents.



5. Traffic Management

5.1 Vehicle and Pedestrian Access

Vehicular and pedestrian access to Donvale Reserve includes three vehicle access points, three combined vehicle and pedestrian access points and five pedestrian only access points.

Current vehicle access into and within the Reserve includes:

- Noonan Way, with access from Mitcham Road and Martha Street. Martha Street is open Monday to Friday 4pm to 10pm; Saturday 8am to 10pm; and Sunday 8am to 8pm;
- · Directly from Martha Street during the times indicated above; and
- The car park accessed from Mitcham Road (north entry) caters for the St David's Cricket and Doncaster Rovers Soccer Clubs and is also the route taken to the access road for the tennis club car parks.

The current pedestrian access into and within the Reserve consists of:

- The three entry points above;
- A shared path from Mitcham Road at the southern most point (near the preschool);
- Two entry points from Underwood Drive (Montessori and netball court);
- Joy Street;
- Glika Street; and
- There are also pathways around the Reserve that provide access to all facilities.

5.2 Car Parking

The Reserve includes the following car parking facilities:

- A car park located at the Mitcham Road eastern entry which has 103 car spaces;
- A car park associated with the tennis club which has 50 car spaces;
- Car parking along Noonan Way and car parking adjacent to the Donvale Sports Club which accommodates 65 cars; and
- A car park accessed from Underwood Drive which is not line marked but can accommodate approximately 8 cars.

5.2.1 Issues and Opportunities

Correspondence received in the 1980s from many residents suggested the need to close local street vehicle access points and for Mitcham Road to be the only point of entry. At that time the high volume of traffic using Mitcham Road did not allow for this and a compromise was reached with all but Martha Street being closed. The extension of the Freeway has changed the volume of main arterial traffic considerably and a review is recommended to consider having the two entrances from Mitcham Road as the only vehicle access points to the Reserve during the week (continue access from Martha during sport competition time – weekends).



More recently concerns that have been identified through the consultation process are:

- The safety of crossing Noonan Way during competition from the Donvale Sports Club pavilion to the northern oval by juniors;
- The speed of vehicles accessing the Reserve, in particular during the week;
- The number of vehicles entering the Reserve during the weekdays to access the streets
 west of the Reserve and having to turn around when they realise the Martha Street exit is
 closed,
- Pedestrians accessing the Reserve from Mitcham Road into Noonan Way along the road, as there is not a formal pathway.
- The perception of safety for the users of the Reserve parking in the Mitcham Road car park, eastern entry at night.
- Some Montessori Early Education Centre parents park in Underwood Drive and not the Centre carpark provided in the Reserve.

There are also some issues associated with both pedestrian and vehicular access in the vicinity of the existing preschool site.

From a pedestrian point of view the current location of the preschool buildings, adjacent roads and car park isolate the facility. Pedestrian access from the preschool to the Reserve is currently gained by crossing the car park to the path on the south of the site and should the use of that site change in the future, pedestrian access and safety issues should be addressed. In addition, should the use change there would be opportunities to improve vehicular access to the Reserve through the removal of a building to facilitate a realignment of the entrance road (refer to section 2.4).

An assessment of the Reserve by Council's Traffic Engineers has also identified the following:

- The need for improvements to linemarking, pedestrian links and signage in association with the car park located at the south east corner of the Reserve, off Underwood Drive.
- The need to consider options to provide a safe pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the speed humps to link Donvale Sports Club pavilion with the northern oval.
- The need for review of the layout of the car park at the Donvale Sports Club pavilion.
- The need for modifications and line marking in relation to the existing speed humps along the entry.
- In the longer term consideration of the feasibility of providing a vehicle turnaround area at the western end of Noonan Way, south west of Oval 2.

5.2.1.1 Actions

In order to address the issues identified above the following actions are recommended:

- Subject to preliminary investigation and preparation of a concept plan, consider in the longer term, the feasibility of providing a vehicle turnaround area at the western end of Noonan Way, south west of Oval 2.
- Review the layout of the car park at the Donvale Sport Club pavilion and in consultation with the Club; consider the provision of disabled parking, installation of line marking and wheel stops and upgrade of car park lights.



- Undertake the following work in the car park located at the southeast end of the Reserve off Underwood Drive:
 - o line mark parking bays;
 - formalise pathway linking car park with Reserve;
 - install parking restriction 'No Stopping' signs to indicate no standing on north side of car park;
 - o install 'P' signs in Underwood Drive and Wright Avenue to direct drivers travelling south and east to the car park; and
 - o erect 'No access to Reserve, access via Mitcham Road' signs in Underwood Drive and Wright Avenue to replace the current non standard yellow and black signs.
- Modify two existing speed humps along Noonan Way to make them more recognisable and undertake associated line marking.
- In relation to pedestrian safety in the vicinity of the Donvale Sports Club pavilion:
 - Consider options to provide a safe pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the speed hump to link the pavilion with the northern oval;
 - o Support the crossing restricting parking near the crossing; and
 - Construct a ramp or steps from the club house to the oval to minimise muddy and slippery entry points.
- Improve the Noonan Way entry and improve access between the site and the Reserve as a future consideration if the use allows.
- Consult with the residents in Underwood Drive for the implementation of parking restrictions to address MEEC parents accessing Underwood Drive for parking.



6. Actions

The following table provides a summary of all actions. They include costing and a priority rating and list the Council service unit or stakeholder responsible for implementation.

Currently Council's five year Capital Works Program does not include any additional funding for Priority 3 actions. All costings are at 2012/2013 values.

6.1 Objective 1: SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Improve the broad range of formal recreational services and programs based at the Reserve, including building and facility upgrades.

	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Ongoing	Unit
1.1	Renew the Donvale Sports Club lease following the Club addressing the maintenance issues and incorporate the Donvale Magpie Junior Football Club.	operational				Property Services
1.2	Include the Donvale Sports Club pavilion in Council's Asset Management System.	operational				Building M/ance
1.3	Prepare concept plans, specifications and costs estimates to redevelop Donvale Sports Club pavilion.	\$250,000				Major Projects
1.4	Redevelop Donvale Sports Club pavilion in line with Council's Sports Pavilion Guidelines.		\$1,300,000			Major Projects
1.5	Any consideration of the future upgrade of floodlighting for night competition to be done in consultation with residents and following the flood lighting policy review.	Club				Landscape & Leisure
1.6	Relocate the two large skip bins from the front of the Donvale Sports Club pavilion to another location that will be accessible for emptying.	\$2,000				Parks & Recreation
1.7	Allow the Donvale Sports Club to install an electronic scoreboard following the development of a scoreboard policy and Council approval.	Club				
1.8	Continue the tiered standing area north east from the Donvale Sports Club pavilion approximately 20 metres.		\$9,240			Parks & Recreation



	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Ongoing	Unit
1.9	Install a sight screen for the benefit of the Donvale Cricket Club to southern oval (1).	Club				
1.10	Relocate the gate keeper box and place in storage when not in use.	Club				
1.11	Undertake the following work on the cricket nets on the southern oval (1):	\$80,000				Parks & Recreation
	replace the steel and cyclone mesh netting;					
	install gates; and					
	 replace individual pitches with the installation of a sheet of concrete and synthetic cover across the entire (synthetic) facility. 					
1.12	Close the cricket nets on the southern oval (1) to the community.					Parks & Recreation
1.13	Install a bin cage in the car park near the entrance to the northern pavilion (2)		\$5,000			Parks & Recreation
1.14	Relocate the coaches' boxes from the west side of the southern Oval (1) to the opposite side and realign fencing allowing for pedestrian access.	\$4,000				Parks & Recreation
1.15	Renew Donvale Tennis Club lease.	operational				Parks & Recreation and Property
1.16	Resurface the northern net/basketball court, replace the towers and rings with the multi-use rings (a pole that can be rotate and used for both netball and basketball) and fill the pipe fencing with mesh.	\$35,000 \$ 8,000 \$ 7,000				Parks & Recreation
1.17	Donvale Netball Club and the Donvale Sports Club to commence discussions with regards to forming a partnership with the aim of the Netball Club joining the Donvale Sports Club, being considered with the lease renewal and being part of the planning for the proposed pavilion redevelopment.	Clubs				



	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priorit y 3	Ongoing	Unit
1.18	Upgrade the drainage and fencing in part around the southern oval (1) in conjunction with the extension of the pathway from the pavilion to the net/basketball courts.		\$23,000			Parks & Recreation
1.19	If Crown Castle does not renew the lease request that it removes the floodlight pole and associated connections and all equipment from the building and Council to retain the scoreboard and in situ building.	Crown Castle				
1.20	Install a drink fountain in the north of the Reserve and separate meter if necessary	\$6,000				
	Sub Total	\$392,000	\$1,337,240	\$0		

6.2 Objective 2: ACCESS

Improve pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular access to and within the Reserve to encourage greater use and increase perceptions of safety.

	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Ongoing	Unit
2.1	Ensure that Reserve signage clearly indicates dog controls and expected behavior.	NA				Landscape & Leisure
2.2	Relocate the gate keeper box and place in storage when not in use.	Club				
2.3	Construct an access ramp from the car park to the northern pavilion.	\$40,000				Major Projects
2.4	Undertake a risk audit when inspecting pavilions and the surrounds after each seasonal usage.	Operational				Parks & Recreation
2.5	Provide training to Council's curators to identify and report risk.	Operational				Risk Management and Parks & Recreation
2.6	Extend the pathway around the outside of the southern oval (1) to the netball court.		\$20,000			Roads & Infrastructure
2.7	Implement any relevant recommendations of the Principal Pedestrian Network when it has been endorsed by Council.	NA				Landscape & Leisure & Engineering & Technical Services



	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Ongoing	Unit
2.8	Resurface the paths in the southern end of the Reserve	\$20,000				Engineering & Technical Services
2.9	Improve the path on the embankment to public toilets by the installation of wide steps.	\$4,345				Engineering & Technical Services
2.10	Upgrade signage at the Reserve, including:					Landscape & Leisure
	two Reserve entrance sign;	\$10,000				
	 track markers at the six pedestrian entrances; and 	\$3,000				
	 entrance on Mitcham Road to inform vehicles the Reserve is not a through Road to Martha Street. 	\$500				
2.11	Install security lighting in the Mitcham Road car park, eastern entry.	\$70,000				Engineering & Technical Services
2.12	Install floodlighting for the cricket nets area located in the north of Reserve.	Floodlight budget 50%-50% with Club				Parks & Recreation
2.13	If the use of the current preschool site changes, improve the Noonan Way entry and improve access between and site and the Reserve.					Engineering & Technical Services
2.14	Seal and improve drainage to the entrance of the curator's shed.	\$7,000				Parks & Recreation
2.15	Seal and link vehicle maintenance access roads/pathways from behind the curator shed to Noonan Way.	\$7,000				Roads & Infrastructure
2.16	Undertake preliminary investigation and preparation of a concept plan in relation to the feasibility of providing a vehicle turnaround area at the western end of Noonan Way, south west Reserve (2).			\$50,000 (subject to feasibility plan)		Engineering & Technical Services
2.17	Review the layout of the car park at the Donvale Sports Club pavilion (1) and in consultation with the Club, consider the provision of disabled parking, installation of line marking and wheel stoppers and upgrade of car park lights	\$3,800				Engineering & Technical Services



	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Ongoing	Unit
2.18	Undertake the following work to the car park located at the south east corner of the Reserve, off Underwood Drive. • line mark parking bays and formalise pathway linking car park with Reserve; • install parking restriction 'No Stopping' signs to indicate no standing on north side of carpark; • install 'P' signs in Underwood Drive and Wright Avenue to direct drivers travelling south and east to the carpark; and • erect 'No access to Reserve, access via Mitcham Road' signs in Underwood Drive and Wright Avenue to replace the current non standard yellow and black signs.	\$3,200				Engineering & Technical Services
2.19	Modify the two existing speed humps along Noonan Way to make them more recognisable and undertake associated line marking.	\$10,000				Engineering & Technical Services
2.20	In order to improve pedestrian access in the vicinity of the Donvale Sports Club pavilion: • provide a safe pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of the speed hump to link Donvale Sports Club pavilion to northern oval (2): • restrict parking near pedestrian crossing; and • construct a ramp or steps from club house to oval to minimise muddy and slippery entry points.	\$12,500				Engineering & Technical Services
2.21	Consult with the residents in Underwood Drive for the implementation of parking restrictions to address MEEC parents accessing Underwood Drive for parking	Operational				Engineering & Technical Services
	Sub Total	\$191,345	\$20,000	\$50,000		



6.3 Objective 3: OPEN SPACE

Maintain and enhance opportunities for informal recreation at Donvale Reserve.

	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Ongoing	Unit
3.1	Ensure that Donvale Reserve continues to meet the structured sporting needs of the community and in the future if the need for structured sport declines, that the Reserve is retained for its passive recreation values.				operational	All units
3.2	Ensure that any proposed improvements to buildings stay within existing building envelopes.				operational	All units
3.3	Formalise a small section of pathway from the Underwood Drive car park to the Reserve.	\$7,000				Roads & Infrastructur e
3.4	Install seating in the shade of playspace.		\$2,000			
3.5	Upgrade the playspace (when required) to include a wider variety of play opportunities including traditional and natural play elements, landscaping and natural shade. As well, consideration be given to fitness equipment.			Playspace budget		Landscape & Leisure
3.6	Install a barbecue and picnic bench between the playspace and courts following further consultation with abutting residents regarding the site			\$15,750		Parks & Recreation
3.7	Install park benches between the eastern car park maintenance gate and the eastern oval (4) once the additional tree planting has taken place.			\$2,500		Parks & Recreation
3.8	Paint the current seats scattered throughout the Reserve and where required build the ground up to improve use.	\$4000				Parks & Recreation
3.9	Provide additional planting to the north/west oval (2) and for seating to be installed near the south east corner of the oval and the north side of oval.	\$5,500				Parks & Recreation
	4 seats x \$1000 = \$4,000					
	Mature trees \$1,600					
3.10	Install a drinking fountain in the north of the Reserve	\$6000				



	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Ongoing	Unit
3.11	Install a playspace in the north of the Reserve, subject to external funding			External funding		Landscape & Leisure
	Sub Totals	\$22,500	\$2,000	\$18,250		

6.4 Objective 4: ENVIRONMENT

Protect the existing environment and encourage improved environmental practices in association with future use, development and management of the Reserve.

	Actions	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Ongoing	Unit
4.1	Reinforce the point of entry for players to the southern oval (1) with a rubber mat embedded in ground to manage wear and tear of ground.	\$1,500				Parks & Recreation
4.2	Clean up and landscape the area behind the Donvale Sports Club pavilion (west side).	\$1,200				Parks & Recreation
4.3	Plant trees near the bank east of the cricket nets located in the northern section of the Reserve (Oval 3).	\$1000				Parks & Recreation
4.4	Plant shade trees in the area between the eastern car park maintenance gate and the eastern oval (4) in a scattered approach to enhance the recreation value and provide shade for the spectators.	\$1000				Parks & Recreation
4.5	Upgrade landscaping to Mitcham Road frontage. Infill planting in existing landscaped areas. Plant clusters of canopy trees in defined areas.	\$50,000				Parks & Recreation
4.6	Replace fencing and vehicle barriers as required.	Maintenance				
	Sub Total	\$54,700	0	0	0	
	TOTAL	\$660,545	\$1,359,240	\$68,250		
	All recommendations	\$2,088,035	1	1	1	'



6.5 Donvale Reserve Management Plan Improvements



6.6 Financial Resource Implications

All recommendations discussed in the Management Plan, including the associated capital costs (approximate), are listed in the above table. The total cost listed in this table is the approximate budget required by Council to implement the Donvale Reserve Management Plan. Please note that the cost estimates are preliminary only and will be subject to further detailed cost preparation as part of the Council's annual Capital Works Budget process. Recommendations from this Management Plan with a cost implication will only be implemented after appropriate funding has been allocated and approved in Council's Capital Works Budget.

Following Council endorsement of the Management Plan a business case will be developed to refer budget allocation to the capital works program. The works will then be further prioritised based on available funding being allocated in the ten year capital works program.

6.7 Monitoring and Review of the Management Plan

Ongoing monitoring of this plan will be undertaken via communication with users to ensure that objectives and recommendations remain relevant and meet the needs of the community. A full review of the Management Plan will be carried out by Council five years after the completion of all the Capital Works recommended in this Management Plan



7. Appendix 1 – Community Consultation

A consultative process is conducted by Manningham Council Officers with the local community (residents, users and supporters of the park), regarding plans for developments, proposals, building permits, zoning or upgrades which will affect the amenity of the park for local residents.

2011 Consultation

The consultation process for the Donvale Reserve Management Plan commenced in November 2011 and included:

- Advertising in the Manningham Leader, Manningham Matters and Council's website
- · Meetings between council officers and stakeholders.
- 'Our Community's Voice' questionnaire sent to 986 residents surrounding the Reserve, members of tenant sporting clubs and Reserve user groups and a local early education centre with feedback closing on 23rd December 2011.
- The opportunity to participate in the consultation process was advertised through Council's website and the local media.
- The feedback received via the comprehensive consultation process has been used to develop the Management Plan and guide the actions.

Further opportunity for consultation will occur once the Draft Management Plan is publicly exhibited.

Survey Findings

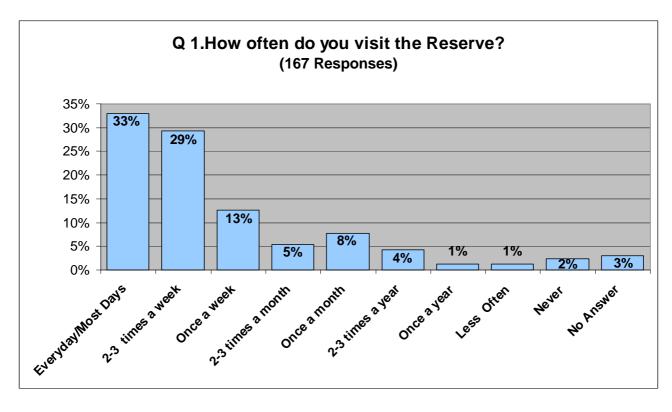
- 166 questionnaires (16.9% return rate) were returned to Council.
- Of the respondents represented 27% were in the 35-49 age brackets.
- 23% aged 60-69 years.
- 3% were aged less than 24 years.
- 33% of respondents visited the Reserve everyday/most days and only 11% on weekends.
- 84% visit the Reserve on foot and only 10% visited by car.
- 85% of respondents felt safe when visiting the Reserve.
- 45% of respondents rated the Reserve overall in good condition with 14% rating it in excellent condition.

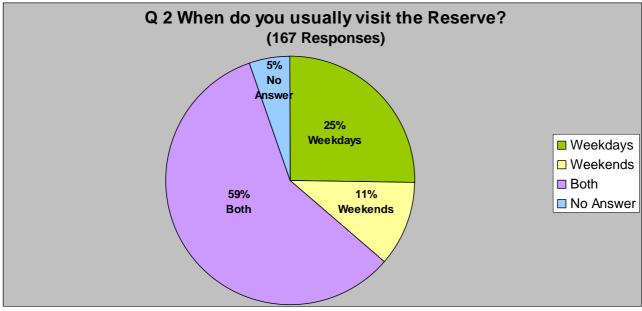
Relevant Council Units include:

Parks and Recreation, Landscape and Leisure, Community Planning and Engagement, Civic Buildings, Major Projects, SHE and Risk Management Consultant, Waste Management, Social and Community Services, Economic and Environmental Planning, Health, Community Venues, Health and Local Laws and Project Management.

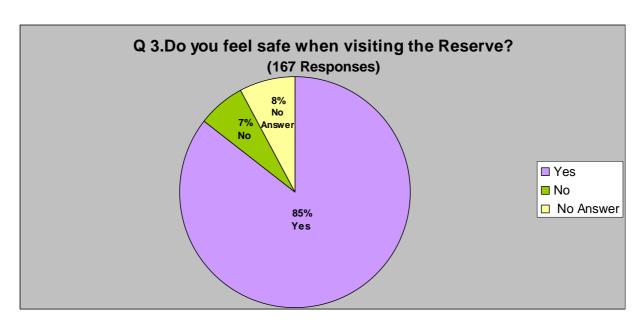


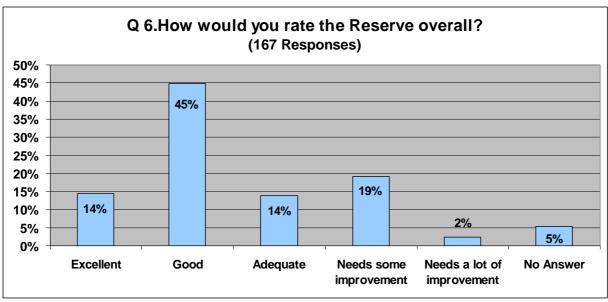
'Our Community's Voice' Survey Results

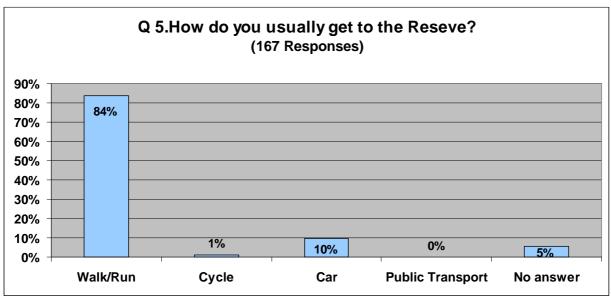




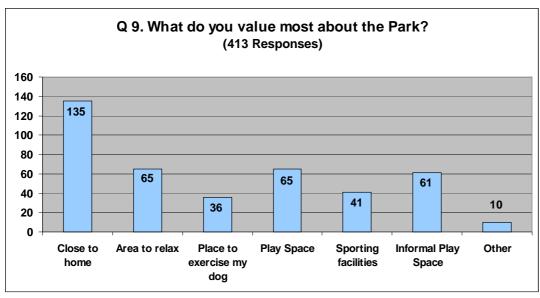


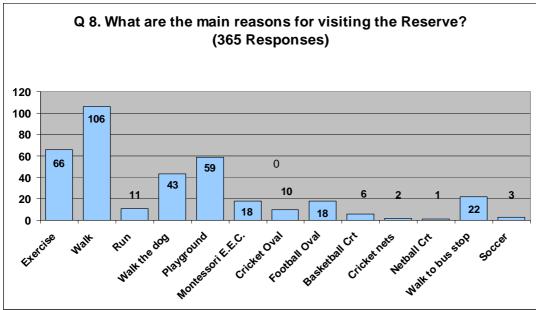


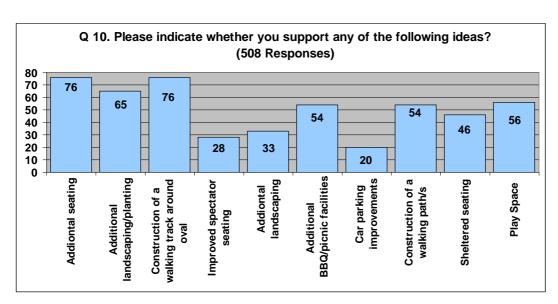




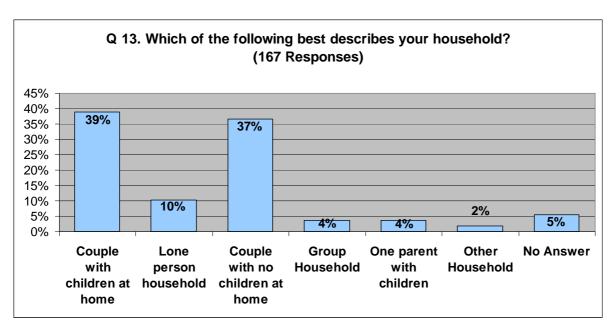


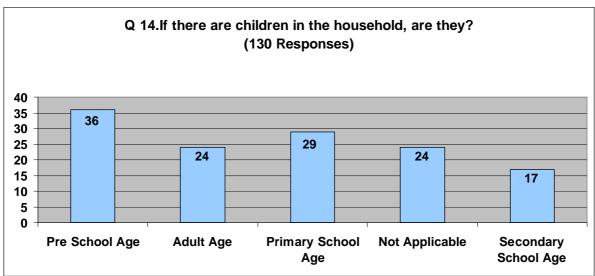


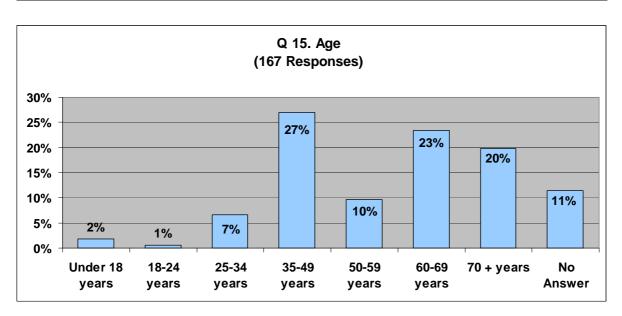














8. Appendix 2 - Planning and Policy Context

This section provides the planning and policy context for this Management Plan within a State and Municipal framework.

State

There are a number of state laws, policies and plans that relate to the planning, development and management of open space areas. These are identified in the table below.

	PURPOSE
STATE LEGISLATION	
Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006	To provide for the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage in
Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978	To provide for the Reservation of Crown Lands for certain purposes and for the management of such Reserved
Planning and Environments Act 1987	To establish framework for planning the use, development and protection of land in Victoria in the present long-term
STRATEGY/POLICY	
State Planning Policy Framework (including Melbourne 2030)	To provide a clear and consistent framework within which decisions about the use and development of land can be made. Melbourne 2030 seeks to manage growth and change across metropolitan Melbourne
Linking People and Spaces	To ensure the equitable distribution of
Victoria's Native Vegetation Management – A Framework for Action	To protect, enhance and revegetate Victoria's native vegetation.
Melbourne Water Guidelines for Development in Flood-prone Areas October 2008	To ensure the planning, development of properties, buildings and

Municipal

Manningham Planning Scheme (MPS)

The Local Planning Policy Framework in the Manningham Planning Scheme contains the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and local planning policies. The Manningham MSS sets policy and strategies for the use and development of land in the municipality. The MPS contains all the policies, zones, overlays and other provisions that apply to all land in the municipality. The zoning of an area establishes what land use is permitted for that area, whilst the overlays control that land use.



The following planning zones and overlays apply to Donvale Reserve.

PPRZ = Public Park and Recreation Zone

The purpose of this zone is to recognise areas for public recreation and open space protect and conserve areas of significance, where appropriate, and provide for commercial use where appropriate. This zone applies to the entire Reserve.

Generation 2030 Community Plan

The Community Plan is reflective of this community's vision, aspirations and priorities for the future. As Council's overarching strategic document, it provides a long- term shared vision for Manningham and its community. The Community Plan will guide the development of policy and strategies and identify innovative and exciting ways of how the community can work together to achieve the plan. Numerous stakeholders have been engaged in the development of the Plan and will continue their involvement throughout its implementation and achievement of the community's vision for 2030.

Manningham Council Plan 2009-2013

The Council Plan 2009 – 2013 outlines the following vision for the City of Manningham:

A vibrant, safe and culturally diverse community that fosters participation, connectedness, harmony, social inclusion, health and wellbeing.

A community with access to high quality, responsive, services, facilities and infrastructure, to meet changing needs.

A Council underpinned by sound financial management, customer service, continuous improvement, strong governance and leadership, transparency, consultation, communication and advocacy.

A municipality that supports sustainable development and achieves a balance between lively activity areas supporting a healthy local economy, and preserving our rural areas and abundance of open space.

A community that protects and enhances our natural environment and wildlife, and is concerned about reducing our carbon footprint in all that we do.

To achieve this vision, the Council Plan 2009-2013 identifies the following nine objectives:

Objective 1 – Safe Community. To foster a safe place to live for people of all ages and abilities

Objective 2 – Social Inclusion, Wellbeing and Affordability. To build a socially inclusive and connected community that promotes health and wellbeing through accessible services and facilities, and strong community partnerships and participation.

Objective 3 – Good Governance and Financial Management. To maintain Manningham's position as a strong, financially sustainable Council, delivering high quality services, underpinned by principles of good governance, continuous improvement and transparency.



Objective 4 – Cultural Diversity and Harmony. To promote cultural harmony within our diverse community and support community engagement through multicultural events, activities that harness cultural learning and celebration, targeted services and multilingual communications.

Objective 5 – Planning and Economic Development. To ensure appropriate, sustainable development that protects our environment while also strengthening our local economy, supporting local business and providing accessible services.

Objective 6 – Service Delivery. To deliver a range of high quality services, programs, recreational opportunities and facilities that meet the needs of children, young people, families, seniors and community groups.

Objective 7 – Assets and Infrastructure. To maintain, upgrade and develop Manningham's physical assets to a high standard, to meet the growing needs of the community, and increased levels of usage.

Objective 8 – Advocacy, Communication and Engagement. To effectively advocate on behalf of the community to other levels of government, and ensure effective communication and engagement on Council services, activities and projects.

Objective 9 – Environment and Global Warming. To adopt sustainable practices that reduce our carbon footprint on the environment, reduce waste, energy and water use, and protect and enhance biodiversity.

Manningham Open Space Strategy 2004 (under review)

The Manningham Open Space Strategy 2004 provides a guide for the strategic planning, development and management of Manningham's Open Space network.

This Strategy is currently under review at the time of preparing this Management Plan. The Strategy is a reference document for Council officers involved in the planning,

development and management of Manningham's Open Space network. It recognises that

the provision of high quality open space has many benefits for the community, including economic, environmental, urban liveability, social/health and cultural benefits.

The Strategy defines fifteen open space precincts for the municipality. Donvale Reserve is located within Koonung Ward, in Donvale. The Strategy states that open space planning needs to concentrate on maximising the aesthetic and informal recreational potential of the informal recreation areas within the precinct.

The Strategy also applies a category system to all reserves, reflecting their primary purpose. The category system defines eight categories of reserves, which are used to determine:

- The Council Service Unit responsible for the planning of the reserve;
- The distribution of specific facilities across the municipality e.g. sporting facilities;
- Priorities for the allocation of capital and maintenance resources, and
- How a reserve should be planned, developed and managed in the future.



The Strategy describes Donvale Reserve as follows:

"Donvale Reserve provides a range of sporting facilities including soccer, tennis, football, cricket, netball and basketball. It also houses the Montessori Pre-school Centre and provides valuable informal recreation for local residents. The Reserve is accessible from 5 different streets, including Mitcham Road which has a bus route. There is also a picnic area and walking paths provided within the Reserve.

Open space is limited in this locality and comprehensive play and recreation opportunities are warranted at this Reserve."

"Active for Life" Recreation Strategy 2010-2025

Manningham Council's 'Active for Life' Recreation Strategy (2010) has being developed in consultation with the community to inform provision for recreation in Manningham up to 2020. This strategy addresses the challenge for the whole of the Manningham community to be Active for Life!

From a State and National perspective, physical activity has been ranked second only to tobacco control in being the most important factor in health promotion and disease prevention in Australia Vic Health Website: Physical Activity 2009.

The Strategy vision is for a community that is spending more time participating in a diverse range of recreational pursuits regardless of age, gender, ability and cultural background. The community will make the most of the infrastructure, facilities, parks and programs offered and enjoy improved health and wellbeing as a result. The Strategy identifies that Manningham residents have high participation rates in walking and cycling highlighting the importance for improvements in accessibility, paths, links and promotion.

Manningham Urban and Park Design Guidelines 2010

The main purpose of the Urban and Park Design Guidelines is to provide advice for the planning and selection of smaller facilities, furniture and other elements in open space and streetscape situations. This Guidelines aim to provide practical advice for the design and provision of public furniture in public roads, car parks and shopping centres and in public open spaces, including parks and recreation reserves.

These Guidelines:

- Contain a suite of standard furniture and landscape elements that complement Manningham's style and corporate guidelines;
- Include matrices to guide the appropriate section of facilities, furniture and other elements in a wide range of locations;
- Recognise the importance of protecting and enhancing the existing characters and proposes dividing Manningham into three areas (Urban, Transition and Country) to help guide the selection of furniture and other elements;
- Include direction for colour selection, the maintenance and replacement of furniture, and seeks to encourage sustainable practices, and
- Are intended to be used by officers responsible for the installation and maintenance of smaller facilities, furniture and other elements in open space and streetscape situations.



Manningham Sporting Pavilion Development Guidelines (2008) and Seasonal Sports Pricing Policy (2008)

Council has recently endorsed the Sporting Pavilion Development Guidelines and the Seasonal Sports Pricing Policy to guide both Council and sporting associations in providing an equitable determination of costs associated with upgrading existing facilities and/or developing new facilities. They also help to clarify the funding of standard (e.g. change rooms, public toilets, social room – all up to a specified maximum size) and non-standard components (e.g. bar, gymnasium, extended social room) of sports pavilions.

A summary of the Sporting Pavilion Development Guidelines follows.

Policy Principles

To a limited extent Council should support the funding of social facilities in recognition of broader community benefits in community connection and community building and potential of multi-use by broader community.

That clubs are fully responsible to fund components Council classifies as non essential and inconsistent with Council objectives of the provision of sporting facilities to encourage active and healthy lifestyles i.e. bar facilities.

Policy Considerations

Historical factors, for example clubs financial contribution to previous facilities, where demolition is to occur.

Standards & Contributions

The policy proposes (where clubs have provided financial input to the development of facilities in the past) that Council will fully replace facilities with an equivalent floor size, and to current day building standards.

Standard Component Table

Change rooms - 40m2 home & 40m2 away Social

room/multipurpose-70m2

Manningham City Council Outdoor Signage Policy 2010

This policy is designed as a practical user manual for Manningham City Council's suite of signage, and is intended to provide:

- A single point of reference for the sign types most commonly used by Manningham City Council, including practical information on use, placement, colour, size and graphics.
- General guidelines for the implementation and future design development of signage, so a consistent and cost effective system is maintained by Manningham City Council.

Signage is used throughout the City of Manningham's reserves, parks and trails to:

- Consistently identify parks and reserves to pedestrian and vehicular traffic;
- Identify key destinations within parks & reserves



- Provide orientation information
- Provide directional information to leisure activities and nearby significant destinations (e.g. playgrounds, walking trails& bike paths); and
- Provide regulatory, advisory and safety information

Floodlighting Policy for Council Reserves

The following is a summary of the Policy:

- Council will provide a 50 percent funding contribution towards the installation of a new floodlighting system or, for the upgrade of an existing system where the systems have come to the end of their long-term usage capacity or present otherwise irresolvable risk management issues.
- Funding for these items will be sourced through Manningham Council's Capital Works program and be assessed through Council's Capital Evaluation Model for Capital Works projects.
- If funding is received from a grant, it will be divided evenly amongst the club and council and considered as a contribution.
- Any Council initiated relocation that may require the installation of a new floodlighting system or the upgrade of an existing floodlighting system will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.
- The tenant club/s is totally responsible for all day to day maintenance of all floodlighting at its facility. This includes the replacement of globes and fitting, changes in location and alignment of cyclical rewiring.
- Support energy efficient and sustainable floodlighting solutions as they become available with the goal of 50% reduction in energy consumed by 2020 (baseline 2000).

Other Strategies, Plans & Studies

The following table summarises other Manningham Strategies, Plans and Studies relevant to the planning and management of Council parks and reserves.

STRATEGY/POLICY	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Ageing Well in Manningham Strategy (2012-2018)	Provides a foundation for the creation of an age- friendly city in which older people can lead active and full lives and can play their part in ensuring Manningham remains a vibrant and cohesive community.
Arts & Cultural Strategy 2009-2013	
Bicycle Strategy (2006)	Provides direction for the ongoing development of on and off road bicycle facilities and programs.
Eastern Region Soccer Strategy 2008	This Study represents a regional, coordinated approach to identifying and addressing the needs of soccer to achieve consistency in the way in which the growth of the sport and demand for provision (predominantly for facilities) is catered for, in a strategic and proactive manner.
Bushland Management Action Plan Draft (May 2012)	Establishes policy, principles and directions for the management of bushland on Council owned Open Space.
Access and Inclusion Policy (2008-2012)	Contains actions to improve accessibility and equity in access.



STRATEGY/POLICY	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan 2013- 2017	Relating to the management of domestic animals in Manningham. Contains details on dog controls for Council reserves. Also contains recommendations for responsible dog and cat ownership relating to open space.
Manningham Council Plan 2009 - 2013 – Future Manningham	Key document that guides Councils strategic direction.
Manningham Local Activity Centres Plan July 2007	The scope of this Plan is to examine the future planning needs of the "Local Centres" within Manningham.
Multicultural Strategy 2010 - 2013	To establish effective and efficient strategies for facilitating understanding and harmony within the Community and the provision of services to culturally and linguistically diverse residents of the municipality. Furthermore, to enhance the participation of residents from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in the decision making process that impact on their lives.
Community Safety Plan 2009-2012	To work in partnership with the community and key stakeholders to achieve a community that is healthy, safe and vibrant in which the quality of life for individuals and communities is protected
Volunteer Policy 2010 - 2013"	To support volunteerism and enhance it into the future.
Manningham Youth Policy and Action Plan 2011 - 2015	Provide strategic directions for the development, provision, co-ordination, facilitation and evaluation of services to young people and their families within the municipality.
Municipal Public Health Plan (2009 – 2013)	To promote a physical, social, economic and cultural environment that not only enables people to avoid ill health, but also promotes health and well-being among the whole community.
Policy Manual - Section 4 – Environmental Amenity	ENV3 Conservation and Environment ENV3 Pine and Cypress Trees
Policy Manual - Section 4 - Environmental ENV1 Advertising ENV1.2 Outdoor Advertising on Council Owned and Managed Property	This policy provides advice and guidance for community groups and organisations erecting advertising signs on Council owned or managed property including Reserves and Buildings. It does not apply to the erection of reserve name signs which allow for identification of user groups (see Council policy CD 13.3 'Reserve Signs').
Procurement Policy Quality and Corporate Services Sub Section - Administrative Procedures Policy N°ORG1.10 TRIM Ref: POL/278	Council has fundamental procurement control mechanisms to ensure the orderly and efficient supply and delivery of, and payment for, goods, services and works.



9. Appendix 3 - Demographic Analysis

Donvale Reserve Management Plan Demographic Analysis Prepared by Community Planning – July 2012

Purpose

To provide a social demographic analysis of the Donvale community with consideration to population, age structure, income, and household composition based on 2011 census data.

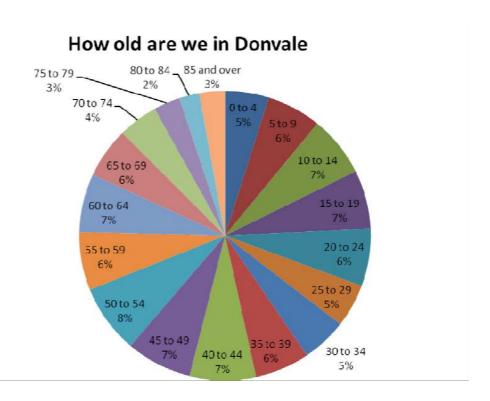
Background

Population characteristics

	Donvale	
Total	12,318	
Male	5,961	48.4%
Females	6,356	51.6%

Age characteristics

- The median age of people in Donvale (State Suburbs) was 42 years. Children aged 0 14
 years made up 17.6% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 18.4%
 of the population.
- Those aged 50+ equate to 39.1% of the total population.





Country of Birth & Language Spoken

In Donvale (State Suburbs), 68.5% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were China (excludes SARs and Taiwan) 3.2%, England 3.1%, Malaysia 2.3%, Hong Kong (SAR of China) 2.1% and Italy 1.9%.

In Donvale (State Suburbs), 45.7% of people had both parents born in Australia and 42.2% of people had both parents born overseas.

The most common ancestries in Donvale (State Suburbs) were English 22.3%, Australian 21.5%, Chinese 9.3%, Italian 7.8% and Irish 6.8%.

In Donvale (State Suburbs) 71.3% of people only spoke English at home. Other languages spoken at home included Cantonese 5.7%, Italian 3.7%, Greek 3.5%, Mandarin 3.4% and Arabic 1.2%.

Country of birth of person Top 10 - Donvale	Population	Percentage
Australia	8,079	68.5%
China (excl. SARs and Taiwan)	382	3.2%
United Kingdom	368	3.1%
Malaysia	268	2.3%
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	244	2.1%
Italy	225	1.9%

Top 5 Language Spoken other than English - Donvale	Population	Percentage%
Cantonese	677	5.7
Italian	440	3.7
Greek	417	3.5
Mandarin	397	3.4
Arabic	144	1.2
English only spoken at home	8,409	71.3
Households where two or more languages are spoken	1,225	30.6

Family Characteristics

Of the families in Donvale (State Suburbs), 52.6% were couple families with children, 35.1% were couple families without children and 11.3% were one parent families.

In Donvale (State Suburbs) 19.7% of single parents were male and 80.3% were female.

Family composition - Donvale	Donvale	Percentage%
Couple family without children	1,153	35.1
Couple family with children	1,731	52.6
One parent family	371	11.3
Other family	34	1



Household Composition

- In Donvale (State Suburbs), 93.2% of private dwellings were occupied and 6.8% were unoccupied.
- Of occupied private dwellings in Donvale (State Suburbs), 84.6% were separate houses, 13.8% were semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses etc, 1.5% were flats, units or apartments and 0.1% were other dwellings.
- In Donvale (State Suburbs), of occupied private dwellings 1.8% had 1 bedroom, 11.5% had 2 bedrooms and 38.1% had 3 bedrooms. The average number of bedrooms per occupied private dwelling was 3.5. The average household size was 2.8 people.
- Of occupied private dwellings in Donvale (State Suburbs), 45.8% were owned outright, 36.8% were owned with a mortgage and 14.3% were rented.
- In Donvale (State Suburbs), of all households, 80.2% were family households, 18.2% were single person households and 1.6% were group households.

	Household composition - Donvale	Donvale	Percentage%
•	Family households	3,206	80.2
	Single (or lone) person households	729	18.2
	Group households	65	1.6

Household Income

In Donvale (State Suburbs), 16.3% of households had a weekly household income of less than \$600 and 19.1% of households had a weekly income of more than \$3,000.

Household income - Donvale	Percentage%
Less than \$600 gross weekly income	16.3
More than \$3,000 gross weekly income	19.1

Source:

2011 ABS census QuickStats & Community Profile / www.abs.gov.au



10. Appendix 4 – EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment



Description:

A low, open forest to 15 m tall with a sedgy/grassy understorey with a component of small ericoid shrubs and grass-trees. Soil and moisture factors are critical in delimiting the vegetation.

Large trees:

 Species
 DBH(cm)
 #/ha

 Eucalyptus spp.
 70 cm
 20 / ha

Tree Canopy Cover:

 %cover
 Character Species
 Common Name

 30%
 Eucalyptus melliodora
 Yellow Box

 Eucalyptus goniocalyx s.l.
 Bundy

 Eucalyptus macrorhyncha
 Red Stringybark

Understorey:

Life form		#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		1300	5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub		2	10%	T
Medium Shrub		7	15%	MS
Small Shrub		5	5%	SS
Prostrate Shrub		2	1%	PS
Medium Herb		6	10%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb		3	5%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	(6)	3	5%	LTG
Large Non-tufted Graminoid		2	20%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid		6	15%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid		1	1%	MNG
Ground Fern		1	1%	GF
Scrambler or Climber		3	5%	SC
Bryophytes/Lichens		na	10%	BL





127: Valley Heathy Forest Highlands – Northern Fall Bioregion					
LF Code	Species typical of a least part of EVC range	Common Name			
Т	Exocarpos cupressiformis	Cherry Ballart			
MS	Epacris impressa	Common Heath			
MS	Cassinia acu/eata	Common Cassinia			
MS	Daviesia leptophylla	Narrow-leaf Bitter-pea			
MS	Cassinia arcuata	Drooping Cassinia			
SS	Platylobium obtusangulum	Common Flat-pea			
SS	Dillwynia cinerascenss .I .	Grey Parrot-pea			
SS	Hovea heterophy//a	Common Hovea			
SS	Pimelea humilis	Common Rice-flower			
PS	Acrotriche serrulata	Honey-pots			
PS	Bossiaea prostrata	Creeping Bossiaea			
МН	Leptorhynchos tenuifolius	Wiry Buttons			
МН	Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort			
МН	Helichrysum scorpioides	Button Everlasting			
SH	Operro/aria varia	Variable Stinkweed			
SH	Drosera whittiikerissp. aberrans	Scented Sundew			
SH	Oxalis comirolata s.l.	Yellow Wood-sorrel			
LTG	Xanthorrhoea minor ssp. /utea	Small Grass-tree			
LTG	Deyeuxia quadriseta	Reed Bent-grass			
LNG	Gahnia radula	Thatch Saw-sedge			
MTG	Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Mat-rush			
MTG	Joycea pal/ida	Silvertop Wallaby-grass			
MTG	Poa morrisii	Soft Tussock-grass			
MTG	Dianella revolutas.l.	Black-anther Flax-lily			
MNG	Micro/aena stipoidesvar. stipoides	Weeping Grass			
GF	Lindsaea linearis	Screw Fern			
SC	Billardiera scandens	Common Apple-berry			
SC	Hardenbergia violacea	Purple Coral-pea			



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Episodic/Fire. Desirable period between disturbances is 30 years.

Organic Litter:

40% cover

Logs:

20 m/0.1 ha.

LF Code	Species typical of a least part of EVC range	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
Т	Pinus radiata	Radiata Pine	LOW	HIGH
MS	Rubus froticosus spp. agg	Blackberry	HIGH	HIGH
LH	Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort	HIGH	LOW
МН	Hypochoeris radicata	Cat's Ear	HIGH	LOW
MTG	Briza maxima	Large Quaking-grass	HIGH	LOW
MTG	Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	HIGH	HIGH

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