



**Office of the Mayor,
Councillor Jami Klisaris**

23 December 2016

Email:

Dear Ms Wallish & Ms Lawlor,

I am writing in response to the questions that you raised at the Council meeting of 19 December 2016. The responses have been prepared by Council Officers.

Question 1

What were the 51 sites Council identified for the proposed Stonnington indoor stadium?

Response

Please find attached the list of 51 sites that were assessed against the criteria I confirmed with you in my previous letter.

Question 2

Percy Treyvaud Park was previously rejected for an Indoor Stadium "as it contains large areas of open space and was ruled out because of Council's Strategy for Creating Open Space" so why has Council endorsed Percy Treyvaud Park as the proposed site for the indoor stadium when it is still a large area of open space and Council's Strategy for Creating Open Space hasn't changed?

Response

The site that is the subject of the feasibility study will be the area within Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park occupied exclusively by the Chadstone Recreation and Civic Club under a lease agreement between it and Council. Whilst the CR&CC Lease area includes the areas occupied by the Chadstone Bowls Club and the Chadstone Tennis Club it is the site of the bowls club that will be the focus of the feasibility study.

The Chadstone Bowls Club site is encumbered outdoor space that is not publically accessible and for those reasons is not included in Council's open space classification.

Question 3

Council previously ruled out the use of open space & sports grounds as potential sites for an indoor stadium, Lawn bowls is a sport (see Commonwealth Games Sports), so is Council now ruling in the use of open space and SPORTS GROUNDS as potential sites for an Indoor stadium?

Response

Consideration of the Chadstone Bowls Club site is consistent with Council's direction to rule out the use of open space and sportsgrounds as potential sites for an indoor stadium.

The Chadstone Bowls Club site is encumbered outdoor space that is not publically accessible and for those reasons is not included in Council's open space classification.

Sportsgrounds are defined as land used for sport, but which is available for informal outdoor leisure or recreation when not being used or prepared for an organised game. Whilst bowls clubs like tennis facilities are outdoor recreation facilities they are not sportsgrounds.

Question 4

Why isn't a feasibility study being done on Romanis Reserve, home of the Prahran Netball Club, re proposed Indoor Stadium?

Response

Based on preliminary investigations of Orrong Park and Romanis Reserve it was assessed that a four-court stadium could not be accommodated on the site without compromising either of the two sportsgrounds. The opportunity to increase participation in active sport and recreation amongst the Stonnington community would be greatly enhanced by the addition of four indoor courts to the current number of courts. To establish a four court facility on Orrong Park or Romanis Reserve with as little impact on the adjacent sportsgrounds as possible would require the demolition of the existing two court facility. This would compromise the benefits that would come from the provision of four more courts in addition to the existing supply. The current proposal that is subject to the feasibility study would if it were implemented result in the addition of a four court facility, the activation of three existing outdoor courts and the retention of the existing two court facility at Orrong Romanis Recreation Centre with the participation benefits this affords a community that has been coping with the lack of provision of courts for a long period of time.

Question 5

Why is Council recommending proposals that directly contradict their current Older Persons Strategy (see page 2,3,4, & 6)?

Response

The Older Persons Strategy 2008 – 2012 was adopted in September 2008 and is no longer current.

Council has resolved to :

Endorse Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park as the preferred site for the proposed Stonnington Indoor Sports Stadium.

Completes a feasibility study into the proposed development of an indoor stadium at Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park with a minimum of 4 courts.

Include as part of the feasibility study opportunities to accommodate the Chadstone Bowls Club and/or its members at alternate locations and the future provision of active recreation programs and services for older adults as part of that study.

The feasibility study will consider the strategic implications of the construction of an indoor sports stadium on the site currently occupied by the Chadstone Bowls Club.

Council is committed to finding a suitable site for a four court stadium. I am hopeful that suitable solutions can be found for all parties concerned to cater for the current and future needs of all sports involved in this feasibility process.

Question 6

Why Council recommending proposals that directly contradict their Recreation Strategy is (see pages 3,4,5,6,9,10,11,13,15,21,23,25 & 29)?

Response

The Recreation Strategy 2014-2024 was adopted in December 2014 and includes an action to conduct a feasibility study into the construction of a new multi-court indoor stadium to service the needs of indoor court users. Council has committed to doing that.

The feasibility study will consider any further strategic implications of the construction of an indoor sports stadium on the site currently occupied by the Chadstone Bowls Club.

Question 7

Does Council believe it has a responsibility to adhere to all of its current strategies?

Response

Strategies are high level plans to achieve one or more goals under conditions of uncertainty. As a result of these inherent uncertainties it is not always possible to achieve all the aims of each strategy. I am hopeful that suitable solutions can be found for all parties concerned to cater for the current and future needs of all sports involved in the current feasibility process.

Question 8

Why isn't Council adhering to its current Older Persons Strategy & Recreation Strategy?

Response

The Older Persons Strategy 2008-2012 is not current. Until such time as the feasibility study is undertaken in accordance with the action in the current Recreation Strategy and a decision is made to construct a stadium comments about any further strategic implications are speculative.

Question 9

Does Council "pick and choose" what elements of its strategies it will pursue?

Response

Strategies are high level plans to achieve one or more goals under conditions of uncertainty. As a result of these inherent uncertainties it is not always possible to achieve all the aims of each strategy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jami Klisaris', written in a cursive style.

Cr Jami Klisaris, GAICD
Mayor of the City of Stonnington
Councillor for East Ward