

# Ordinary Meeting of Council

Nellie Ibbott Chambers, Ivanhoe Library and Cultural Hub, 275 Upper Heidelberg Road, 3079

9 October 2023 7pm

## ATTACHMENTS

### **3.2 Instrument of Delegation from Council to the Chief Executive Officer**

Attachment 1. S5 - Instrument of Delegation from Council to the Chief Executive Officer - Proposed ..... 3

### **3.4 Instrument of Appointment to Authorised Officers under the Planning and Environment Act 1987**

Attachment 1. S11A - Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation PE Act - Proposed7

### **3.5 Instrument of Sub -Delegation and Appointment and Authorisation- Environment Protection Act 2017**

Attachment 1. S18 - Instrument of Sub-Delegation EPA Act 2017 - Proposed.....11

Attachment 2. S11B - Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation EPA 2017 - Proposed .....17

### **4.1 Draft Banyule Gambling Policy for community consultation**

Attachment 1. Draft Banyule Gambling Policy 2024-2028.....19

### **5.1 Urban Forest Strategy 2022-2032**

Attachment 1. Draft Urban Forest Strategy 2023 - 2033 .....33

Attachment 2. Urban Forest Strategy - Implementation Plan - 2022 - 2033 .....57

### **6.1 Transport Advocacy Update**

Attachment 1. Banyule Transport Advocacy Project List 2023 .....83

---



# S5 Instrument of Delegation

Council to Chief Executive Officer



## Instrument of Delegation

In exercise of the power conferred by s 11(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)* and all other powers enabling it, the **Banyule City Council** (Council) delegates to the member of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the position of Chief Executive Officer (the delegate), the powers, duties and functions set out in the Schedule to this Instrument of Delegation,

AND declares that:

1. this Instrument of Delegation is authorised by a Resolution of Council passed on ~~29 May 2023~~ [9 October 2023](#);
2. the delegation:
  - 2.1 comes into force immediately upon this resolution being made and is to be signed by the Council's Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor and affixed to this Instrument of Delegation;
  - 2.2 is subject to any conditions and limitations set out in the Schedule;
  - 2.3 must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and
  - 2.4 remains in force until Council resolves to vary or revoke it.

**Signed** by the Chief Executive Officer of )  
Banyule City Council. )**Allison Beckwith**

**Signed** by the Mayor of Banyule City Council. )  
 )**Cr Peter Castaldo**

**Date of execution:**

S5 Instrument of Delegation | Council to Chief Executive Officer



## SCHEDULE

The power to

- 1 determine any issue;
- 2 take any action; or
- 3 do any act or thing;  
arising out of or connected with any duty imposed, or function or power conferred on Council by or under any Act.

## Conditions and Limitations

The delegate must not determine the issue, take the action or do the act or thing

- 1 if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action, act or thing which involves:
  - 1.1 entering into a new contract or making an expenditure under \$1,000,000 that is outside of the Council budget (full year operating and capital budgeted expenditure) for that particular financial year;
  - 1.2 entering into a contract exceeding the value of \$1,000,000 (excluding GST);
  - 1.3 making any expenditure that exceeds \$1,000,000 (excluding GST); (unless it is expenditure made under a contract already entered into or is expenditure which Council is, by or under legislation, required to make)
  - 1.4 appointing an Acting Chief Executive Officer for a period exceeding 28 days;
  - 1.5 electing a Mayor or Deputy Mayor;
  - 1.6 granting a reasonable request for leave under s 35 of the Act;
  - 1.7 making any decision in relation to the employment, dismissal or removal of the Chief Executive Officer;
  - 1.8 approving or amending the Council Plan, Community Vision, Financial Plan, Asset Plan or Revenue and Rating Plan;
  - 1.9 adopting or amending any policy that Council is required to adopt under the Act;
  - 1.10 adopting or amending the Governance Rules;
  - 1.11 appointing the chair or the members to a delegated committee;
  - 1.12 making, amending or revoking a local law;
  - 1.13 approving the Budget or Revised Budget;
  - 1.14 approving the borrowing of money;
  - 1.15 subject to section 181H(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989, declaring general rates, municipal charges, service rates and charges and specified rates and charges;
  - 1.16 appointment of internal audit services provider
- 2 if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action, act or thing which is required by law to be done by Council resolution;
- 3 if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action or thing which Council has previously designated as an issue, action, act or thing which must be the subject of a Resolution of Council;
- 4 if the determining of the issue, taking of the action or doing of the act or thing would or would be likely to involve a decision which is inconsistent with a
  - 4.1 policy; or
  - 4.2 strategyadopted by Council;
- 5 if the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing cannot be the subject of a lawful delegation, whether on account of s 11(2)(a)-(n) (inclusive) of the Act or otherwise; or
- 6 the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing is already the subject of an exclusive delegation to another member of Council staff.

S5 Instrument of Delegation | Council to Chief Executive Officer

- 7 The delegate is able to sub-delegate the delegations for expenditure and contract approval to other Council officers as appropriate.

Table of Conditions and Limitations

Item	Delegated Authority	
<b>Approval of the Council Plan, Community Vision, Financial Plan, Asset Plan and Revenue and Rating Plan</b>	Council	
<b>Approval of the Budget</b>	Council	
<b>Appointment of internal audit service provider</b>	Council	
<b>Approval of Local Laws</b>	Council	
<b>Approval of the CEO recruitment, employment, reappointment and termination</b>	Council	
<b>Approval of staff recruitment, employment, reappointment and termination</b>	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	
<b>Approval of Contracts</b>	Council for Contracts \$1M ex GST and above.	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for contracts below \$1M ex GST.
<b>Approval of Expenditure</b>	Council for expenditure \$1M ex GST and above	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for expenditure below \$1M ex GST within the Council approved budget
<b>Approval of Statutory Financial Accounts</b>	Council	
<b>Appointment of Acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO)</b>	Council for a period over 28 days	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for a period of up to 28 days
<b>Adoption of the Banyule City Council Governance Rules</b>	Council	

## S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation

[Planning and Environment Act 1987 only May 2023](#)  
[Planning and Environment Act 1987 only October 2023](#)



## Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation

(Planning and Environment Act 1987 only)

In this instrument "officer" means -

Name of Officer	Position Title
Natasha Swan	Director City Development
Karen Leeder	Manager City Futures
Fae Ballingal	Strategic Planning & Urban Design Coordinator
Nicola Rooks	Strategic Planner
Paul Fyffe	Senior Strategic Planner
Emma Butterworth	Senior Strategic Planner
Joel Elbourne	Manager Planning, Building & Laws
Tony Perez	Development Planning Arborist
Karl Morrow	Development Planning Arborist
David Moon	Development Planning Coordinator
Heather Darbyshire	Development Planning Team Leader
Jenni Pearlman	Development Contributions Plans Officer
Hayley Plank	Development Planning Team Leader
<a href="#">Anthea Whitehead</a>	<a href="#">Development Planner</a>
Shi Yang	Development Planner
Thomas Bullen	Development Planner
Marcus Brooker	Development Planner
Apoorva Mali	Development Planner
Jacob Hart	Development Planner
Jill Ryan	Senior Planning Resources Officer
Andrea Heywood	Planning Resources Officer
Sebastian Toomey	Planning Resources Officer
Himali De Alwis	Planning Resources Officer
Taylor Gallagher	Planning Resources Officer
Tricia Lott	Planning Resources Officer
Janet Redgrave	Development Planning Team Leader
Shelly Clark	Planning Investigations Officer
Dean Risvanis	Planning Technical Officer
<a href="#">Jordan Giovannucci</a>	<a href="#">Planning Technical Officer</a>
Roger Wong	Planning Technical Officer
Jonathan Atkinson	Development Planning Team Leader

S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation | [Planning and Environment Act 1987 only May 2023](#) [Planning and Environment Act 1987 only October 2023](#)

Ben Capuana	Development Planner
Emily Harriss	Development Planner
Jake McCarthy	Development Planner
Steven Oscari	Development Planner
Liz Fleming	Development Planning Team Leader
Adrian Mariniello	Development Planner
<a href="#">Michael Churilov</a>	<a href="#">Major Developments Planner</a>
Scott Seide	Development Planner
<a href="#">Clarissa Macaso</a>	<a href="#">Development Planner</a>

**By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Banyule City Council -**

1. under s 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 - appoints the officers to be authorised officers for the purposes of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the regulations made under that Act; and
2. under s 313 of the Local Government Act 2020 authorises the officers either generally or in a particular case to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.

**It is declared that** this instrument -

- comes into force immediately upon its execution;
- remains in force until varied or revoked.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Banyule City Council Ordinary Council Meeting held on **29 May 2023** [9 October 2023](#)

**Signed** by the Chief Executive Officer of Banyule City Council. )  
**)Allison Beckwith**

**Signed** by the Mayor of Banyule City Council. )  
**)Cr Peter Castaldo**

**Date of execution:**

S11A Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation | [Planning and Environment Act 1987 only May 2023](#)[Planning and Environment Act 1987 only October 2023](#)



# S18 Instrument of Sub Delegation

~~Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation  
Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021  
May 2023~~  
Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of  
Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4  
June 2021 - October 2023



## Instrument of Sub Delegation by the Chief Executive Officer

### Environment Protection Act 2017

By this Instrument of Sub-Delegation, in exercise of the power conferred by s 437(2) of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* ('Act') and the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021, the Council:

1. delegates each duty and/or function and/or power described in column 1 of the Schedule (and summarised in column 2 of the Schedule) to the member of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the office or position described in column 3 of the Schedule;
2. record that references in the Schedule are as follows

Reference	Position held within Council
DCW	Director Community and Wellbeing
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
CRHC	Community Resilience and Health Coordinator
MRCC	Manager Resilient and Connected Communities
PHPL	Public Health Protection Lead
PHPTL	Public Health Protection Team Leader

3. this Instrument of Sub-Delegation is authorised by a resolution of Council passed on **29 May 9 October 2023** pursuant to a power of sub-delegation conferred by the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021;
4. the delegation:
  - 4.1 comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to this Instrument of Sub-Delegation;
  - 4.2 remains in force until varied or revoked;
  - 4.3 is subject to any conditions and limitations set out in sub-paragraph 5, and the Schedule; and
  - 4.4 must be exercised in accordance with any guidelines or policies which Council from time to time adopts; and
5. this Instrument of Sub-Delegation is subject to the following limitations:
  - 5.1 the powers, duties and functions described in column and summarised in column 2 of the Schedule are only delegated for the purpose of regulating;
  - 5.2 onsite wastewater management systems with a design or actual flow rate of sewage not exceeding 5000 litres on any day; and
  - 5.3 noise from the construction, demolition or removal of residential premises;
6. the delegate must not determine the issue, take the action or do the act or thing:
  - 6.1 if the issue, action, act or thing is an issue, action or thing which Council has previously designated as an issue, action, act or thing which must be the subject of a Resolution of Council;
  - 6.2 if the determining of the issue, taking of the action or doing of the act or thing would or would be likely to involve a decision which is inconsistent with a

S18 Instrument of Sub Delegation | [Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021 - May 2023](#) [Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021 - October 2023](#)



- (a) policy; or
  - (b) strategy
- adopted by Council;
- 6.3 if the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing cannot be the subject of a lawful delegation; or
- 6.4 the determining of the issue, the taking of the action or the doing of the act or thing is already the subject of an exclusive delegation to another member of Council staff.

**Signed** by the Chief Executive Officer of Banyule City Council. )  
**Allison Beckwith**

**Signed** by the Mayor of Banyule City Council. )  
**Cr Peter Castaldo**

**Date:**

S18 Instrument of Sub Delegation | [Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021 - May 2023](#) [Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021 - October 2023](#)

## SCHEDULE

S18 Instrument of Sub Delegation | [Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021 - May 2023](#)  
[Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021 - October 2023](#)

**ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT 2017**

<b>PROVISION</b>	<b>THING DELEGATED</b>	<b>DELEGATE</b>	<b>CONDITIONS &amp; LIMITATIONS</b>
<b>s 271</b>	Power to issue improvement notice	<a href="#">PHPL</a> , <a href="#">PHPTL</a> , <a href="#">PHPTL</a> , EHO, DCW, MRCC, CRHC	
<b>s 272</b>	Power to issue prohibition notice	<a href="#">PHPL</a> , <a href="#">PHPTL</a> , <a href="#">PHPTL</a> , EHO, DCW, MRCC, CRHC	
<b>s 279</b>	Power to amend a notice	<a href="#">PHPL</a> , <a href="#">PHPTL</a> , <a href="#">PHPTL</a> , EHO, DCW, MRCC, CRHC	
<b>s 358</b>	Functions of the Environment Protection Authority	Not delegated	
<b>s 359(1)(b)</b>	Power to do all things that are necessary or convenient to be done for or in connection with the performance of the Environment Protection Authority's functions and duties and to enable the Authority to achieve its objective.	Not delegated	
<b>s 359(2)</b>	Power to give advice to persons with duties or obligations.	Not delegated	

S18 Instrument of Sub Delegation | [Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021-May 2023](#)  
[Environment Protection Act 2017 & Instrument of Delegation Environment Protection Authority under the Act 4 June 2021 - October 2023](#)



## S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation

~~Environment Protection Act 2017 May 2023~~Environment

Protection Act 2017 October 2023



## Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Environment Protection Act 2017)

In this instrument "officer" means –

Officer	Position held within Council
Bernard Zupan	Public Health Protection Team leader
Alexandra Mullins	Environmental Health Officer
David Wright	Environmental Health Officer
Elise Alvaro	Environmental Health Officer
Narelle Findlay	Environmental Health Officer
Shelley Collins	Environmental Health Officer
Zaynep Tamburrino	Environmental Health Officer

**By this instrument of appointment and authorisation, Banyule City Council "Council" -**

under s 242(2) of the *Environment Protection Act 2017* ('Act') and the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021 - appoints the officers to be authorised officers for the purposes of exercising the powers and functions set out in the Instrument of Direction of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021.

**It is declared that** this instrument -

- comes into force immediately upon its execution;
- remains in force until varied or revoked.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Banyule City Council on **29-May9 October -2023**

**Allison Beckwith**

**Chief Executive Officer**

**Banyule City Council**

**Dated:**

S11B Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation | [Environment Protection Act 2017 May 2023](#)[Environment Protection Act 2017 October 2023](#)

# Draft Banyule Gambling Policy

2024 – 2028



## Table of contents

---

<b>Acknowledgement of Country</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>Glossary</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Purpose &amp; Scope</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Background</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Legislative context</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>Guiding principles</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>Banyule Gambling Policy Commitments</b> .....	<b>9</b>
Operational responsibility .....	9
Advocacy .....	9
Planning.....	9
Health promotion & community support.....	10
<b>Appendix A: Supplementary data</b> .....	<b>11</b>
EGM losses in Banyule, month by month.....	11
Banyule EGM losses by venue.....	11
Banyule EGM venues, population and SEIFA .....	12
<b>References</b> .....	<b>13</b>



## Acknowledgement of Country

---

Banyule City Council proudly acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and live. We pay our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region's history.

Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders. We are committed to access, equity, participation, and rights for everyone: principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.

DRAFT

## Glossary

---

Gambling	The Gambling Regulation Act 2003 defines gambling as an activity in which: a. a prize of money or something else of value is offered or can be won; and b. a person pays or stakes money or some other valuable consideration to participate; and c. the outcomes involve, or is presented as involving, an element of change. It includes any game in which the chances are not equally favourable to all the players, including the banker or other person by whom the game is conducted or against whom the other players stake, play or bet.
Electronic Gaming Machine (EGM)	Also known as poker machines or pokies.
Gambling harm	Gambling related harm can be divided into seven key areas: Financial harm, relationship disruption, emotional or psychological distress, decrements to health, cultural harm, reduced work or study performance and criminal activity. These harms can further be considered as general harms (which occur at any time), crisis harms, which are associated with attempts to seek help, and legacy harms, which occur long after gambling has ceased.
Responsible Gambling	Responsible Gambling in a Victorian context refers to both the ways in which individuals can be empowered to control their gambling activity in a way that does not harm others and provides entertainment and enjoyment and the ways in which broader society including gambling providers, government and sporting associations provide support, education and reduce risks associated with gambling at an organisational/systemic level.
Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)	A range of indexes, based on ABS Census data, that rank areas across Australia in terms of relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. In this policy we have used the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD).
Public health approach	An approach to health which focuses on populations rather than individuals.

## Purpose & Scope

---

We have designed this policy to reaffirm Banyule's public health approach to gambling in the community and to take meaningful steps to protect those most at risk of gambling harm. In line with contemporary research and best practice, our efforts are not focused on individual behaviour change but on the broader ecosystem in which gambling harm is produced.

This policy builds upon our previous gambling policies by including a focus on online gambling, as we understand that these harms are growing and evolving.

The Banyule Gambling Policy 2024-2028 will apply to conduct and decisions relating to:

- Planning permits and regulatory controls.
- Lease and licensing agreements.
- Contracts and grants.
- Council-hosted events.
- Advertising on Council owned and managed buildings.
- Research and monitoring trends.
- Advocacy commitments.
- Health promotion partnerships, campaigns and events.
- Other matters in which gambling harm can be reduced.

## Background

While there are many forms of gambling, the greatest amount of harm in the community comes from electronic gaming machines (EGMs) and online gambling. In real terms, EGM losses in Banyule have been steadily declining since 2002 (see Figure 1). As total expenditure has been declining our population has been increasing, and as such the expenditure per adult in Banyule has reduced even more sharply (see Figure 2). Please note that the sharp decline and steep rise in EGM losses between 2020 – 2023 are the result of intermittent venue closures in 2020 – 2022 due to COVID, with 2023 being the first time since COVID that venues have been open across the entire year. Banyule supports the state government reforms announced in July 2023 and will continue to monitor trends throughout their implementation.

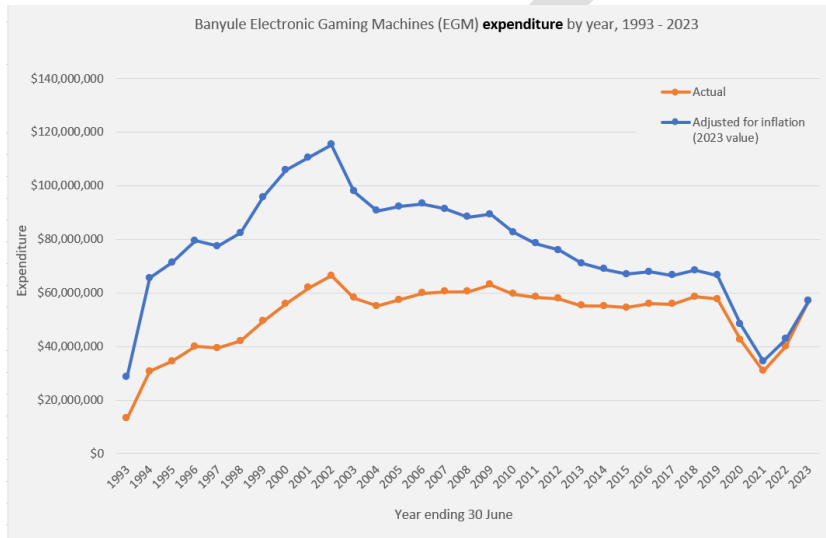


Figure 1: Banyule EGM expenditure by year

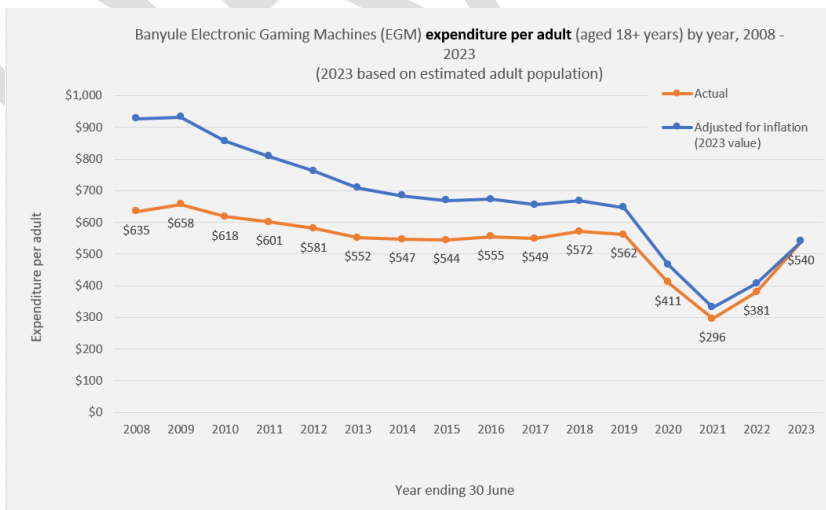


Figure 2: Banyule EGM expenditure per adult, by year

Data Sources: Expenditure (Victoria Gambling and Casino Control Commission); adult population (Victoria in Future 2019); inflation (Reserve Bank of Australia).

Addressing online gambling is complex and requires interventions at levels beyond that of local government. We acknowledge that while EGM losses are declining in our municipality, online gambling losses are generally increasing. At Banyule we are particularly concerned with this increasing trend, with the saturation of online sports betting advertising, and with the gambling-like elements that are becoming increasingly more widespread in videogames (especially mobile games).<sup>i</sup> These concerns have informed the advocacy priorities outlined later in the policy.

That gambling harm extends beyond the individual gambler and into families and communities is now well-established.<sup>ii</sup> Further, evidence shows that gambling harm is not evenly distributed. While gamblers on higher incomes spend more money than those with lower incomes – something reflected in the gambling losses in Banyule (see Appendix A) – when considered in relative terms it is those on lower incomes who contribute the most to gambling losses.<sup>iii</sup>

More vulnerable and disadvantaged groups tend to have more issues with gambling as well.<sup>iv</sup> This includes multicultural communities, people experiencing homelessness, unemployed people, people experiencing mental health issues, alcohol and drug users, and people with lower incomes and socio-economic status generally. As such, when addressing gambling we are dealing with issues of social justice.

## Legislative context

---

**Gambling Regulation Act 2003** provides provisions for Council to make submissions to the Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (VGCCC) in the form of a social and economic impact assessment for potential new applications for EGMs within its municipality or a neighbouring municipality.

**Planning and Environment Act 1987** creates an obligation for Council to secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreation environment for community and to balance the present and future interests of all residents. It delegates responsibility to Council to require a planning permit for all gaming machines within the municipality. Gaming machines are prohibited in shopping complexes specified in the schedule to Clause 52.28-3 of the Banyule Planning Scheme; and strip shopping centres specified in the schedule to Clause 52.28-4.

**Local Government Act 2020** requires Council to achieve the best outcomes for the community and future generations.

**Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008** outlines local government responsibility to create environments which support the health of community members and strengthens the capacity of people to achieve better health.

**Gender Equality Act 2020** requires Council to conduct a gender impact assessment for new policies.

## Guiding principles

---

### A public interest approach

We seek to best serve the public good, with an emphasis on prevention and harm minimisation. The public interest approach to gambling recognises that gambling issues involve other dimensions alongside health. In particular, the role of the gambling industry and the flows of resulting revenues are sharply in focus.

The public interest approach aligns with public health by concentrating on the broader context and circumstances in which gambling-related harm emerges, instead of solely focusing on changing individual behaviors directly.

### Evidence-based policy and initiatives

We are committed to evidence-based policy so we can be confident in our efforts to reduce gambling harm in the municipality.

In addition to relying on traditional sources of evidence, we value input and feedback from the community. This inclusive approach enables us to tailor our actions according to the unique experiences and requirements of our residents.

### Uplifting protective factors in our community

Like other forms of harm, the negative impacts of gambling don't exist in isolation. The Banyule Gambling Policy 2024 – 2028 is closely aligned with Resilient Banyule, Inclusive Banyule, and our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plans. By improving community resilience, we seek to proactively address and prevent gambling-related harm before it occurs.

### Social justice

We understand that gambling harm disproportionately affects individuals who are already facing disadvantages or other hardships. Therefore, we will focus our efforts on providing support to the populations and areas that are in the greatest need.

### A collaborative approach

To enhance our capacity to make positive change in Banyule, we will prioritise collaborative efforts. To support health promotion locally, we will partner with Banyule Community Health and Gambler's Help. For our advocacy efforts, our partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform will amplify our influence and strengthen our ability to advocate for regulatory changes at both the state and federal levels.

## Banyule Gambling Policy Commitments

---

### Operational responsibility

Banyule City Council will:

1. Continue the ban on the use of Council Wi-Fi for online gambling.
2. Continue the ban on any form of advertising for gambling on Council owned and operated facilities.
3. Ban use of gambling venues for Council-run meetings and events.
4. Review the inclusion criteria for Banyule's grants and awards programs to ensure Council funds will not be used to promote gambling activity.

### Advocacy

Banyule City Council will advocate to state and federal government on gambling-related reforms. Advocacy priorities include:

1. State government to implement reforms announced in July 2023.<sup>v</sup>
  - We will further advocate to extend the pledged reform of a mandatory closure period of 4am-10am for EGM venues to begin four hours earlier, from midnight to 10am.
2. Federal government to act on recommendations from Federal Inquiry report 'You win some, you lose more: online gambling and its impacts on those experiencing gambling harm' released in June 2023.<sup>vi</sup>
  - Recommendation 2: to develop a national strategy to address online gambling harm.
  - Recommendation 4: to fund a national public health campaign to address online gambling harm.
  - Recommendation 26: to implement a comprehensive ban on all forms of advertising for online gambling, to be introduced in four phases, over three years, commencing immediately.
  - Recommendations 27-30, which include:
    - A simulated gambling warning label incorporated into the National Classification Scheme.
    - A public education campaign on simulated gambling, with particular focus on parents, caregivers, teachers and young people.
    - Tighter controls on simulated gambling and its advertising.
3. \$1 maximum bets on EGMs.
4. Changing the definition of 'community benefit' to ensure the proportion of EGM profits used for community benefit does not go towards funding EGM venue operating costs.
5. Introduce state government fund to help support gambling venues transition away from EGMs.
6. Introduce a sinking cap on the number of EGMs in Banyule.
7. Continue engagement with peak bodies and local community sector networks remain aware of developments in the gambling landscape and contribute to advocacy opportunities.
8. Form a key partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform to maximise our advocacy impact and strengthen our approach to gambling reform.

### Planning

As a responsible authority in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Banyule City Council will:

1. Assess all permit applications for EGMs to determine community benefit or detriment, paying particular attention to applications in areas of social disadvantage.
2. Monitor monthly EGM losses and the implementation of State Government reforms and use these trends to assess the need for a Planning Scheme amendment in the future.

Health promotion & community support

1. Partner with key organisation including Banyule Community Health and Gambler's Help to promote awareness of gambling harm support programs and promote contemporary gambling education.
2. Promote and support gambling harm awareness campaigns
3. We will monitor the impacts of online gambling on Banyule residents and take appropriate steps to raise visibility and awareness to address potential harm.

DRAFT



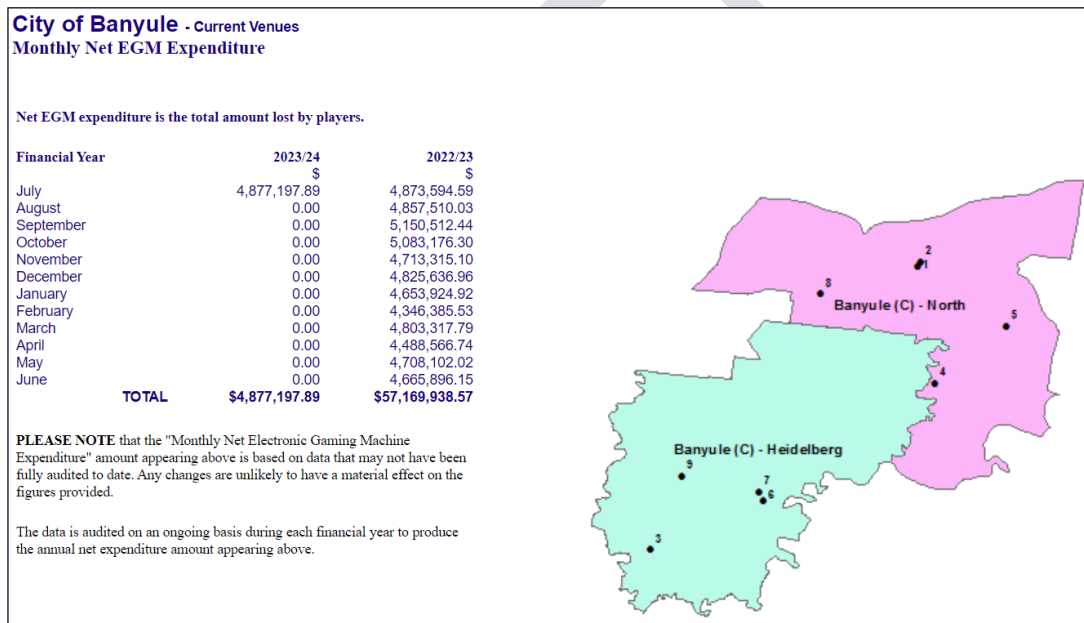
## Appendix A: Supplementary data

In the City of Banyule there are 635 EGMs that operate across nine venues.

The following three tables illustrate the current situation in Banyule by showing:

1. the most recent EGM losses data in Banyule
2. the losses and EGM numbers by venue
3. the resident population, SEIFA decile and EGM numbers associated with each venue

### EGM losses in Banyule, month by month



Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (2023)

### Banyule EGM losses by venue

Venue	Expenditure (July 2016 - June 2017)	No. of EGMs	Expenditure (July 2021 - June 2022)	Expenditure (July 2022 - June 2023)
<b>Greensborough Hotel</b>	\$3,125,578	30	\$ 1,584,998	\$ 2,284,956
<b>Greensborough RSL</b>	\$4,312,241	78	\$ 4,030,206	\$ 5,692,973
<b>Ivanhoe Hotel</b>	\$9,807,255	100	\$ 7,998,449	\$ 10,581,964

<b>Lower Plenty Hotel</b>	\$9,462,993	85	\$ 5,978,180	\$ 7,661,295
<b>Montmorency RSL</b>	\$1,640,504	50	\$ 1,404,215	\$ 1,831,217
<b>Old England Hotel</b>	\$11,664,363	93	\$ 7,790,997	\$ 12,021,820
<b>Sir Henry Barkly Hotel</b>	\$7,521,055	65	\$ 4,906,319	\$ 7,723,349
<b>Watsonia RSL</b>	\$6,844,911	103	\$ 5,356,246	\$ 8,073,835
<b>West Heidelberg RSL</b>	\$1,182,391	31	\$ 883,692	\$ 1,298,530

Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (2023)

#### Banyule EGM venues, population and SEIFA

Venue	Suburb			
	EGMs	Suburb	Estimated Resident Population	SEIFA disadvantage (State decile)
			2021	2021 Census
<b>Greensborough Hotel</b>	30	Greensborough	15,931	9
<b>Greensborough RSL</b>	78	Greensborough	15,931	9
<b>Ivanhoe Hotel</b>	100	Ivanhoe	13,496	10
<b>Lower Plenty Hotel</b>	85	Lower Plenty	3,996	10
<b>Montmorency RSL</b>	50	Montmorency	9,416	10
<b>Old England Hotel</b>	93	Heidelberg	7,429	9
<b>Sir Henry Barkly Hotel</b>	65	Heidelberg	7,429	9
<b>Watsonia RSL</b>	103	Watsonia	5,468	7
<b>West Heidelberg RSL</b>	31	Heidelberg West / Bellfield	7,335	1 / 3

Australian Bureau of Statistics Census Data (2023)

Interpreting the table above, the SEIFA deciles order socially disadvantaged areas across the numbers 1-10. An area with a decile of 1 shows that it is among the 10% most disadvantaged areas in the state, and a score of 10 indicates that an area is among the 10% least disadvantaged.

Notice that although the West Heidelberg RSL has the least losses of the nine venues in dollar, the SEIFA deciles of 1 (for Heidelberg West) and 3 (for Bellfield, percentile of 22) make it clear that this local population is the least able to bear gambling losses. Also, Watsonia's low population and SEIFA decile of 7 (percentile of 62), coupled with the high number of EGMs at the Watsonia RSL compared to the size of the local population make this also a venue that deserves a high focus in terms of what Council may do to reduce gambling harms in the area.

## References

---

<sup>i</sup> House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs. (2023). *You win some, you lose more: Online gambling and its impacts on those experiencing gambling harm*. Parliament of Australia. Canberra.

<sup>ii</sup> Goodwin, B. C., Browne, M., Rockloff, M., & Rose, J. (2017). A typical problem gambler affects six others. *International Gambling Studies*, 17(2), 276–289. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14459795.2017.1331252>

<sup>iii</sup> Sulkunen, P., Babor, T. F., Ornberg, J. C., Egerer, M., Hellman, M., Livingstone, C., Marionneau, V., Nikkinen, J., Orford, J., & Room, R. (2019). *Setting limits: gambling, science, and public policy*. Oxford University Press.

<sup>iv</sup> Sulkunen, P., Babor, T. F., Ornberg, J. C., Egerer, M., Hellman, M., Livingstone, C., Marionneau, V., Nikkinen, J., Orford, J., & Room, R. (2019). *Setting limits: gambling, science, and public policy*. Oxford University Press.

<sup>v</sup> Premier of Victoria, The Hon Dan Andrews. (2023). *Landmark Reforms to Reduce Gambling Related Harm*. Media Release. 16 July. <https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/landmark-reforms-reduce-gambling-related-harm>

<sup>vi</sup> House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs. (2023). *You win some, you lose more: Online gambling and its impacts on those experiencing gambling harm*. Parliament of Australia. Canberra.

DRAFT



# Urban Forest Strategy

Overview 2023-2033



# Contents

<b>Message from the Mayor</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>Where is Banyule’s urban forest most vulnerable?</b>	<b>17</b>
A vision for Banyule’s urban forest	04	Determining high priority places	17
What is the urban forest in Banyule?	04		
<b>Executive summary</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>Monitoring and evaluation of this Strategy</b>	<b>19</b>
Urban Forest Strategy principles	06	Key Performance Indicators of major actions	19
Urban Forest Strategy focus areas	07	Monitoring progress towards the Urban Forest Vision	22
<b>Banyule’s urban forest today</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>Strategic areas, actions and timeframes</b>	<b>23</b>
Banyule’s places	09	Summary of investment and timeframe	24
Tree canopy cover in Banyule	10		
Canopy over footpaths and local roads	13		
Diversity and age of public trees	14		
Climate vulnerability	16		





Urban Forest Strategy – Overview 2023–2033

## Acknowledgements

Banyule City Council is proud to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as traditional custodians of the land and we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Elders, past, present and emerging, who have resided in the area and have been an integral part of the region's history.

Our community is made up of diverse cultures, beliefs, abilities, bodies, sexualities, ages and genders. Council is committed to access, equity, participation and rights for everyone; principles which empower, foster harmony and increase the wellbeing of an inclusive community.

# Message from the Mayor

**Banyule residents have a strong connection to natural and green spaces, including its population of more than 150,000 public trees and many more on private land.**

Banyule Council recognises the vital contribution that our urban forest makes to biodiversity and habitat, as well as neighbourhood character and amenity.

With increasing pressures from building growth and climate change, the ecosystem services that these trees provide, including shade and cooling, will be essential to making Banyule a liveable city for present and future generations.

This Urban Forest Strategy has been developed by working closely with the community and undertaking direction to include the community as joint custodians of the urban forest.

It outlines Banyule's vision for the long-term future for the urban forest and provides strategic management actions to get there over the short and medium term. This Strategy will support Council to plan, manage and maintain one of Banyule's highest-valued assets for the next 10 years.

## A vision for Banyule's urban forest

This is the long-term community vision for Banyule's future urban forest:

**Banyule's urban forest is resilient. It is thriving and people are aware and value the role of the urban forest for health and wellbeing and in making Banyule a great place to live.**

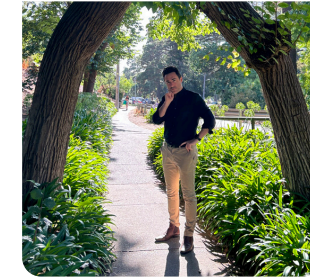
**The urban forest is managed as an essential asset for Banyule and decisions about the urban forest are fit for place and purpose, with space provided to support greening and increased tree canopy.**

**People work with Council and are active in the protection, management and maintenance of the urban forest.**

We understand that this vision may not be fully realised for 50 years or more and it describes the far future state of the urban forest for Banyule.

It was developed collaboratively with the community and guides the strategic areas of focus, important areas of work and actions to take over the next 10 years. It was endorsed by Council in February 2022.

We have developed indicators to measure and report on the achievement of this vision. These are outlined in the Urban Forest Strategy Implementation Plan.



## What is the urban forest in Banyule?

In February 2022, Council adopted a definition of the urban forest. This definition will assist Council officers and the community to understand the reach of this strategy and consider the urban forest improvements to be made across all areas.

**Banyule's urban forest is the trees and green assets that exist in the urban area that are strategically planned, designed and managed, and the ecosystems, soils and water that support them.**

This definition highlights that the Banyule urban forest:

- is made up of all trees and green assets (including public and private) that exist in the urban area (not just bushland)
- is a managed asset and therefore not a purely natural system of vegetation
- includes the soils and water needed to support resilience and healthy growth.





# Executive summary

**Banyule City Council has a long history of valuing and improving its management of the city's urban forest, trees and greening, and developed its first Urban Forest Strategic Plan in 2015. In 2019 Council declared a climate emergency and recognised the need for an updated approach to managing its urban forest.**



Urban Forest Strategy – Overview 2023–2033

The Urban Forest Strategy provides a summary of the:

- benefits of the urban forest
- challenges for urban forestry
- current state of the urban forest in Banyule
- strategic framework that will guide action (definition, vision, principles and strategic areas)
- major actions to be taken over the next 10 years
- measures of success.

The Urban Forest Strategy builds on the foundation of the 2015 Urban Forest Strategic Plan (UFSP).

All nine goals set in the 2015 UFSP match to a principle and strategic area in the Urban Forest Strategy.

Of the 40 measures that were identified in the 2015 UFSP:

- 26 are retained and enhanced in the Urban Forest Strategy
- 7 are replaced with an improved alternative target
- 7 are discarded as no longer appropriate.

Of the 94 actions that were set in the 2015 UFSP:

- 15 have been achieved
- 41 are retained in the Urban Forest Strategy
- 34 are replaced with an improved alternative action
- 4 are discarded as no longer appropriate.

The refreshed strategy has been developed with input from a wide range of stakeholders, including the Urban Forest Community Reference Group, Banyule Environment and Climate Action Advisory Committee (BECAAC), councillors, Council officers, other agencies and the wider Banyule community through Shaping Banyule (Banyule's community engagement portal) and public forums.

The feedback from these stakeholders has informed the future direction by:

- clarifying what the term urban forest means for Banyule
- drafting a vision for the urban forest (a 50+ year vision)
- confirming the five principles by which the urban forest will be managed
- developing six key directions with major actions for Banyule
- providing feedback on the actions.

The structure of the Urban Forest Strategy and the relationship of the vision to the measurements of success are in **Figure 1**.

## Urban Forest Strategy principles

There are five urban forest principles that provide the focus for Council in the implementation of Banyule’s Urban Forest Strategy. These principles were developed collaboratively with the community and councillors and were endorsed by Council in February 2022.

### The urban forest principles are:

1. We believe the urban forest is an essential asset for Banyule, shared by all and crucial for the health and wellbeing of the community and natural environment.
2. We believe a healthy urban forest is the result of strong partnerships between Council and community.
3. We act today to respond to the changing climate and to leave a positive legacy for the future community, and we act responsibly, using evidence-based practice in our leadership and management of the urban forest.
4. We plan, design and deliver for the people, places and natural environments of Banyule, including:
  - a. Climate change and reduction of the urban heat island effect
  - b. Liveability, amenity and neighbourhood character
  - c. Banyule’s ecosystems and biodiversity
5. We protect and enhance Banyule’s natural environment to care for flora and fauna.

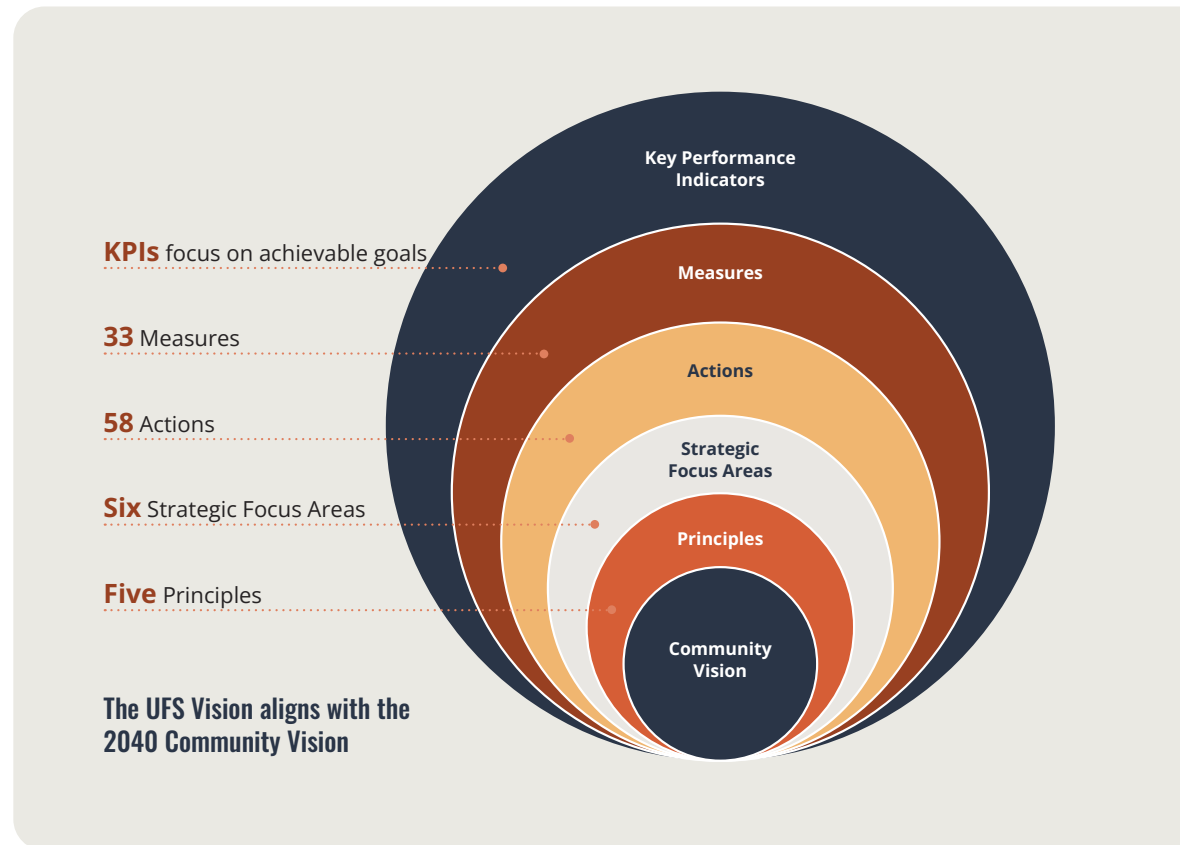


Figure 1. The structure of the Urban Forest Strategy



Urban Forest Strategy – Overview 2023–2033

The Urban Forest Strategy emphasises improving governance and management along with building the capacity of all parts of Council to integrate the urban forest needs into their work. This approach will see greater efficiencies in the planning, design and delivery of infrastructure as green assets are managed alongside and in concert with other non-living (grey) infrastructure.

### Urban Forest Strategy focus areas

These six key and strategic focus areas were developed in collaboration with the community and reflect the areas of work most needed to be taken to achieve the Urban Forest Vision.

Each strategic area has a series of major actions to be implemented over the short- and medium-term. Key performance indicators (KPIs) will assist with measuring and reporting on success and supporting a continuous improvement process for the management of the urban forest.

Six strategic focus areas will be delivered using a combination of existing and new staff resources, new grant funding, community and volunteer resources and new initiative funding.

#### The strategic focus areas are:

1. Prioritise urban forest improvements in the most vulnerable suburbs and places across Banyule
2. Increase the diversity of the urban forest for biodiversity and habitat with ground cover and shrub layer plantings
3. Manage the urban forest across public and private land for resilience to climate change
4. Take a long-term, asset management approach to the urban forest
5. Build and maintain partnerships with others in the protection and management of the urban forest.
6. Integrate urban forest principles in all parts of Council services.





Under the six strategic focus areas there are 58 actions described to allow immediate and ongoing work which will respond to the challenge that the urban forest faces, including impacts of climate change and increasing urban development.

With this Urban Forest Strategy, Council will focus its efforts on the actions needed today and over the next 10 years so that by 2033, Banyule is well on its way to achieving the long-term Urban Forest Vision.

We have established 33 measures with reporting intervals to report on the progress towards the vision over the life of the Strategy.

**We have also defined Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to focus reporting on the critical outcomes.**

Specific, achievable and timely measures have been set for:

- canopy cover across all suburbs (30% by 2050 with no loss in suburbs exceeding the target)
- canopy cover across the footpath and local road network (45% by 2040 with no loss in suburbs exceeding the target)
- Canopy cover across the open space shared path network and surrounding playgrounds – 50% by 2050

In addition to the metric KPIs, the development of an endorsed tree management framework will include clear and transparent process, procedure and applications, including but not limited to:

- managing tree risk
- processes for removal
- process for reporting and customer engagement
- planning planting and species
- managing complaints and disputes.

This action will integrate existing policy and process and develop new outcomes where gaps exist.

**The Urban Forest Strategy will be reviewed every four years with annual results published in Banyule’s State of the Environment report.**



# Banyule's urban forest today

**To plan for the future of the Banyule urban forest, it is important to first understand the current state of the urban forest.**

This section explores the state of the urban forest using the available data from Council, the Victorian Government (Vegetation Change 2014-2018; Vegetation Extent 2021; Planning Scheme Zones) and the Federal Government Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) as well as literature on urban forestry. This section provides a snapshot of the current state of Banyule's urban forest.

## Banyule's places

The diverse character of Banyule's urban forest and local neighbourhoods means it is important to take a place-based approach to urban forest management. To support this, we have considered the city as a whole, as well as its specific places, such as neighbourhoods, suburbs, natural areas and water catchments.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER

Neighbourhood character is the way buildings, vegetation and the topography relate to each other to create a visual sense-of-place. It's what makes one place different from another.

The vegetation and trees that make up the urban forest have a significant impact on character. The Neighbourhood Character Strategy 2012 and Residential Neighbourhood Character Policy assist developers to respect the existing character and/or contribute to the preferred character of an area.

The Neighbourhood Character Strategy lists five types of character areas, each with specific reference to the types of vegetation that contribute to the existing and future desired character.





## Tree canopy cover in Banyule

Areas of Banyule with the lowest canopy cover are in the north-west and south-west parts of the Local Government Area

### DISTRIBUTION OF CANOPY COVER

The urban forest canopy is not evenly distributed across Banyule (Figure 2 and Figure 3).

Data provided by the Victorian Government show that residential areas with lowest canopy cover are in the north-west of Banyule, in particular Bundoora. The Heidelberg West Business Park has very low canopy cover, typical of industrial estates across Melbourne.

The southern area of Lower Plenty encompasses the floodplain of the Yarra River which is still used for grazing and is the location of a golf course. Both these land uses have low levels of canopy cover.

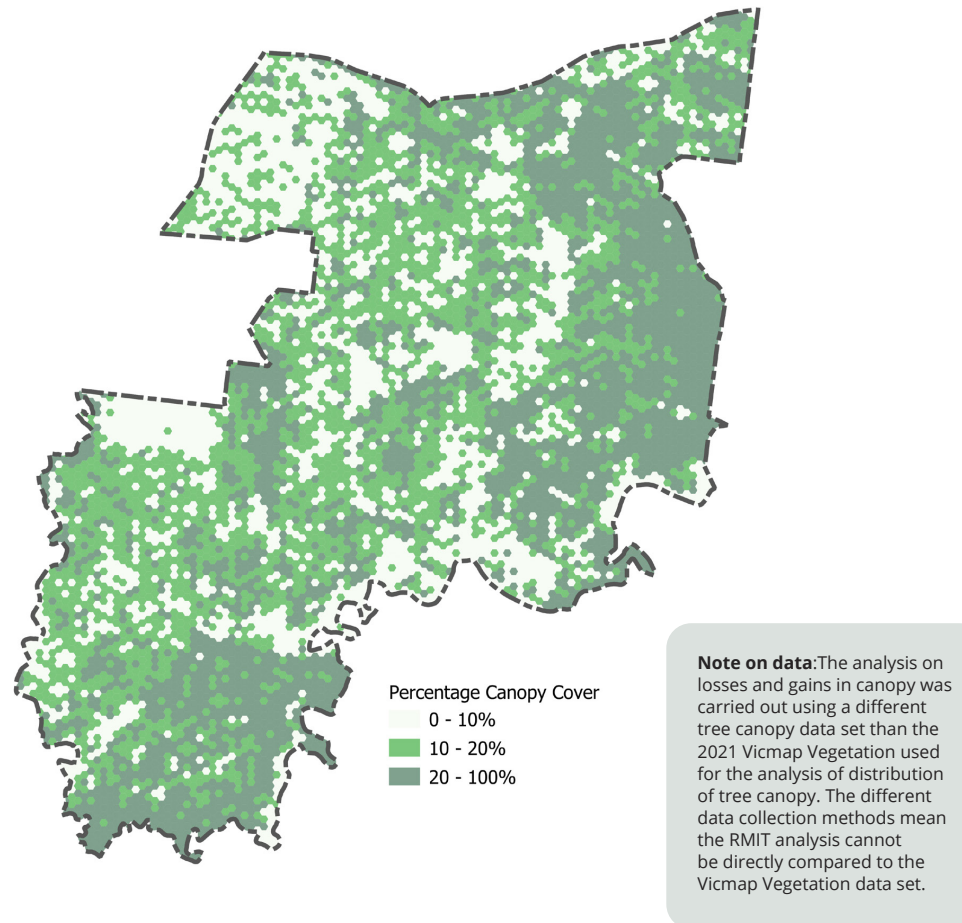


Figure 2. Tree canopy cover across Banyule. Cover is averaged to hexagonal mesh with 100 m long sides. Suburb boundaries are represented by thin black lines. Data collected, quality assured and supplied by the Victorian Government as part of the Vicmap data set released in 2021.

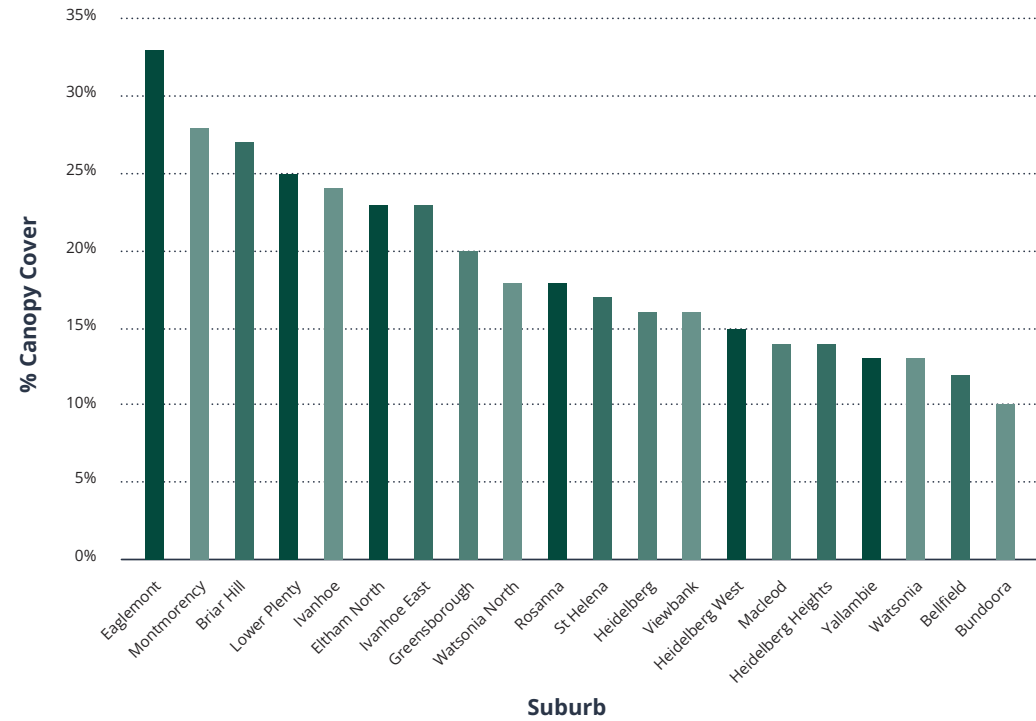


Figure 3. Tree canopy cover by suburb. Data collected, quality assured and supplied by the Victorian Government as part of the Vicmap data set released in 2021.



Figure 4. Images from areas of Banyule with low canopy cover: Taunton Drive in Bundoora (top), Orthla Avenue in Heidelberg West (middle) and Orsova Court in Bundoora. Source: Google Maps

**Urban forest equity**

The uneven distribution of canopy means the benefits of the urban forest are not felt equally across the population. This is problematic when low canopy cover coincides with the location of more vulnerable communities.

The spatial distribution of the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), and the Index of Relative Social Advantage or Disadvantage (IRSAD) in Banyule show that areas of disadvantage are concentrated in the western areas of Banyule, in particular Bundoora, Watsonia, Heidelberg West, Heidelberg Heights and Bellfield.

Greensborough has a mixture of advantage and disadvantage, and most of the eastern area of Banyule shows relative social advantage with respect to Victoria as a whole.





### Canopy over footpaths and local roads

Trees in streets provide shade for daily activities and influence the way that people access and experience active travel options such as walking and cycling.

Shade from trees provides protection from UV exposure and a comfortable walking environment. Closely spaced shade trees are described as an essential ingredient for designing 'walkable communities for pedestrians'. Street trees also make a substantial contribution to the visual attractiveness of the streetscape and provide important habitat and movement pathways for animals. The value the community places on trees in streets is reflected in the higher prices paid for houses on leafy streets.

**Figure 5** and **Figure 6** show low canopy in the streetscape of Bundoora. **Figure 7** shows the impact of shaded streetscape in Ivanhoe East which is more amenable to walking.



Figure 5. Poorly shaded footpaths in Bundoora. Source: Banyule City Council



Figure 6. Streetscape view of poorly shaded footpaths in Bundoora. Source: Google Maps



Figure 7. Streetscape view of well shaded footpaths in Ivanhoe East. Source: Google Maps

## Diversity and age of public trees

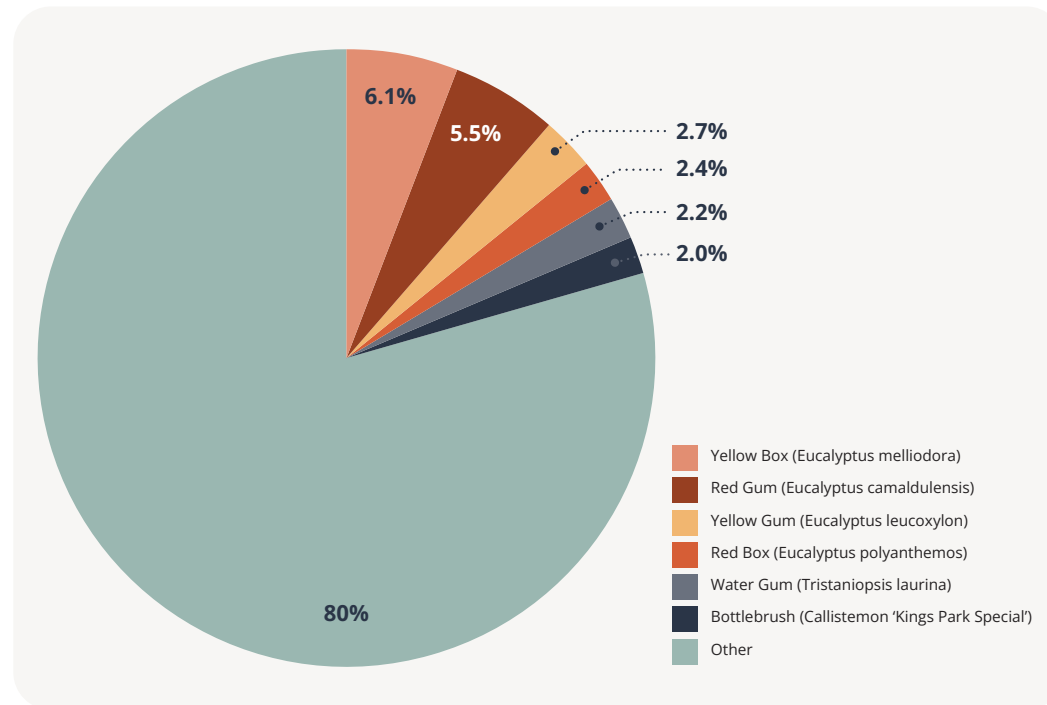
### DIVERSITY OF SPECIES

Overall, Banyule's species-level diversity at the whole of city area is healthy. **Figure 8** shows the current diversity of species in Banyule's recorded public street tree population (note: current tree records focus on street trees and high use parks, with most of the city's natural area park trees yet to be included in the inventory).

**The data shows that of the five dominant species, no single species contributes more than 7% of the public tree inventory.**

The most dominant tree is *Eucalyptus melliodora* or Yellow Box, with 6% of the recorded population (7500 out of 125,000 trees).

While the overall diversity of the urban forest tree population is good, there are some neighbourhoods where street trees are much less diverse. In the Semi Bush and Bush Woodland precincts, more than 25% is made up of *Eucalyptus melliodora*.



**Figure 8. Public tree species in Banyule, based on analysis of Council's tree inventory which includes all street trees and some park trees.**



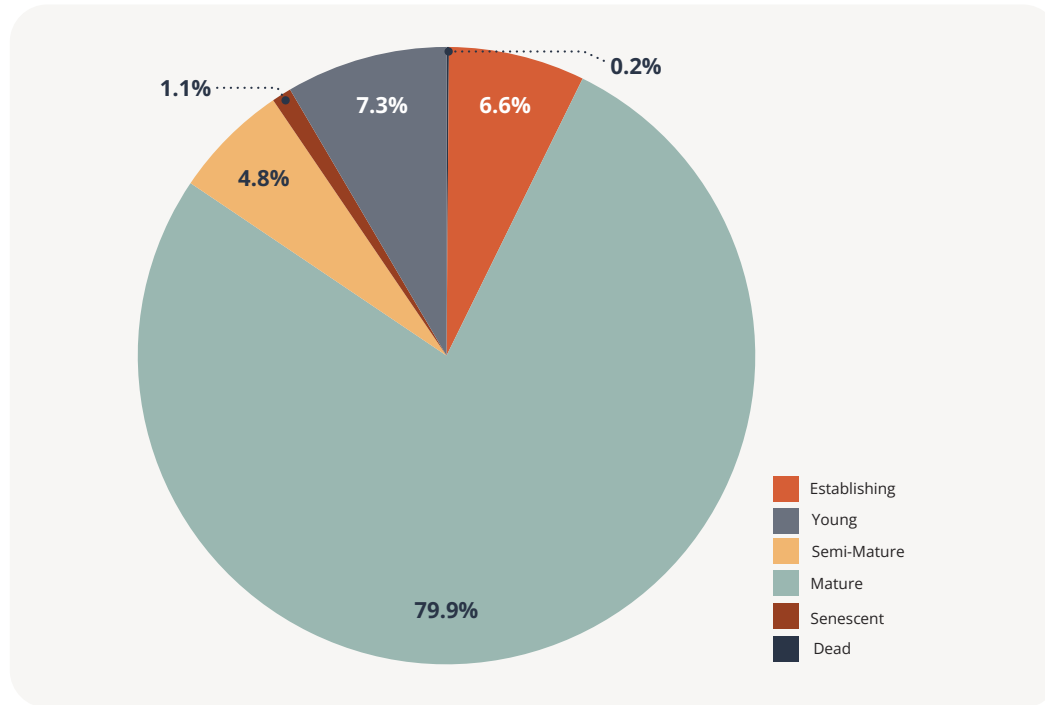


Figure 9. Public tree age across Banyule, based on analysis of Council's tree inventory which includes all street trees and some park trees.

### DISTRIBUTION OF AGE

Figure 9 shows the age of public street trees across Banyule. There is not available data for date of planting prior to 2016, so tree age has been estimated.

The majority of trees in the 'mature' or younger category have an estimated lifespan of over 30 years. Most trees that are in the 'senescent' category are shorter lived, with a lifespan of less than 30 years.

Most of the street trees in Banyule are mature, a phenomenon seen across each of Banyule's neighbourhoods. In part by nature of their large area, the Garden Court and Garden Suburban Precincts contain the majority of these aging trees.



### Climate vulnerability

The impact of climate change on the vulnerability of the most common trees in Banyule shows that under an extreme climate change scenario (3°C increase in mean annual temperature by 2090), common trees that are well adapted to the present climate will become very vulnerable to future conditions e.g., Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*), Yellow Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxydon*) and Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint (*Eucalyptus nicholii*).

The first two of these species are locally native (indigenous) and common in Banyule.

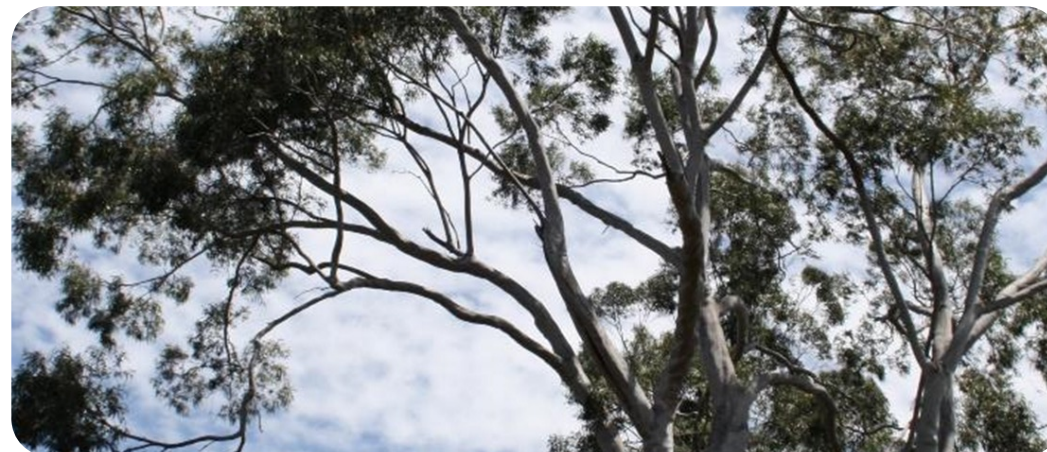
**Under an extreme climate future (3°C increase in mean annual temperature by 2090), 40% or more of the public tree population would have moderate to high vulnerability to projected climate change.**

Under a more moderate climate scenario, over 20% of the most common tree individuals may show increased vulnerability to climate change.

This projected vulnerability is based on climate vulnerability data used to assess the City of Melbourne’s street tree climate vulnerability and CSIRO’s climate analogues (Table 1).

Table 1. Climate change scenarios

CURRENT CLIMATE	MODERATE CLIMATE CHANGE SCENARIO	EXTREME CLIMATE CHANGE SCENARIO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mean annual temp 16.4°C</li> <li>• Extreme maximum temperature 44°C</li> <li>• Extreme minimum temperature of -2.4°C</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.8 °C increase in mean annual temperature to 17.2°C</li> <li>• 0.5 °C increase in extreme maximum temperatures 44.5°C</li> <li>• 0.5 °C increase in extreme minimum temperatures to -1.9°C</li> <li>• Climate changing to resemble Albury-Wodonga</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 °C increase in mean annual temperature to 19.4°C</li> <li>• 2 °C increase in extreme maximum temperature to 46°C</li> <li>• 2 °C increase in extreme minimum temperatures to -0.4°C</li> <li>• Climate changing to resemble inland NSW towns of Dubbo, Parkes and Forbes</li> </ul>







Urban Forest Strategy – Overview 2023–2033

## Where is Banyule’s urban forest most vulnerable?

**A central tenet of the Urban Forest Strategy is that actions should target places in greatest need. To determine where these places are, we looked at the available data to assess the areas of highest need i.e. those that were most vulnerable.**

### Determining high priority places

There are many ways to define where both the urban forest and the community are most vulnerable and where priority action is needed. Spatial analysis using overlaying data about vegetation in an area and how the community uses that area, is one way we will rank the importance of action in different areas.

Having access to good quality, well-collated data about the trees and vegetation and their urban environment is critical to the delivery of best practice urban forestry. Banyule, the Victorian Government and others have a range of data available that has assisted with the analysis of urban forest vulnerability in Banyule. As data improves, the accuracy of prioritisation will improve.

**Data for this analysis has come from:**

- Banyule’s Tree Inventory (2021)
- Vicmap Vegetation Tree Extent Data (2021)
- Victorian planning scheme zones (2022)
- Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas SEIFA (2016)
- Metropolitan Melbourne Heat Vulnerability Index (2018)
- Victorian Planning overlays, specifically Land Subject to Inundation Overlays (LSIO) and Urban Floodway Zone (UFZ) (2022)

### PRIORITISATION MATRIX

A draft prioritisation matrix has been applied to a series of urban forest data to demonstrate the approach and results. The matrix proposes a method to collate and assess climate, urban forest and socio-economic data (historic, current and emerging) to assign weightings against actions.

The matrix is intended to be used as living tool and will be periodically reviewed to refine its application against emerging data and trends.

While there are many elements that could be included in the matrix, the following six elements of the urban forest were considered important to assess priority places for Banyule. The features characterising areas considered more vulnerable or more in need of urban forest action are in brackets.

- Existing canopy cover (Low canopy cover)
- Socio-economic disadvantage (High levels of socio-economic disadvantage)
- Biodiversity (Low levels of biodiversity/habitat)
- Urban heat islands (High levels of urban heat)
- Walking routes (Priority walking and cycling routes present and opportunities for connectivity)
- Flooding hot spots (Nuisance flooding)

Other factors that can be included in the prioritisation matrix in the future include:

- Places with capacity for storm buffer/wind break
- Places that can accommodate large trees
- Relative diversity of tree species
- Trees reaching the end of their life (useful life expectancy - ULE)
- Areas with upcoming maintenance activities or capital works planned e.g. roads, footpaths, traffic calming infrastructure
- Active Transport Routes, such as shared user trails
- An intersectional Gender Impact Assessment (GIS)

### EMERGING PRIORITY PLACES FOR URBAN FOREST ACTION

The analysis of data using the draft prioritisation matrix shows that the high priority areas for intervention and urban forest improvements are:

- Bellfield
- Bundoora
- Eltham North
- Greensborough
- Heidelberg
- Heidelberg Heights
- Heidelberg West
- Ivanhoe
- Viewbank
- Watsonia

These suburbs have a range of factors to make them priorities. For example, Bundoora has low canopy cover and higher disadvantage while areas of Ivanhoe East are prioritised for their pedestrian activity, urban heat and proximity to biodiversity areas.

Greensborough, Watsonia and Yallambie have lost significant areas of vegetation since the canopy baseline was taken, due to the construction of the North East Link project. Re-establishing that canopy will require large efforts by the Victorian Government in coordination with Banyule.



Where is Banyule's urban forest most vulnerable?

18



Urban Forest Strategy - Overview 2023-2033





Urban Forest Strategy – Overview 2023–2033

## Monitoring and evaluation of this Strategy

**This Urban Forest Strategy has been prepared with a vision for the far-future (50+ years) and with a set of principles, strategic focus areas and major actions to be implemented over a 10-year period.**

The implementation of the Strategy is to be managed by the Parks and Natural Environment department, however there is a role for all areas of Council. Being accountable to the community on the delivery of the Strategy is to be done through measures of success that will be reported, with the timeframes and data sources detailed later in this document.

It is recommended that the Strategy is reviewed after five years to assess, refine and update major actions.

It is important that Council can track its progress towards the Urban Forest Vision, against the achievement of the ten-year strategic areas and against the major actions.

To support the monitoring and evaluation of the Strategy, there are three scales of measures:

1. A series of **Key Performance Indicators** (KPIs) – to be measured throughout the life of this Strategy
2. A series of **indicators** to measure progress on the Vision – these are to be measured throughout the life of this Strategy and beyond
3. A series of **measures** that have been carried over from the 2015 Urban Forest Strategic Plan

### Key Performance Indicators of major actions

To drive the performance of the Strategy, three **Key Performance Indicators** (KPIs) are used:

1. Canopy cover across all suburbs - 30% by 2050 with no loss in suburbs exceeding the target
2. Canopy cover across the footpath and local road network - 45% by 2040 with no loss in suburbs exceeding the target
3. Canopy cover across the open space shared path network and surrounding playgrounds – 50% by 2050

### SUBURB CANOPY COVER TARGET

**Banyule has committed to achieving 30% canopy cover across all suburbs by 2050.**

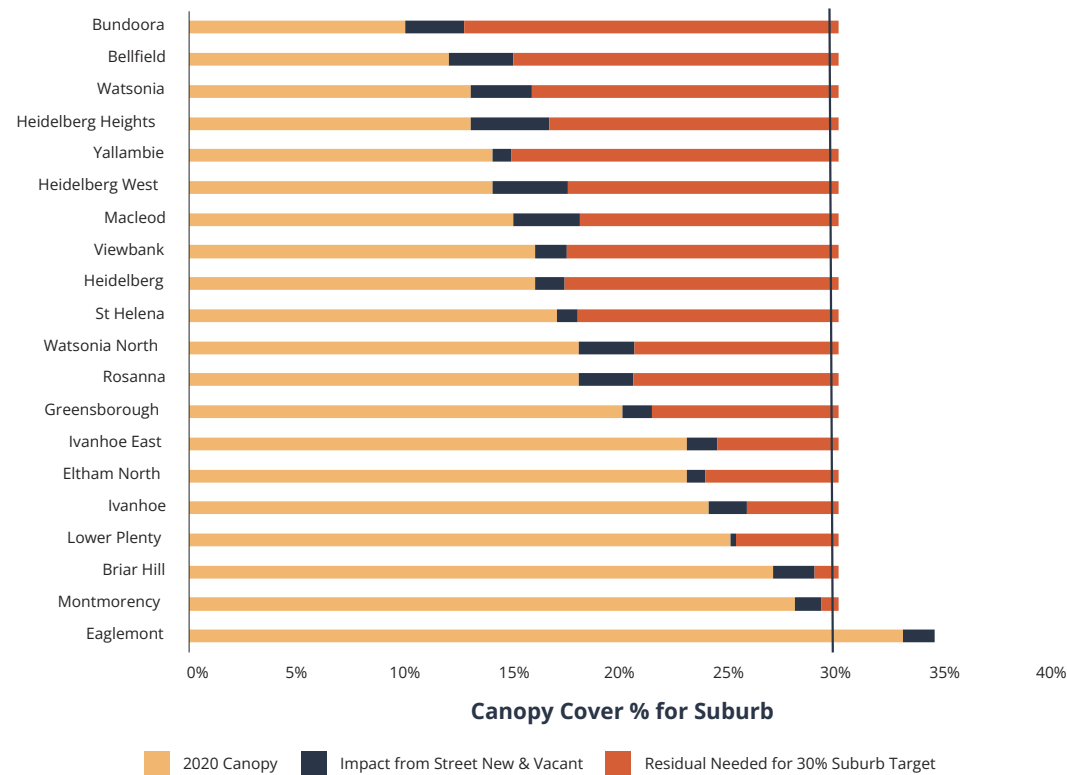
With the principle that the urban forest should be shared by all the communities in Banyule, this level of canopy cover should be the minimum target for all suburbs, not just for Banyule as a whole. **Figure 10** shows the current canopy cover in Banyule's suburbs and the results of modelling additional canopy gain from new and vacant street tree plantings.

Although one suburb currently exceeds the 30% target, and some only require a small addition of canopy by 2050 to achieve the target, the majority of Banyule suburbs need substantial increases over current canopy to achieve the target of 30%.

Major canopy gain outside of street tree and open space planting is required to achieve the target.

The additional canopy needed to reach the desired 30% target across all suburbs will need to be met through:

- Private land canopy gain and gains on land held by other authorities
- Growth of canopy from existing established trees
- Growth of canopy in open space and Council-managed sites from the established trees
- Changing the way that public trees are planted in roadways and other Council land that would require significant infrastructure changes to give them more space and water.



**Figure 10. Suburb canopy cover - gap to 30% Target (yellow bars indicate current canopy, blue bars indicate projected canopy increase from street tree planting, orange bars indicate the gap between projected canopy cover and needed canopy cover).**



**FOOTPATH AND LOCAL ROADS CANOPY COVER TARGET**

**Banyule has committed to achieving 45% canopy cover across the footpath and local road network by 2050**

The current extent of tree canopy cover of public footpaths across the city was measured by analysing data sets that map the current urban forest canopy and footpaths along streets and in parks and reserves.

The inequality of existing canopy by suburb footpath was in line with the canopy cover of the suburb as a whole described above. Suburbs with long established street trees have much better canopy cover over footpaths, making walking more accessible and inviting (Figure 11).

The potential future increase in footpath canopy cover was estimated by creating a 'future canopy' data set that modelled future canopy increases from tree planting in known vacant tree planting sites and the growth of trees that have been planted recently.

**OPEN SPACE PATH NETWORK CANOPY COVER TARGET**

**Banyule has committed to achieving 50% canopy cover across the open space path network by 2050**

Following the principle of shade for daily activities in open spaces, including walking, exercising, cycling and visiting playgrounds, the Draft Urban Forest Strategy proposes the open space path network and surrounding playgrounds canopy target is 50% by 2050.

Footpath Canopy Cover by Suburb

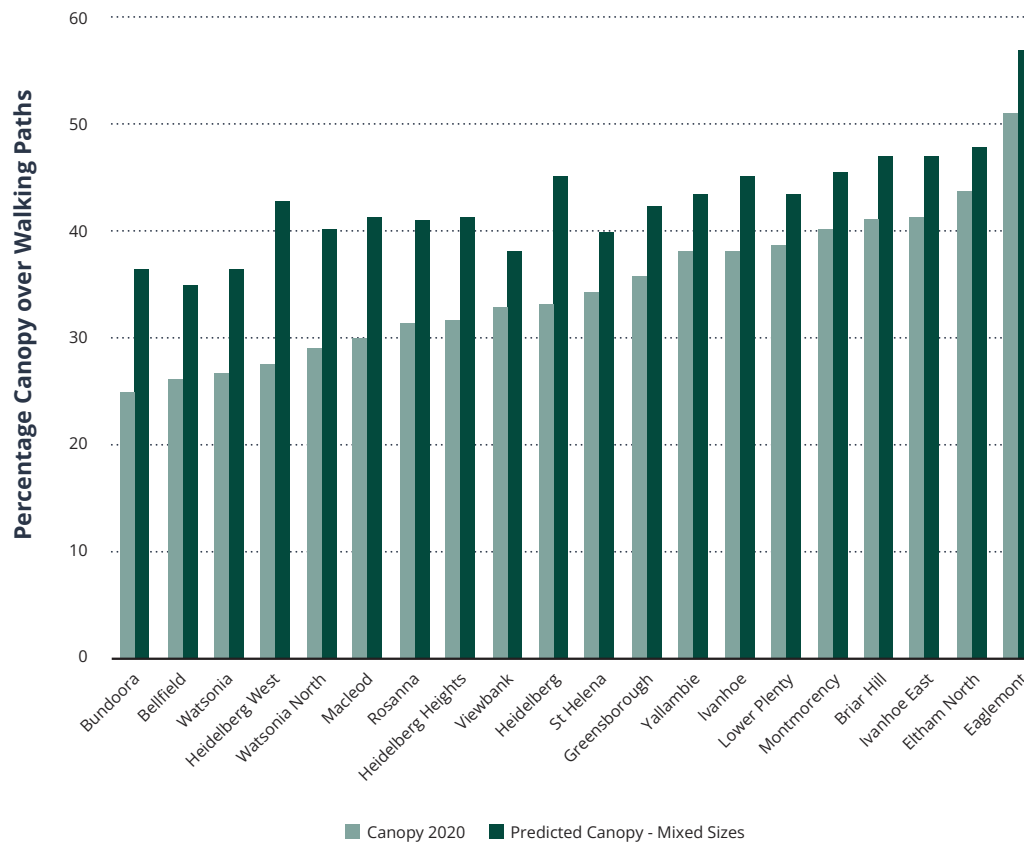


Figure 11. Footpath canopy cover - current and predicted

### Monitoring progress towards the Urban Forest Vision

The Banyule vision for the urban forest is a long-term statement.

Indicators for the four core aspects to the vision have been developed to assist Council to monitor and report on progress (Figure 12). The indicators, source of information and frequency of collection are outlined in the Urban Forest Strategy: Background Technical Report.

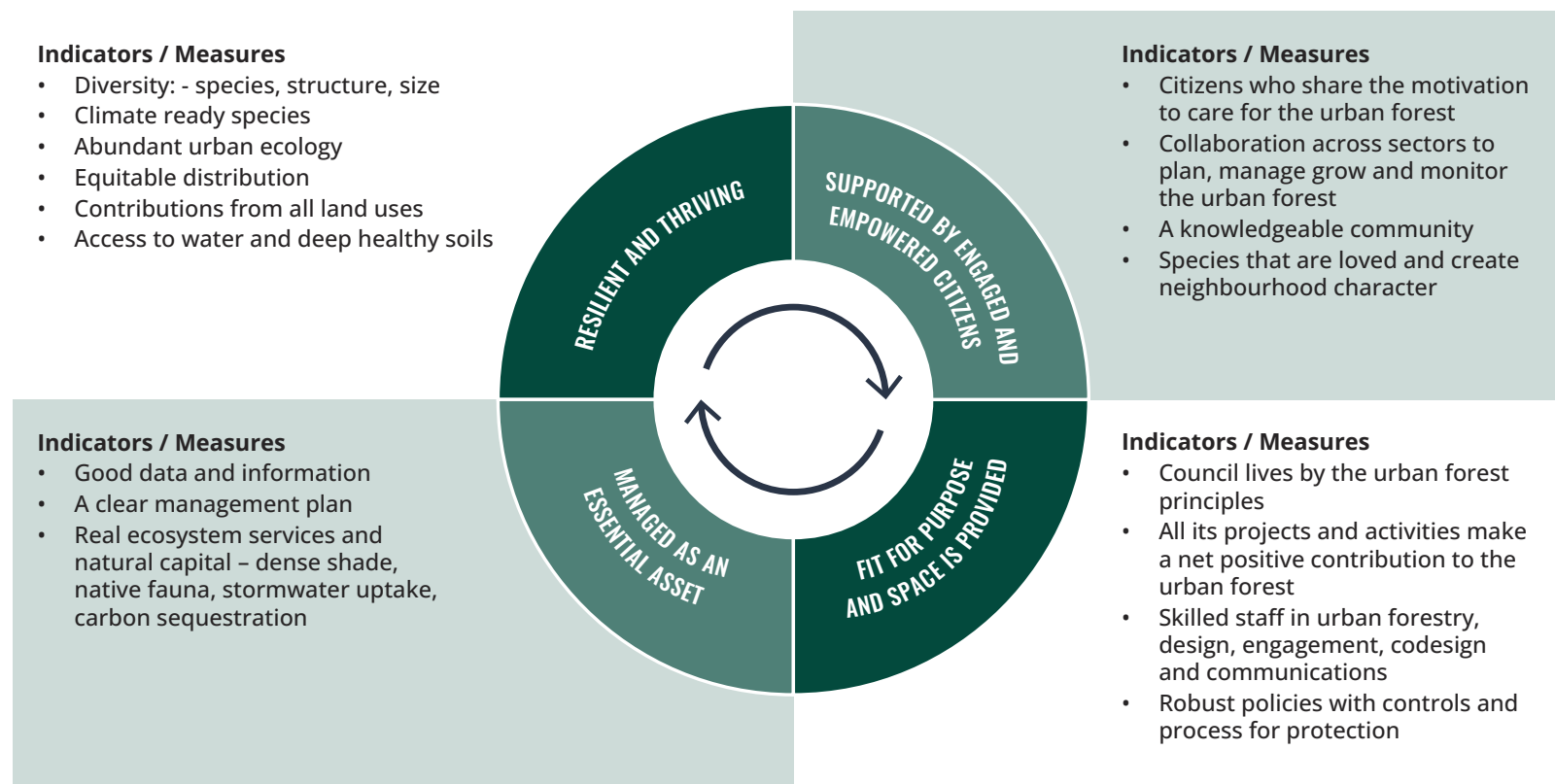


Figure 12. Indicators to assist Council to track progress towards achieving the Urban Forest Vision

## Strategic areas, actions and timeframes

**The Strategy outlines six key strategic areas. Each strategic area has a series of major actions to be implemented over the short- and medium-term.**

**Key Performance Indicators assist with measuring and reporting on success and supporting a continuous improvement process for the management of the urban forest.**

The **Urban Forest Strategy: Background Technical Report** provides:

1. An overview of the issue being addressed.
2. The major action areas to be implemented by Council and its partners over the next 10 years.
3. Case studies of best practice by other local government agencies.
4. The details of the actions in each strategic area with classification of their timeframe, investment commitment level, funding model and departments to lead the action.





Urban Forest Strategy – Overview 2023–2033

<b>Existing</b>	Council can adopt these actions within the current proposed budgets. They can be integrated into existing programs or investigated without additional staff or infrastructure requirements.
<b>\$</b>	<\$10k. Low-cost action.
<b>\$\$</b>	\$10k-\$100k. Council should plan for budget beyond the current proposed budget. Investment in additional research, infrastructure, staffing or funding is required to realise the action.
<b>\$\$\$</b>	>\$100k. Council will require significant additional budget to realise the action, due to the need for new infrastructure, additional staff or introduction of regulations and / or requirements.
<b>Short term</b>	1–3 years.
<b>Medium</b>	4–8 years.
<b>Ongoing</b>	Commencing from 2023.

### Summary of investment and timeframe

<b>NO. OF ALL ACTIONS</b>	<b>ACTIONS USING EXISTING CAPACITY</b>	<b>SHORT TERM 2023 – 26</b>	<b>MEDIUM TERM 2027 – 30</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
58	18	23 actions over years 1-3	14 actions over years 4 – 8	19 actions ongoing

**For more detail on the Urban Forest Strategy, including our Implementation Plan and references, see the full Technical Background Report at [shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/UrbanForest](https://shaping.banyule.vic.gov.au/UrbanForest)**



# Urban Forest Strategy

## Implementation Plan



# Strategic areas, actions and timeframes

**The Strategy outlines six key strategic areas of focus. Each strategic area has a series of major actions to be implemented over the short- and medium-term.**

**Key Performance Indicators assist with measuring and reporting on success and supporting a continuous improvement process for the management of the urban forest.**

This section outlines each strategic area and provides:

1. An overview of the issue being addressed
2. The major action areas to be implemented by Council and its partners over the next 10 years
3. Case studies of best practice by other local government agencies
4. The details of the actions in each strategic area with classification of their timeframe, investment commitment level, funding model and departments to lead the action.







Urban Forest Strategy – Implementation Plan

The details of the actions in each strategic area are listed below with classification of their timeframe, investment commitment level, funding model and departments to lead the action:

<b>Existing</b>	Council can adopt these actions within the current proposed budgets. They can be integrated into existing programs or investigated without additional staff or infrastructure requirements.
<b>\$</b>	<\$10k. Low-cost action.
<b>\$\$</b>	\$10k-\$100k. Council should plan for budget beyond the current proposed budget. Investment in additional research, infrastructure, staffing or funding is required to realise the action.
<b>\$\$\$</b>	>\$100k. Council will require significant additional budget to realise the action, due to the need for new infrastructure, additional staff or introduction of regulations and / or requirements.
<b>Short term</b>	1-3 years.
<b>Medium</b>	4-8 years.
<b>Ongoing</b>	Commencing from 2023.

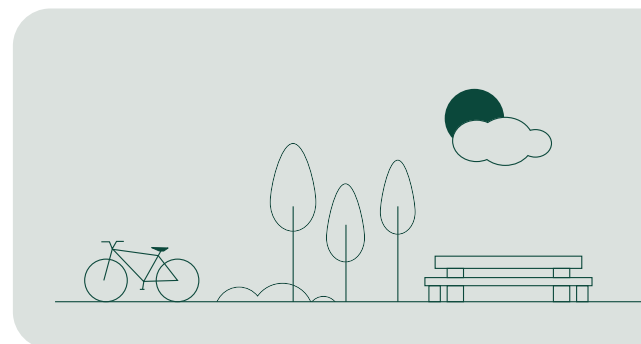
### Summary of investment and timeframe

<b>NO. OF ALL ACTIONS</b>	<b>ACTIONS USING EXISTING CAPACITY</b>	<b>SHORT TERM 2023 - 26</b>	<b>MEDIUM TERM 2027 - 30</b>	<b>ONGOING</b>
58	18	23 actions over years 1-3	14 actions over years 4 - 8	19 actions ongoing

## Strategic Area 1 – Prioritise urban forest improvements in the most vulnerable suburbs and places

### OVERVIEW

This direction will see Council and the community take affirmative action to address the inequity in canopy cover and urban forest quality in the areas with the lowest canopy, the highest proportion of lower socio-economic communities, areas of highest urban heat and exposure to the impacts of climate change.



### MAJOR ACTIONS

ACTIONS FOR STRATEGIC AREA 1: PRIORITISE URBAN FOREST IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MOST VULNERABLE SUBURBS AND PLACES ACROSS BANYULE						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
S1.1	Develop an agreed urban forest prioritisation method that is based on the Urban Forest Principles to identify areas in most need of planning and intervention.	Determine a weighting for combining spatial factors of canopy cover, socio-economic disadvantage, UHI priority, flooding, wildlife corridors, intersectional gender equity, etc. The output is a map to allocate the relative priority of taking action in different locations.	Short	\$\$	Project	Urban Forestry
S1.2	Review the urban forest priorities every 3 years (using the prioritisation method) and include actions in asset management and annual operational plans.	To be reflected in service levels and annual operational plans with a workshop review with the output of a report.	Medium	Existing	Ongoing	Urban Forestry



ACTIONS FOR STRATEGIC AREA 1: PRIORITISE URBAN FOREST IMPROVEMENTS IN THE MOST VULNERABLE SUBURBS AND PLACES ACROSS BANYULE						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
<b>S1.3</b>	Develop and improve the urban forest prioritisation method as new data become available.	Update the matrix as new information becomes available such as Census, canopy or ecological data.	Medium	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry
<b>S1.4</b>	Program annual planting in areas with highest priority.	Focus annual street and park planting, and replacement of underperforming trees, in locations of high priority.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry
<b>S1.5</b>	Identify vacant street tree sites and program infill plantings to be completed in the medium to long term.	Plant out the approximately 10,000 vacant street tree sites by 2027, in addition to replacement of approximately 2500 annual removals in that time.	Medium	\$\$\$	Project	Urban Forestry
<b>S1.6</b>	Work with local indigenous plant nurseries or community nurseries to provide local provenance.	Obtain tree and plant stock from locally sourced seed. Engage nurseries to grow trees to advanced stage for street tree planting or bring in-house to Council.	Short	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry Bushland

## Strategic Area 2 - Increase the diversity of the urban forest for biodiversity and habitat with ground cover and shrub layer plantings

### OVERVIEW

**Banyule, like most other local government areas across Australia, has a low level of diversity in its urban forest in certain neighbourhood character areas.**

This strategic area will see Council and the community continue the work to extend the urban forest beyond trees and introduce more diversity into the structure of the forest. If successful it will see a range of trees, shrubs and groundcovers/grasses across the Banyule local government area. It will also see an increase in partnership between Council and the community and enhance community biodiversity actions already activity occurring across Banyule.

As a managed system, selection of species to plant within the urban forest is influenced by many factors. To assist Council staff and the community, it will be important that the rationale for the selection of certain species for street trees is understood and communicated.

### MAJOR ACTIONS

#### ACTIONS FOR STRATEGIC AREA 2: INCREASE THE DIVERSITY OF THE URBAN FOREST FOR BIODIVERSITY AND HABITAT WITH GROUND COVER AND SHRUB LAYER PLANTINGS

ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (\$)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (\$)
<b>S2.1</b> Identify suitable sites in reserves, roadsides and underutilised land where mown turf can be improved to include trees, shrubs, native grasses or groundcovers.	Year 1, map suitable locations and develop a program for implementation.	Ongoing	\$	Project	Parks & Natural Environment	Open Space Planning & Design, Environment
<b>S2.2</b> Establish and maintain new planting locations of shrubs, native grasses and groundcovers.	Year 2 would be a pilot program of a small number of sites. Funding sought in Year 3 to roll out to larger number of sites. Resource staff to establish and maintain planting locations.	Short	\$\$\$	Project	Parks & Natural Environment	Urban Forestry
<b>S2.3</b> Encourage the co-management of new planting sites within the Urban Forest with the community.	Initial target groups will be community groups such as friends' groups or scouts.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	Communication

**ACTIONS FOR STRATEGIC AREA 2: INCREASE THE DIVERSITY OF THE URBAN FOREST FOR BIODIVERSITY AND HABITAT WITH GROUND COVER AND SHRUB LAYER PLANTINGS**

<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>FURTHER DETAIL</b>	<b>TIME FRAME</b>	<b>INVESTMENT</b>	<b>PROJECT OR ONGOING</b>	<b>LEAD TEAM (S)</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)</b>
<b>S2.4</b> Develop the nature strip planting program, provide guidelines, and promotion of the benefits to residents.	Implement through a permit system and/or change to the local law to allow residents to plant nature strips where appropriate. Utility owners to be consulted in the process.	Medium	\$	Project	Open Space Design	Urban Forestry, Municipal Laws & Public Assets, Communication, Waste
<b>S2.5</b> Map the ecological corridors (wildlife connection and known fauna movements) to integrate with the urban forest data to identify opportunities for planting sites and habitat structures.	This will include spatial mapping based on fauna movement from an urban ecologist.	Short	\$\$	Project	Environment	Bushland/ Urban Forestry
<b>S2.6</b> Provide recommended species lists for a fit-for- purpose urban forest i.e., the 'right-tree-right-place'. This will include species that are climate ready, suitable for the site and consider the benefit for urban ecology.	Develop an online, location-based list of appropriate species for public and private plantings including a set of suitable substitutes to overly-used or inappropriate species. For example, using deciduous tree for houses north facing in a streetscape.	Short	\$\$	Project	Urban Forestry	Open Space Planning & Design
<b>S2.7</b> Provide training and information for Council staff on the urban forest – its definition, vision and principles and what it means for their work.	This will run in tandem with S1.2 'Staff training' specifically including the induction process.	Short	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	

### Strategic Area 3 – Manage the urban forest across public and private land for resilience to climate change

#### OVERVIEW

This strategic area will focus Council’s efforts on active management of the urban forest to help the community adapt to a changing climate and help the urban forest increase its resilience so it can thrive. This will respond to the current areas of highest urban heat and exposure to the impacts of climate change and to public and private tree resilience by selecting the tree species that will not only survive but thrive in a changing climate.

#### MAJOR ACTIONS

ACTIONS FOR STRATEGIC AREA 3 – MANAGE THE URBAN FOREST ACROSS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND FOR RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
S3.1	Provide support for the protection and survival of listed significant trees on private lands; include tree owners and neighbours in the communication and engagement around significant trees.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Environment	Development Planning / Urban Forestry
S3.2	Provide care and protection of listed significant trees on public land.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	Environment / Development Planning

**ACTIONS FOR STRATEGIC AREA 3 – MANAGE THE URBAN FOREST ACROSS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LAND FOR RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE**

<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>FURTHER DETAIL</b>	<b>TIME FRAME</b>	<b>INVESTMENT</b>	<b>PROJECT OR ONGOING</b>	<b>LEAD TEAM (S)</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)</b>
<b>S3.3</b> Work with private and non-council land holders to improve the urban forest on their land via place-based programs and development processes.	As an example, this may include schools, encumbered open space under transmission power lines and water easements.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	Environment / Development Planning
<b>S3.4</b> Implement passive irrigation (WSUD) for public realm trees and make this business as usual for capital projects and new developments.	Run a trial of small scale WSUD systems that can be easily replicated, incorporate into standard kerb or footpath and street tree planting design as well as carparks to achieve canopy cover.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Environmental Operations	Capital works / Urban Forestry
<b>S3.5</b> Provide the public with a recommended species lists for a fit-for-purpose urban forest i.e. the 'right-tree-right-place'. This will include species that are climate-ready, suitable for the site and consider the benefit for urban ecology.	The same species list as developed for S2.6, this action is to share and promote the recommended species list with the public. The place-based plans will be available online for residents to view which neighbourhood place/area they are in.	Short	\$	Project	Urban Forestry	
<b>S3.6</b> Review the recommended species lists annually or when new information comes to light and communicate to community and Council staff.	The list will be maintained in a live format that will enable easy updating as tree species and climate data becomes available.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	Development Planning (arborists)

## Strategic Area 4 – Take a long-term, asset management approach to the urban forest

### OVERVIEW

**Managing the urban forest as an essential asset for Banyule is outlined in A vision for Banyule’s urban forest. The definition of an urban forest for Banyule clearly states that the urban forest is a green asset that is strategically planned, designed and managed. This brings urban forest elements into line with other public assets or grey infrastructure.**

With this approach, there is a clear need for:

- clear and accurate data
- an asset management plan that considers timing, resourcing and risk
- resourcing to maintain and renew the urban forest
- monitoring and reporting for continuous improvement
- integration of greening assets with other asset management planning.

The focus of this strategic area is on establishing an asset management approach to the urban forest elements.

The business case for investing in formative pruning of young trees is compelling. Ryder & Moore<sup>57</sup> assessed the number of defects in a population of commonly planted trees in Melbourne, the time required to prune juvenile trees and time required to manage the defects in mature trees. Allowing for inflation, when the cost of pruning a 20-year-old tree is compared to the cost of two formative pruning cycles after three and six years, totalling less than \$10, there is a 13–18-fold increase.

Proactive controls for managing tree risk will adhere to Banyule’s risk management framework and will inform the inspection time frames for trees depending on the location. This will determine that all trees will be inspected for risk in streets, parks, reserves, council facilities, bushland and along the path network with appropriate frequency depending on the risk profile for the area.



**MAJOR ACTIONS**

STRATEGIC AREA 4 – TAKE A LONG-TERM, ASSET MANAGEMENT APPROACH TO THE URBAN FOREST						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
<b>S4.1</b>	Develop place-based plans to manage the urban forest, considering use, neighbourhood character, ridgelines and climate. Including: In-fill planting program, maintenance, street tree renewal.	Short	\$\$	Project	Urban Forestry	
<b>S4.2</b>	Implement a tree valuation policy including amenity value and ecological value then link the urban forest amenity value to current asset management processes.	Short	\$	Project	Asset Management, Finance	Urban Forestry, Development Planning
<b>S4.3</b>	Adopt a canopy cover assessment method to measure canopy gains and losses annually.	Short	\$\$\$	Project -> Ongoing	Urban Forestry	Development Planning
<b>S4.4</b>	Develop a comprehensive urban forest database to allow the analysis of effort and outcome of the urban forest strategy and asset management programs.	Short	\$\$\$	Project -> Ongoing	Urban Forestry	IT

STRATEGIC AREA 4 - TAKE A LONG-TERM, ASSET MANAGEMENT APPROACH TO THE URBAN FOREST						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
<b>S4.5</b>	Develop a comprehensive urban forest interactive mapping portal that includes information on street, facility and park trees as well as urban forest understorey plantings.	Medium	\$\$	Project	Urban Forestry	Urban Forestry
<b>S4.6</b>	Develop reporting to include urban forest distribution, tree health, species and structural diversity, risk, maintenance.	Medium	\$	Project -> Ongoing	Urban Forestry	IT
<b>S4.7</b>	Develop an "Our Trees" web-based tool using collected data for residents to engage with the urban forest.	Medium	\$\$	Project	Urban Forestry	Customer Service / IT
<b>S4.8</b>	Prepare a communication plan and program that includes reporting to share information with internal and external audiences.	Short	\$	Project	Communications	Urban Forestry



STRATEGIC AREA 4 - TAKE A LONG-TERM, ASSET MANAGEMENT APPROACH TO THE URBAN FOREST						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
S4.9	Build relationships with key research partners to investigate the benefits of 'smart planting' programs for street trees and quantify the benefits of the urban forest including carbon sequestration.	Medium	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	
S4.10	Develop Tree Risk Management Framework	Short	\$\$	Project	Urban Forestry	Risk, Development Planning

STRATEGIC AREA 4 – TAKE A LONG-TERM, ASSET MANAGEMENT APPROACH TO THE URBAN FOREST							
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)	
<b>S4.11</b>	Continue to build on community engagement programs and educate the public about the importance of individual tree retention/removal decisions on the urban forest.	Short	\$	Ongoing	Environment / Planning	Urban Forestry / Comms	
<b>S4.12</b>	Create a process for repurposing tree material with a hierarchy for reuse to contribute to the circular economy and waste diversion.	Medium	\$	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	Open Space Planning	







Urban Forest Strategy – Implementation Plan

## Strategic Area 5 – Build and maintain partnerships with others in the protection and management of the urban forest

### OVERVIEW

**This strategic area is focused on developing a strong network of urban forest ‘actors’ or ‘champions’ who can work collectively or individually to enhance and protect the urban forest across Banyule. It is focused on supporting existing community programs and delivering urban forest outcomes through them.**

Most of the research around best practice urban forestry highlights the need for the community to play a significant role. Communities need to be part of the discourse and the decisions if we are to enable the significant change required to urban planning and management along with the social change needed to bring about a healthy urban forest.

Fundamentally, community engagement can be broad. In best practice urban forestry, the best form of engagement is where Council staff proactively seek out community. The values, concerns and aspirations of the community are heard while expert information about the problem is shared. In this way, an ongoing partnership with the community is established and decision-making is well understood.

Research into the attitudes, values and behaviours of residents around trees shows that:

- more people value both the personal and community benefits from trees on their properties
- there is a need to address landowners’ concerns about property damage
- interpersonal communication is the most preferred way to learn about urban trees
- personal networks are invaluable in sharing information about tree care
- women may play a crucial role in fostering urban forests
- almost all parents believe it is important for their children to spend time in nature
- millennials own fewer trees but are more likely to volunteer for trees
- Baby boomers have more concerns related to existing trees
- reaching new audiences requires focusing on landowners with lower education and income levels.

Proactive approaches to community engagement include public participation campaigns (before and during the development of plans) and co-management partnerships. Volunteer involvement in citizen science programs is a positive shift from traditional approaches, with many potential benefits.

Although mostly focused on community involvement, developers can play a significant role in enhancing the urban forest through the actions of this strategic area.

## MAJOR ACTIONS

## STRATEGIC AREA 5 – BUILD AND MAINTAIN PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHERS IN THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE URBAN FOREST

ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
<b>S5.1</b> Ensure advisory committees are engaged and informed throughout implementation of the Urban Forest Strategy.	Advisory committees such as The Banyule Environment and Climate Action Advisory Committee (BECAAC) will be updated on the progress and timing of actions being implemented and when new data on the success of the Strategy is available.	Ongoing	Existing	Ongoing	Environment	Urban Forestry
<b>S5.2</b> Engage with community through a range of educational activities to build understanding and value of the urban forest.	Ensure events inform the community about urban forestry including information packs for new residents.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Environment	Urban Forestry
<b>S5.3</b> Incorporate citizen science projects and data into Banyule's annual monitoring programs.	Greater use will be made of data sourced from citizen science initiatives to report on biodiversity in Banyule and aid our annual monitoring programme. Sources such as Birdlife Australia, frog ID and iNaturalist.	Ongoing	\$	Ongoing	Environment	Urban Forestry
<b>S5.4</b> Engage with Wurundjeri Narrap team on the implementation of this strategy.	The Wurundjeri Narrap team is an established Natural Resource Management team of the Wurundjeri Council.	Ongoing	Existing		Bushland	

**STRATEGIC AREA 5 – BUILD AND MAINTAIN PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHERS IN THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE URBAN FOREST**

<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>FURTHER DETAIL</b>	<b>TIME FRAME</b>	<b>INVESTMENT</b>	<b>PROJECT OR ONGOING</b>	<b>LEAD TEAM (S)</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)</b>
<b>S5.5</b> Engage specific community groups and traders in the design and delivery of particular urban forest projects, especially in priority areas.	These areas may be near encumbered open space or near sensitive biodiversity reserves. An example is the Heidelberg West Business Precinct which is within a priority area.	Short	Existing	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	Economic Development, Strategic Planning & Urban Design
<b>S5.6</b> Celebrate the neighbourhood character trees for each area.	Specific trees (including on significant register) and avenues are vital to recognise so that we can continue to have strong neighbourhood character in specific areas.	Medium	\$\$	Project	Urban Forestry	Urban Forestry
<b>S5.7</b> Celebrate trees and the urban forest through becoming a recognised Tree Cities of the World – apply for recognition in July 2024.	The Tree Cities of the World Program is an international effort to recognise cities and towns committed to ensuring that their urban forests and trees are properly maintained, sustainably managed and duly celebrated. Currently 7 cities in Australia are recognised and none from Victoria.	Short	Existing	Project	Urban Forestry	Urban Forestry
<b>S5.8</b> Implement a program to make available a free tree to all residents, clubs and businesses in Banyule.	To increase vegetation on private land, this program will be promoted through Council's channels offering a free tree to all residents who request one. The program will be supporting the planting of trees on private land and influencing the diversity and climate suitability of trees that are planted. The trees will be monitored and engage with citizen science.	Short	\$	Project	Urban Forestry	Environment

## Strategic Area 6 – Integrate the urban forest principles into all parts of Council services

### OVERVIEW

**For this Strategy to be successful it is critical that all parts of Council take a role. This strategic area focusses on the Council activities needed to embed the urban forest principles into the organisation, its culture, policies and practices.**

The fundamental capacity for local governments to keep pace with society and community demands is of great importance in this area. Research tells us that local government must support staff and communities to match the rapid societal change needed to respond to current urban pressures.

Solutions to better practice revolve around improvements to the way the urban forest is managed, which requires:

- integration of the physical elements of urban tree planting and vegetation with biodiversity, climate, heat, water, social and cultural benefits
- use and collection of appropriate information and knowledge
- adequate resourcing planning, design and delivery, policies and procedures that respond to the Urban Forest Vision
- maintenance, evaluation and continuous improvement.

### MAJOR ACTIONS

STRATEGIC AREA 6 – INTEGRATE THE URBAN FOREST PRINCIPLES INTO ALL PARTS OF COUNCIL SERVICES							
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)	
S6.1	Integrate the Banyule urban forest principles into the operational plans for all teams across Council.	Integral to the Strategy being a living powerful document, we need Council to work as a holistic team for implementation. E.g. understand the physical and mental benefits that the urban forest provides for residents.	Ongoing	Existing	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	All
S6.2	Advocate with Victorian Government agencies and public authorities about the Banyule Urban Forest Strategy and seek support for the vision and actions.	For example this may include ensuring funding, protecting or planting vegetation on land not controlled by Council.	Ongoing	Existing	Ongoing	Strategic Planning & Urban Design	Urban Forestry, Transport, Development Planning



STRATEGIC AREA 6 - INTEGRATE THE URBAN FOREST PRINCIPLES INTO ALL PARTS OF COUNCIL SERVICES							
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)	
<b>S6.3</b>	Work with Council's capital works and public realm design teams (parks, streets, town centres) to program design work a year ahead of implementation to allow for value add, resourcing.	Many projects are already passed design stage for FY22-23 and FY23-24, and this will be reflected with limited influence until FY24-25.	Ongoing	Existing	Ongoing	Capital Works	Assets, Operations, Urban Forestry
<b>S6.4</b>	Integrate urban forest principles and action into public domain design and delivery and make space for trees and vegetation in the design through a Blue-Green Working Group/Design Review Panel.	Design capital projects that will include successful tree canopy through passive and supplementary irrigation and providing adequate root volumes. Multidisciplinary team during the design stage to achieve urban forestry outcomes. An allocation of resources for maintaining vegetation planted as part of capital projects is vital for high quality ongoing outcomes.	Ongoing	Existing	Ongoing	Capital Works	Assets, Operations, Urban Forestry
<b>S6.5</b>	Create a future fund for canopy and greening enhancement to capital projects.	The fund should have \$250k for expenditure on capital projects to achieve 30% canopy cover where possible, and greening outcomes to improve human comfort when 30% canopy is not achievable. To be funded through budget allocation and revenue collected as amenity value for trees that are removed for external and internal projects.	Medium	\$\$\$	Project	Capital Works	Urban Forestry

STRATEGIC AREA 6 – INTEGRATE THE URBAN FOREST PRINCIPLES INTO ALL PARTS OF COUNCIL SERVICES						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
<b>S6.6</b>	Develop guidelines and training for streetscape and playground vegetation design and maintenance.	Short	Existing	Ongoing	Strategic Planning & Urban Design	Urban Forestry, Open Space Planning & Urban Design
<b>S6.7</b>	Progress the review of policies and plans that relate to tree protection and management, including planning scheme controls, neighbourhood character, housing and heritage strategies.	Short	Existing	Project	Strategic Planning & Urban Design	Development Planning
<b>S6.8</b>	Share data and analysis of canopy/ tree losses in the private domain and focus responses on priority causes.	Medium	Existing	Project	Development Planning	
<b>S6.9</b>	Regularly review and update approach to enforcement in response to trends in urban forest actions.	Medium	Existing	Ongoing	Development Planning	Municipal Laws & Public Assets

STRATEGIC AREA 6 – INTEGRATE THE URBAN FOREST PRINCIPLES INTO ALL PARTS OF COUNCIL SERVICES						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
<b>S6.12</b> Trial small scale passive irrigation to benefit tree growth with a long-term goal to move toward a new standard.	Small scale Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) includes diverting of stormwater to a well below the nature strip that is close to new or existing street trees. To be assessed using smart technologies to determine whether it is appropriate to make a component of standard kerb and channel or footpath design in Banyule.	Short	\$\$	Project	Environmental Operations	Urban Forestry
<b>S6.13</b> Make space for large trees in urban places and plan for trees to maximise the use of the available space for tree canopy.	If space allows, a canopy tree should be planted as many locations are under pressure from development and urbanisation.	Ongoing	Existing	Ongoing	Urban Forestry	
<b>S6.14</b> Improve data and knowledge about the species that contribute to neighbourhood character. To assist in planning for tree replacement in private and public spaces.	<p>This will be part of the digital information available to residents to allow resident to make informed decisions on private vegetation.</p> <p>Enabling residents to use digital tools and references developed by Council to guide their decisions about tree selection and planting on private land.</p> <p>Supporting officers to use evidence-based species selection for tree planning and planting in the public realm</p>	Short	Existing	Project	Urban Forestry	

STRATEGIC AREA 6 – INTEGRATE THE URBAN FOREST PRINCIPLES INTO ALL PARTS OF COUNCIL SERVICES						
ACTIONS	FURTHER DETAIL	TIME FRAME	INVESTMENT	PROJECT OR ONGOING	LEAD TEAM (S)	ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)
<b>S6.15</b> Integrate urban forest principles and outcomes into initiatives, programs and strategies as they are developed and reviewed.	As strategies and initiatives are developed or reviewed, the principles of the Urban Forest Strategy will be incorporated to ensure all parts of Council are working towards the community's Urban Forest Vision.	Ongoing	Existing	Ongoing	All	
<b>S6.16</b> Prioritise opportunities to deliver on urban forest objectives through amendments to the Banyule Planning Scheme. Investigate urban forest opportunities while considering current zones and overlays e.g., Environmental planning overlay.	Urban forest principles should be considered with strategic planning work.	Short	\$	Project	Strategic Planning & Urban Design	
<b>S6.17</b> Masterplan of avenues and gateways for urban forest.	Key avenues and gateway roads will have vegetation masterplans developed to ensure the long-term character is maintained and enhanced.	Short	\$\$	Project	City Futures	Urban Forestry
<b>S6.18</b> Use the latest vegetation information and recommended planting lists when providing guidance on vegetation selection for landscape plans and permit conditions.	Recommended species lists to guide landscape plans and tree replacement conditions will be through a living document.	Short	Existing	Project	Development Planning	

**STRATEGIC AREA 6 – INTEGRATE THE URBAN FOREST PRINCIPLES INTO ALL PARTS OF COUNCIL SERVICES**

<b>ACTIONS</b>	<b>FURTHER DETAIL</b>	<b>TIME FRAME</b>	<b>INVESTMENT</b>	<b>PROJECT OR ONGOING</b>	<b>LEAD TEAM (S)</b>	<b>ADDITIONAL TEAMS (S)</b>
<b>S6.19</b> Undertake analysis to determine reasons for tree loss in the private realm and any related outcomes that affect the extent, health and diversity of the urban forest.	Accurate and ongoing mapping of the urban forest is required to aid in these investigations and is a foundation prerequisite action for several other outcomes and is critical for the success of the Urban Forest Strategy and other cross-organisational strategic goals.	Medium	\$\$	Project	Strategic Planning & Urban Design/ Urban Forestry/ Development Planning	
<b>S6.20</b> Update the Banyule Tree Planting Zone Guidelines (2011) to best practice and to support the Urban Forest Strategy. Include guidelines as a Background Document in the Banyule Planning Scheme.	Terminology such as drip lines requires modernisation and alignment with Australian standards.	Short	\$	Project	Development Planning/ Strategic Planning & Urban Design	Urban Forestry
<b>S6.21</b> Continue to use General Local Law No. 1 (2015) to recognise and protect street trees as a Council asset.	Local law will be the on-ground protection of public trees.	Ongoing	Existing	Ongoing	Municipal Laws & Public Assets/ Development Planning	Urban Forestry, Development Planning



# Glossary of terms

TERM	WHAT IT MEANS
<b>Canopy</b>	The uppermost branches of the trees in a forest, forming a more or less continuous layer of foliage.
<b>Urban forest</b>	Banyule's urban forest is the trees and green assets (such as vines and climbers, shrubs, groundcovers and grasses) that exist in an urban area and are strategically planned, designed and managed. The urban forest also includes the ecosystems, soils and water that support our trees and green assets
<b>Urban forest vulnerability</b>	The areas of Banyule where there is a risk of the urban forest not thriving or demonstrating resilience. Areas with low canopy, aging street trees, increased urban development, negative community health outcomes, or the urban forest exhibits stress and disease.
<b>Social vulnerability</b>	Social vulnerability is a widely recognised way of assessing the sensitivity of a population to natural hazards and its ability to respond to and recover from them <sup>60</sup> .
<b>Useful life expectancy (ULE)</b>	The length of time that a tree is expected to remain healthy and provide ecosystem services within its environment before it begins to decline. This length of time can vary between trees and between species as it depends on tree health, condition, safety and location. Note: where possible, trees with hollows should be seen as potentially valuable for habitat depending on the suitability of their structure or location.
<b>Resilience</b>	The ability of the urban forest to adapt, survive and thrive in a changing climate.
<b>Water sensitive urban design (WSUD)</b>	The approach to planning and designing urban areas and buildings that considers how to make use of the valuable resource of stormwater, make places cooler and reduce harm to waterways, rivers and creeks.







Urban Forest Strategy – Implementation Plan

TERM	WHAT IT MEANS
<b>Urban infill</b>	Redevelopment within established urban areas, typically using previously undeveloped or underutilised land (grey field) or redeploying previously developed land (brown field).
<b>Ecosystem services</b>	The benefits people derive from ecosystems (such as clean air, clean water, shade, cooling, stormwater filtration, pollination etc) – the support of sustainable human wellbeing that ecosystems provide.
<b>Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)</b>	A product developed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics that ranks areas in Australia according to relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage based on people’s access to material and social resources, and their ability to participate in society.
<b>Climate change</b>	Changes to the Earth’s climate caused by human activity including burning fossil fuels (coal, gas, petrol and diesel) and clearing vegetation. Impacts include a global temperature increase as well as local droughts, floods, extreme hot and cold spells, and more intense rainfall.
<b>Green infrastructure</b>	The green spaces and water systems that intersperse, connect and provide life support for humans and other species in urban environments. Green infrastructure ranges in scale from residential gardens to local parks and housing estates, streetscapes and highway verges, services and communications corridors, waterways and regional recreation areas. Green infrastructure has many benefits for society and the environment.
<b>Grey infrastructure</b>	Human-built physical structures and systems, such as buildings, water and electrical supply, sewers, stormwater drains, dams, reservoirs, fences, paths, roads and bridges.
<b>Habitat structures</b>	In an urban environment, these can be nesting boxes, created hollows or suitably placed logs.
<b>Facility tree</b>	A tree located in a Council property such as a library or located in a leased property such as a sporting facility or kindergarten.



# Banyule Transport Advocacy Project List 2023

Adopted by Council on 9 October 2023



## Background

The Banyule Transport Advocacy Project List (BTAP List) is made up of priority transport infrastructure projects. These have been identified through community engagement undertaken as part of the development and/or implementation of Council's transport strategy as guided by the Banyule Integrated Transport Plan (BITP). Consultation feedback has been considered from the development of the Council Plan 2021 – 2025, various Activity Centre transport (movement and place) investigations and parking management plans, and municipal walking, cycling and safe travel strategies and plans.

The projects listed are those that Council must advocate to the State or Federal Government for either funding assistance and/or because the project would be part of a State Government managed asset (arterial road or rail reserve) or require State Government approval. The BTAP List is used to support regular interactions with the State Government's Department of Transport as well as for advocacy efforts with local members of parliament and with the community. The NEL Project Advocacy List (most recently updated by Council at its ordinary meeting of 6 December 2021 available [here](#)) is also used as a basis for transport advocacy.

At the ordinary Council meeting of 9 October 2023, Council resolved to:

- Adopt the Banyule Transport Advocacy Project List – September 2023 to guide transport advocacy discussions with both internal and external stakeholders.
- Provide the Banyule Transport Advocacy Project List – September 2023 to key State Government agencies including the Department of Transport and Planning.
- Publicise the Banyule Transport Advocacy Project List – September 2023 on the Banyule Council website to provide transparency on transport priorities to the Banyule community.

Table 1 below contains the adopted transport advocacy projects listing.

Table 1 | Banyule Transport Advocacy Project List 2023

No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
<b>Walking Projects</b>							
1	Walking	Construct a new Odenwald Road bridge across the Hurstbridge railway line, including provision of safe pedestrian access.	Eaglemont	VicTrack	Low	High	High
2	Walking	Upgrade the pedestrian operated crossing outside No. 254 Lower Heidelberg Road to a raised crossing with kerb outstands to comply with DDA requirements, to improve accessibility and safety for school children, and to control traffic speed.	East Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High

No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
3	Walking	Narrow the Para Road - Grimshaw Street intersection to facilitate pedestrian crossing movement and reduce entering traffic volume from Para Road into Grimshaw Street.	Greensborough	DTP	Low	High	High
4	Walking	Prioritise pedestrian movement through Heidelberg Activity Centre by introducing a zebra crossing or a pedestrian operated crossing in front of Warringal Shopping Centre on Burgundy Street.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
5	Walking	Upgrade the pedestrian operated crossing to a raised crosswalk with the addition of mast arms to make the traffic signals more visible to drivers at Upper Heidelberg Road between Ivanhoe Girls Grammar School and The Centre Ivanhoe.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High
6	Walking	Provide a new pedestrian crossing on the east side of the Marshall Street level crossing.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High
7	Walking	Build pedestrian operated signals or zebra crossings on Banksia Street at Waratah Special Development School and at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High
8	Walking	Provide a pedestrian operated at grade crossing of Burgundy Street near Martin Street.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
9	Walking	Provide signalised pedestrian crossings of Diamond Creek Road at Greenhill Road (POS).	Greensborough/ St Helena	DTP	High	High	High
10	Walking	Move Diamond Creek Road bus stop south of Avandina Crescent approximately 40m north, out of the road bend. Install refuge island near relocated bus stop.	Greensborough/ St Helena	DTP	High	High	High
11	Walking	Provide signalised pedestrian crossings of Diamond Creek Road at Plenty River Drive and between Pembroke Street and Avandina Crescent (POS) in Greensborough.	Greensborough/ St Helena	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
12	Walking	Prioritise pedestrian movement through Heidelberg Activity Centre by reducing the speed limit to 30km/h along Burgundy Street.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
13	Walking	Provide a signalised pedestrian crossing of Lower Heidelberg Road, West of The Boulevard.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate

Banyule Transport Advocacy Project List 2023 | Adopted by Council on 25 September 2023 Page 3 of 10

No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
14	Walking	Provide illuminated 'Give Way to Pedestrian' signs at the intersection of Lower Plenty Road and Martins Lane, and Lower Plenty Road and Arthur Streeton Drive.	Yallambie	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
15	Walking	Provide kerb outstands at the intersections of Hawdon Street and Cape Street in Burgundy Street.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	Low	Low
16	Walking	Install a set of pedestrian operated signals near the intersection of Banksia Street and Hawdon Street in Heidelberg.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	Low	Low
17	Walking	Improve the pedestrian permeability and priority on Waterdale Road by providing Zebra crossings or pedestrian operated signals at the intersections of Disney Street (south side) and O'Keefe Street (north side).	West Heidelberg	DTP	Low	Low	Low
<b>Walking and Cycling Projects</b>							
18	Walking and Cycling	Construct a pedestrian and cycling bridge over the Plenty River, connecting the Plenty River trail directly to Railway Road and the shared user path between Greensborough and Montmorency Stations.	Briar Hill / Greensborough	DTP	Low	High	<b>High</b>
19	Walking and Cycling	Provide a grade separated walking and cycling crossing under Banksia Street, Heidelberg near the intersection of The Boulevard.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	<b>High</b>
20	Walking and Cycling	Construct a shared user path from the corner of Kingsbury Drive and Waterdale Road, Bundoora to the La Trobe Sports Stadium.	Bundoora	DTP	Low	High	<b>High</b>
21	Walking and Cycling	Install Zebra crossings or pedestrian operated signals at the Courthouse and/or at the southern end of the Jika/Yarra Street intersection.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	<b>High</b>
22	Walking and Cycling	Advocate for improved integration of the North East Link, Greensborough Hwy and Watsonia Station upgrade works at Watsonia to improve pedestrian and cycling connectivity and accessibility to and within the area.	Watsonia	DTP/NELP/ VicTrack	Low	High	<b>High</b>



No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
23	Walking and Cycling	Provide a pedestrian operated signal (including bicycle lantern) at the intersection of Yarra Street and Rosanna Road.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	Moderate
<b>Cycling Projects</b>							
24	Cycling	Complete the Primary Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route from Banksia Street/Jika Street to Burke Road in the vicinity of the Boulevard through East Ivanhoe	East Ivanhoe	NELP	Low	High	High
25	Cycling	Complete the Primary Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route on Yarra Street from the Main Yarra Trail with safe crossings at Dora Street and Lower Heidelberg Road in Heidelberg.	Heidelberg	NELP	Low	High	High
26	Cycling	Complete the Main Strategic Cycling Corridor (C2) route within the Hurstbridge rail corridor from Heidelberg Station to Rosanna Station	Heidelberg-Rosanna	DTP/MicTrack	Low	High	High
27	Cycling	Provide a safe bicycle intersection treatment to implement a continuous north south Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route from the Oriel Road bike lanes across Livingstone Street and provide a Shared User Path (SUP) to connect to Miles Street. The intersection should also cater to east west cyclists using the Livingstone Street Principal Bicycle Network (C3) route bike lanes.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High
28	Cycling	Complete the Principal Bicycle Network (C3) route on road cycling route as part time bike lanes along Upper Heidelberg Road through Ivanhoe.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High
29	Cycling	Complete the Principal Bicycle Network (C3) route on road cycling route along Lower Heidelberg Road and Heidelberg Road to Darebin Creek in Ivanhoe. As part of this provide protected road cycling facilities on Heidelberg Road from the City of Banyule to facilitate access to the Melbourne CBD.	Ivanhoe/East Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High
30	Cycling	Complete the Primary Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route from Macleod Station/ Charles La Trobe Secondary College via Joynt St, Waiora Road, Dougharty Road, and Oriel Road to Ivanhoe. As an urgent interim measure provide a safe cycling crossing of Bell	Macleod - Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High

No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
		Street in West Heidelberg along the on-road Oriel Road cycling route.					
31	Cycling	Complete the Primary Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route along the Hurstbridge rail corridor from Montmorency Station to connect to the Diamond Creek Trail and Eltham Station in Nillumbik	Montmorency - Eltham	DTP/VicTrack	Planned	High	High
32	Cycling	Complete the Main Strategic Cycling Corridor (C2) route along the Hurstbridge rail corridor from Rosanna Station to Macleod Station	Rosanna - Macleod	DTP/VicTrack	Low	High	High
33	Cycling	Provide improved bicycle parking facilities at Banyule train stations in order of priority at: Ivanhoe, Macleod, Darebin, and Eaglemont.	Banyule	DTP	Possible	High	Moderate
34	Cycling	Complete the Main Strategic Cycling Corridor (C2) route from the M80 Ring Road via a grade separated crossing of Lower Plenty Road to connect to Heidelberg (Jika Street).	Bundoora - Heidelberg	NELP	Planned	High	Moderate
35	Cycling	Complete the Primary Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route from the M80 Shared User Path via Yando Street and the Kalparrin Gardens to Greensborough Station.	Bundoora M80 - Greensborough Station	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
36	Cycling	Complete the Primary Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route on Banksia Street from Heidelberg Station to the Darebin Creek Trail.	Bellfield	DTP	Planned	Med	Moderate
37	Cycling	Complete the Primary Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route along the Hurstbridge rail corridor from Greensborough Station to Montmorency Station	Greensborough - Montmorency	LXRP/DTP	Planned	High	Moderate
38	Cycling	Upgrade the unsafe (steep, slippery and flood prone) section of the Main Yarra Trail at the underpass of the Banksia Street road bridge.	Heidelberg	NELP	Possible	High	Moderate
39	Cycling	Investigate cyclist safety at Rosehill Road, Lower Plenty from the northbound traffic slip lane off Fitzsimons Lane.	Lower Plenty	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate

No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
40	Cycling	Complete the Primary Strategic Cycling Corridor (C1) route along the Hurstbridge rail corridor from Macleod Station to Watsonia Station.	Macleod - Watsonia	NELP/DTP	Possible	High	Moderate
41	Cycling	Complete the Main Strategic Cycling Corridor (C2) route along Edwin Street from Bell Street to Banksia Street.	West Heidelberg	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
42	Cycling	Complete the Main Strategic Cycling Corridor (C2) route from Macleod via Drysdale Street and Lower Plenty Road to Fitzsimons Lane.	Yallambie	NELP/DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
43	Cycling	As part of the North East Link Project provide a Plenty River Trail connection to the Greensborough Bypass Trail.	Greensborough	NELP	Low	Low	Low
44	Cycling	As part of the North East Link Project provide east-west bicycle and pedestrian connections over Greensborough Road and the North East Link corridor at Yando Road, Near Grimshaw Street, Nell Street, Elder Street, Watsonia Road and in the vicinity of Lower Plenty Road to provide access to the La Trobe NEIC.	Greensborough/ Watsonia/ Yallambie	NELP	Planned	High	Low
45	Cycling	Provide a new shared user bridge to link Banksia Park/Heide (Manningham) to the Heidelberg Activity Centre.	Heidelberg	NELP	Planned	High	Low
46	Cycling	Complete the East-West Power Easement Trail from Plenty Road through Watsonia Town Centre to connect to the Plenty River Trail in Yallambie. As part of this provide an at grade separated crossing of Greensborough Hwy/NEL.	Watsonia	NELP	Planned	High	Low
<b>Public Transport Projects</b>							
47	Public Transport	Conduct a comprehensive review of bus routes and services in Banyule as part of the implementation of the State Government Bus Plan 2021.	Banyule	DTP	Planned	High	<b>High</b>
48	Public Transport	Provide higher frequency and all year (no semester break) operation of Bus Route 301.	Banyule	DTP	Low	High	<b>High</b>
49	Public Transport	Advocate for the provision of improved bus services to La Trobe University from Yallambie, Viewbank and Lower Plenty (or realignment of Route 517)	Banyule	DTP	Low	High	<b>High</b>

No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
50	Public Transport	Extend Bus Route 301 to Heidelberg Station to improve access to La Trobe NEIC from the east and north east.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
51	Public Transport	Upgrade Heidelberg Station to provide a high-quality modal interchange facility in Heidelberg.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
52	Public Transport	Improve accessibility at Ivanhoe Rail Station including replacing the existing pedestrian bridge to be DDA compliant and providing lifts.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High
53	Public Transport	Provide a grade separation of the Marshall Street level crossing.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	High	High
54	Public Transport	Upgrade Watsonia Station including an integrated transport interchange with direct DDA compliant access to the station from the surrounding precinct.	Watsonia	DTP	Low	High	High
55	Public Transport	Advocate for the provision of a 70m northbound queue jump bus lane (Waterdale Road at Kingsbury Dr) to improve bus priority for the future SRL and to La Trobe University.	West Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
56	Public Transport	Provide bus service connections from Banyule to the planned NEL Eastern Freeway dedicated busway.	Banyule	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
57	Public Transport	Improve bus connections to Latrobe University from Hurstbridge line stations at Heidelberg and Macleod.	Bundoora	DTP	Possible	High	Moderate
58	Public Transport	Reconfigure Para Road and the Para Road/ Flintoff Street intersection, to facilitate bus, pedestrian and cycling movement to the proposed Greensborough Transport Interchange.	Greensborough	DTP	Possible	High	Moderate
59	Public Transport	Provide increased bus priority on Grimshaw Street.	Greensborough	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
60	Public Transport	Provide a bus interchange reconfiguration in Main Street to improve pedestrian ease of use.	Greensborough	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
61	Public Transport	Advocate for the connection of Bus Route 513G with Bus Route 343 and extend to La Trobe University to provide direct connections from north of Greensborough.	Greensborough	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate

No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
62	Public Transport	Provide a bus service equivalent to the future Suburban Rail Loop route in Banyule to grow patronage along the route as an interim measure.	Heidelberg and Bundoora	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
63	Public Transport	Extend Bus Route 609 across the Yarra River on Chandler Highway to La Trobe NEIC and increase service frequency and span.	Ivanhoe	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
64	Public Transport	Provide additional commuter car parking at Ivanhoe and Macleod Stations.	Macleod	VicTrack	Low	Med	Moderate
65	Public Transport	Duplicate Hurstbridge Railway Line from Montmorency to Eltham, subject to protection of the Eltham Copper Butterfly.	Montmorency	DTP/VicTrack	Low	High	Moderate
66	Public Transport	Relocate Route 548 from Edwin Street to Waterdale Road to allow cyclist priority on Edwin Street (C2 Strategic Cycling Corridor)	West Heidelberg	DTP	Low	Med	Moderate
67	Public Transport	Provide an at grade bus interchange in the vicinity of Greensborough Station.	Greensborough	DTP	Planned	High	Low
68	Public Transport	Continue advocacy to future proofing the bus interchange development opposite Greensborough Station, allowing for the future construction of more storeys and mixed-use development.	Greensborough	DTP	Low	High	Low
69	Public Transport	Provide new or upgraded railway stations at Heidelberg and La Trobe University as part of the implementation of the Suburban Rail Loop.	Heidelberg and Bundoora	SRL	Planned	High	Low
70	Public Transport	Provide a grade separation of Ruthven Street/Chapman Street and the Hurstbridge Railway Line.	Macleod	DTP	Planned	Low	Low
<b>Road Network Projects</b>							
71	Road Network	Address congestion and safety issues at Greensborough Highway/Grimshaw Street intersection in Greensborough in conjunction with the NEL Northern package.	Greensborough	NELP	Low	High	<b>High</b>
72	Road Network	Reconfigure the Main Street - The Circuit - Hailes Street - intersection to facilitate traffic movement between Para Road and Grimshaw Street via the Circuit.	Greensborough	DTP	Low	High	<b>High</b>

No.	Type	Project	Location	Stakeholder	State Interest	Need	Priority
73	Road Network	Add raised wombat crossing on left turn slip lane from Greensborough Road into Grimshaw Street.	Greensborough	DTP	Low	High	High
74	Road Network	Limit the movement of trucks turning right from Banksia Street into Dora Street and turning left from Lower Heidelberg Road into Jika Street.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
75	Road Network	Provide capacity improvements to the Bell-Banksia Link without widening.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
76	Road Network	Improve connectivity to the arterial road network through providing a direct link from Upper Heidelberg Road to the Bell Banksia Link.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
77	Road Network	Intersection improvements on Bell/Banksia Link at Dora Street and Lower Heidelberg Road, including removal of one right turn lane into Dora Street, and facilitating two right turn lanes catering to trucks at Lower Heidelberg Road.	Heidelberg	DTP	Low	High	High
78	Road Network	Upgrade Greensborough Hwy/Diamond Creek Road – M80 to Yan Yean Road, including grade separation at the Civic Drive roundabout.	St Helena	DTP	Low	High	High