

Feedback Needed for Tennis Facilities

South Gippsland Shire Council is seeking community feedback on the Draft Tennis Facilities Plan 2017.

As tennis participation had traditionally been very strong in South Gippsland there are over 99 public tennis courts at 38 locations across the region.

The Draft Tennis Facilities Plan 2017 has been developed based on court audits that were funded by Sport and Recreation Victoria.

The audits identified that half of the 38 locations were either unused or in an unplayable condition.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Director Sustainable Communities and Infrastructure Anthony Seabrook said many small communities had developed tennis courts in isolated rural areas, often as their only community facility.

"Over the last 30 years there have been significant changes in tennis participation across the municipality.

"The plan identifies 19 courts that would require substantial works or appear to have very little usage and could be considered excess to requirements.

"No specific action has been proposed by Council in relation to any of the facilities. We would like to hear from the community to help guide their future," said Mr Seabrook.

To review the Draft Tennis Facilities Plan 2017 visit Council website at www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/tennisfacilities.

Public submissions are being sought on the plan until Tuesday 25 May 2017 at 5.00pm.

Individuals wishing to make a submission on the Draft Tennis Facilities Plan can do so via an email to the Chief Executive Officer, South Gippsland Shire Council at the following address: submission@southgippsland.vic.gov.au.

Alternatively submissions can be addressed to Private Bag 4, Leongatha 3953 or delivered to the Council Office, 9 Smith Street, Leongatha.

Please see attached a table of the findings from the court audits.

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Table One: Findings from Court Audits

GROUP	DESCRIPTION / WORKS	COURTS / FACILITIES (39 SITES)
1	Substantial works to be suitable for community use (even social tennis) and would be difficult to justify any financial investment given the lack of demand	Dumbalk Recreation Reserve Dumbalk East tennis courts Stony Creek tennis courts Berrys Creek tennis courts Strzelecki tennis courts Trida tennis courts Nichols Road tennis courts Mount Best tennis courts Allambee South tennis courts Turtons Creek tennis courts (10 SITES)
2	Considered to be excess to requirements given their condition and limited use.	Fish Creek town courts Loch Memorial Reserve Welshpool tennis courts Port Welshpool tennis courts Ruby tennis courts Port Franklin tennis courts Meeniyan tennis courts Yanakie tennis courts Buffalo tennis courts (9 SITES)
3	Used, or could be improved to provide for continued use in the future.	Terrill Park (Fish Creek) Mardan Tennis Club Leongatha North Tennis Club Kongwak Tennis Club Mirboo Recreation Reserve (5 SITES)
4	Present the best opportunity to be maintained in a condition that allows them to be used into the future and for competition tennis.	Leongatha Tennis Club Foster Tennis Club Korumburra Tennis Club Walter Tuck Reserve (Mirboo North) Poowong Recreation Reserve Toora tennis courts Koonwarra Recreation Reserve Tarwin Lower tennis courts Sandy Point Tennis Club Dumbalk North tennis courts Bena Tennis Club Nyora Tennis Club Outtrim Recreation Reserve Hallston Tennis Club (14 SITES)