

LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS ANALYSIS

Moe Activity Centre Plan 2026

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Source Front Cover: Building.Engineering, 2016. Frank Bartlett Memorial Library & Moe Service Centre. Date Accessed: 4 November 2024 URL: https://www.buildingengineering.com.au/project/frank-bartlett-memorial-library-moe-service-centre/.



Latrobe City Council acknowledges that it operates on the traditional land of the Brayakaulung people of the Gunaikurnai nation and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Introduction

Latrobe City Council is preparing an update to the Moe Activity Centre Plan. This report provides an assessment of the social infrastructure needed to support the current and forecast resident, worker and visitor populations of Moe-Newborough.

Purpose

The development of the Moe Activity Centre Plan Review requires a range of studies to be completed to ensure leading practice, evidence based planning is undertaken for Moe-Newborough. This report focuses on social infrastructure that primarily services the resident population within 800m of the Moe Central Business District (CBD). Its purpose is to:

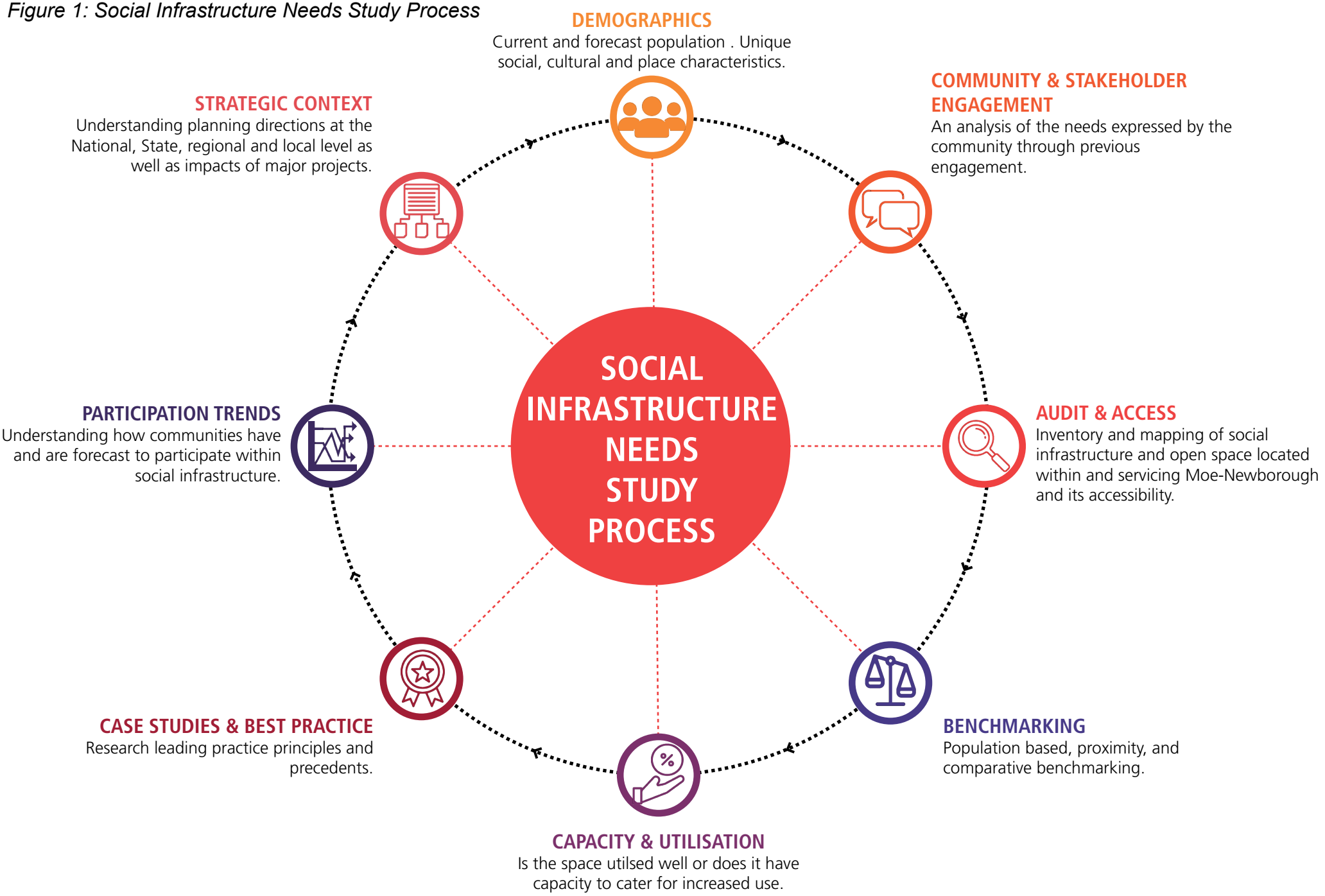
- Provide an inventory of existing social infrastructure within and servicing the Moe CBD, inclusive of community, cultural, recreation facilities and open space;
- Describe the social infrastructure needs now and into the future to 2041 based on a range of indicators; and
- Determine the likely gaps in social infrastructure provision including the type of social infrastructure, their location, management models and innovate delivery mechanisms.

Approach

A range of indicators have been applied to determine the social infrastructure needs and opportunities for the Moe CBD, including:

- Population growth and demographic drivers;
- Strategic Context;
- Place Context;
- Participation trends;
- Community drivers (expressed need);
- Social infrastructure and mapping;
- Benchmarking; and
- Case studies and best practice.

Figure 1: Social Infrastructure Needs Study Process

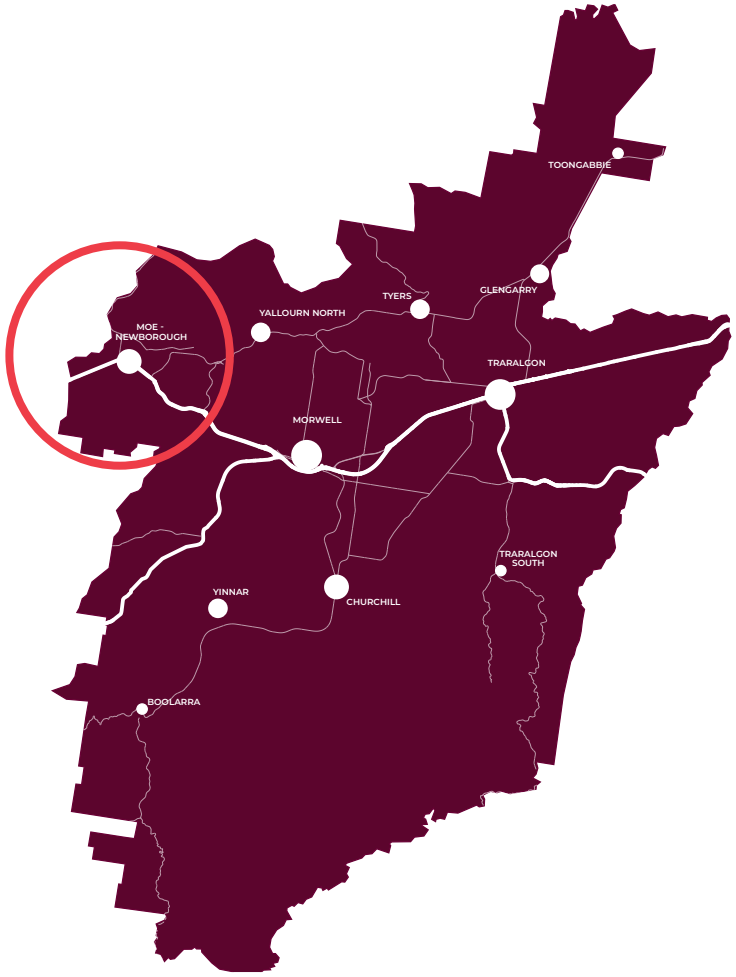


Context

Location

Moe is a large township within the Gippsland region of eastern Victoria and is approximately 150 kilometres east of Melbourne. The Moe and Newborough urban areas are joined, creating a single urban settlement (Moe-Newborough).

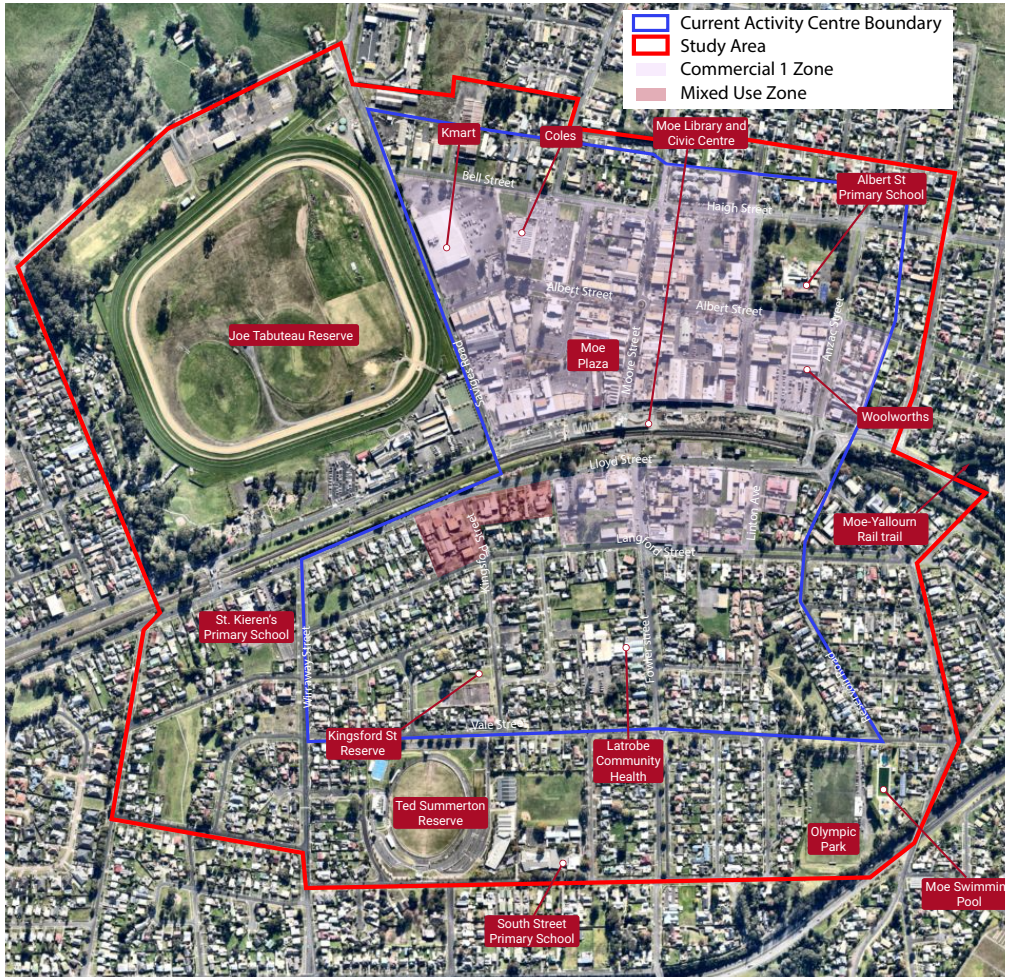
Figure 2: Location



Study area

The study area is broadly bordered by Bell Street, and Haigh Street to the north and includes the properties to the north of these streets; Anzac Street and Reservoir Road to the east, Vale Street to the south and Wirraway Street, Waterloo Road and Saviges Road to the west. It covers an area of approximately 90.18 hectares (ha).

Figure 3: Study Area



Definitions

This report defines social infrastructure as the assets or physical spaces where people can participate in the social, recreational and cultural life. Definitions of social infrastructure often refer to the role it has in contributing to people's quality of life and providing the 'glue that binds communities together'.

Social infrastructure is an umbrella term that includes community facilities, cultural facilities, open space and recreation facilities. An outline of what is considered to be 'social infrastructure' in this report is detailed in Figure 4.

Infrastructure Australia (2021 Australian Infrastructure Plan) defines social infrastructure as:

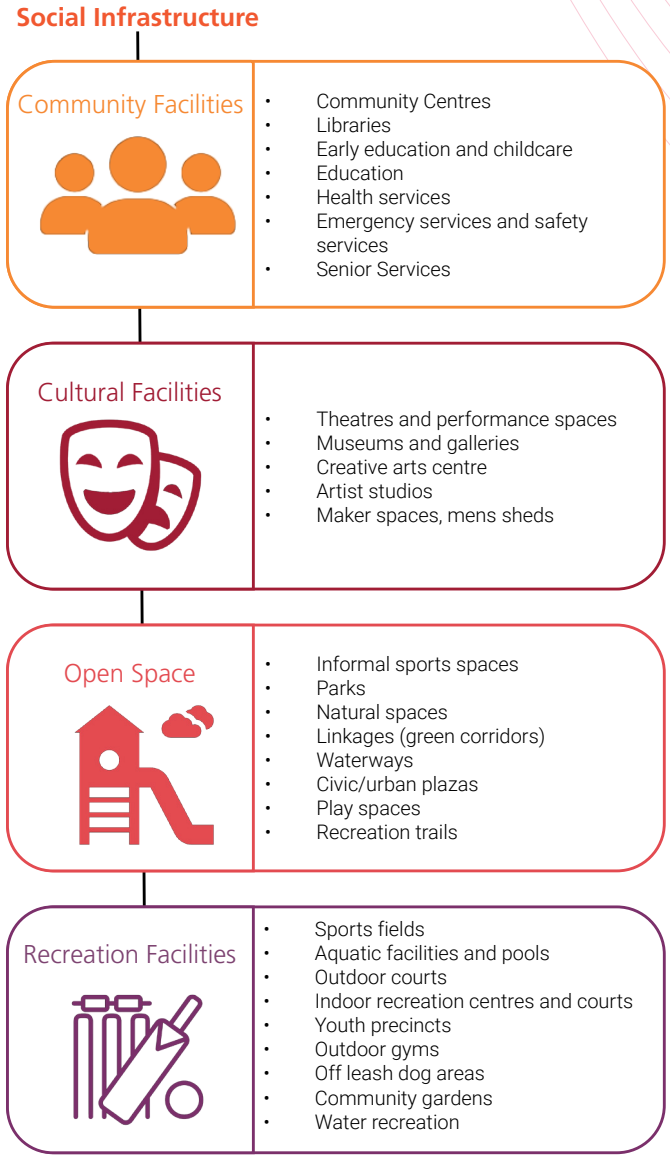
"The facilities, spaces, networks and services that support individual and community health and wellbeing, promote a cohesive society and support economic prosperity …Social infrastructure also builds human capital (the collective skills, knowledge and experience of individuals that creates economic value) and social capital (the networks of relationships that enable society to function effectively) … [and] helps to create healthy, happy, thriving communities."

Successful social infrastructure relies on the availability of facilities and spaces for services, programs and activities. It includes:

- Hard infrastructure – the facilities and physical structures where social, cultural and recreational services, programs and activities are delivered or operate; and
- Soft infrastructure – the services and programs delivered within the hard social infrastructure. It also includes services like community transport that connect people to services and programs.

Hard and soft infrastructure both play a role in creating and sustaining community life. This analysis and the subsequent assessment report addresses hard infrastructure only and does not include an assessment of soft infrastructure requirements.

Figure 4: Types of Hard Social Infrastructure



Benefits

This section provides an overview of the significant research that indicates the many liveability, educational, economic and resilience benefits of social infrastructure.

Social Benefits

Social infrastructure, such as public parks, sports and recreation centres, encourages the public to be physically active and promotes a lifestyle that is extremely beneficial to mental health. Studies have shown that natural environments, such as green spaces, contribute to improved mental health and that increased physical activity reduces anxiety, depression and psychological stress.[9] These spaces encourage participation in recreation, assist with the forming of friendships and foster a sense of community, all while promoting physical activity. Having public open space that is close to where people live has been associated with increased physical activity in all age groups.[10] People who live near useable green space are also twice as likely to report better health than those who do not.[7] These findings are emphasised by research that highlights other benefits that can be reaped from social infrastructure, including:

- Living within 400 to 800m of a mix of destinations, shopping and services is associated with higher rates of walking and cycling across all age groups.
- People living within 1.5km of a convenience store or newsagency are twice as likely to walk regularly. Those living within 1.5km of a larger shopping centre are three times more likely to walk regularly.
- The more trees there are along a footpath network, the more likely residents are to walk for 60 minutes each week.[11]

Measured benefits

- A Danish study found that residents who did not grow up with green spaces nearby have a 55% increased risk of developing depression, anxiety and substance abuse in their later years.
- A New Zealand study revealed that the greenest neighbourhoods have the lowest risk of poor mental health and the risk of cardiovascular disease in these neighbourhoods is decreased by 15%.



Source: McKenzie, T., 2023. Posts at Railway Station

Sustainability and Resilience Benefits

Social infrastructure helps to bind people and neighbourhoods, creating social capital, social cohesion, and community wellbeing. There is significant research that indicates social connection leads to happier people.[5] Research shows that social connectedness increases when people come together to undertake purposeful activities, including acts of kindness; problem-solving; singing, laughing and storytelling; and participating in special-interest groups.[6]

A report from Busan, Korea, in 2020 shows there is a strong link between social infrastructure and happiness, with residents who live close to libraries and schools shown to be significantly happier than those who do not.[7] Having proximity and easy access to public social infrastructure can encourage residents to participate in activities together and promote a friendlier community. In more culturally diverse community driven development, the use of social infrastructure, has led to positive improvements to the lives of residents, socially and culturally.[8] The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for online connectivity in addition to face-to-face interactions, with 57% of Australians over the age of 70 having no access to the internet and no other way to connect socially.

Social infrastructure also builds resilient communities. The organisation 100 Resilient Cities states that communities need to be prepared for a range of shocks, stresses and emergencies, such as climate change impacts and pandemics (like COVID-19). Research from Resilient Sydney found that one of the biggest barriers for cities responding to shocks and stresses is a lack of social connectivity. Social infrastructure not only provides spaces to keep residents safe during major shocks, it also offers places, services and programs to build social capital, connections and feelings of trust. This has been highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic, where social infrastructure, such as health services, education facilities, volunteer organisations, cultural organisations, local community groups and community centres, together with social welfare organisations, have been critical to meeting the needs of local communities. They have demonstrated that social infrastructure can pivot and proactively respond to issues and changing needs.

Measured benefits

- Studies show that a lack of social connection may be a greater detriment to health than obesity, smoking and high blood pressure. A study of more than 3.4 million participants in the United Kingdom found that those who feel socially isolated have a 30% higher risk of early death (National Health Service, 2015).
- According to a recent (2022) Australian Loneliness Report, more than 50% of Australians feel lonely at least one day per week. New studies have begun to measure the financial cost of social isolation and loneliness.
- In a 2017 AARP study, the cost to Medicare of social isolation and loneliness was estimated to be $6.7 billion annually. This is due to the higher healthcare costs of socially isolated and lonely seniors. Loneliness can also be a risk factor for particular chronic health conditions, such as arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease and diabetes.

Productivity and Economy Benefits

Social infrastructure is essential to local businesses as it creates new job opportunities; provides spaces and services that promote lifelong learning, resulting in work opportunities; provides spaces for co-working, collaboration, networking and entrepreneurship; and activates urban centres. Adding more social infrastructure, such as libraries, arts spaces and multipurpose urban spaces draws locals and tourists to use the spaces and in turn generates positive economic outcomes. This type of investment can provide a revenue stream and stable employment for local economies.[2]

When located in town or strategic centres, social infrastructure, such as libraries and multipurpose community centres, can be a significant attractor, increasing visitation to retail offerings. On a national scale (according to Infrastructure Australia), social infrastructure sectors contributed 12.5% of Australia's GDP in 2018. These sectors employ just over three million people, or around a quarter of Australia's workforce.

It is easier for parents to return to work when early education and care is high-quality, accessible and affordable. Individuals and families, especially new migrants and refugees, can access employment when they have the training and support they need to thrive in a new job.

Social infrastructure also holds vital educational benefits. Having high-quality social infrastructure for knowledge and education, for example libraries, is an investment that ultimately generates strong returns, encouraging more people to complete tertiary education and fostering the creation of new jobs.[12] Having learning opportunities for all ages is imperative to a community's development. The concept of 'lifelong learning' is becoming a key topic in educational infrastructure. Lifelong learning opportunities help citizens meet the demands of the modern workplace, improve productivity and ensure communities reach their potential. They also play a key role in social mobility and overall wellbeing. The provision of education can be both formal and informal, which means all members of the community can participate.

Measured benefits

- Libraries in Australia provide 30,950 jobs and the total annual benefit of public access is estimated to be $3 billion.
- For every $1 spent on NSW public libraries, the value to the community is, on average, between $2.82 and $4.24.[3]
- The 2019 Infrastructure Australia Audit revealed that Australian households spend $6.5 billion annually on arts-related goods and services.
- Studies from economist James Heckman show that for every $1 spent on child care, $17 is returned to the community through better educational outcomes; higher school completion rates; and less expenditure on health, welfare and crime services. High-quality services have even greater social, educational and health outcomes for children: Children with higher counts of high-quality preschool services within 3 km of home had lower odds of difficulties and higher odds of competence.[4]
- The revitalisation of the Darling Quarter in Sydney has yielded a promising economic return through tourism, with $4.8 million made from international and domestic visitors.

Liveability and Place Benefits

Liveable places are those that have access to great social infrastructure, enabling lifelong learning and creative expression, creating healthier communities, bridging social divides and supporting cultural networks. Liveable places promote wellbeing and improve residents' quality of life.

Critical for building social relationships, social infrastructure not only provides services that are essential for communities to function, but also services that make places liveable and help to improve the quality of life for people living there. Social infrastructure strengthens the local identity and character, and also contributes to the vitality of urban centres.[1] It is ideally situated on landmark sites and features distinctive architecture and quality design.

Local stories and cultures can be incorporated in the design to assist in fostering community identity and a sense of ownership. In high-density communities, social infrastructure significantly improves liveability, playing an important role as 'community living rooms', 'community backyards' and 'breakout spaces'.[1]

Measured benefits

- A report by the Regional Australia Institute in 2016 showed that in the United Kingdom there was a benefit-cost ratio of £10 for every £1 invested in social infrastructure, the result of reduced crime, health savings and better employment outcomes.
- Research from the American Enterprise Institute in 2019 shows that Americans who live in close proximity to neighbourhood amenities, such as libraries, are more content with their neighbourhood, more trusting of others and less lonely, regardless of whether they live in a large or small city, suburb or town.

References for All Benefits Listed

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11. *Madew, R. Infrastructure Australia's 2019 Audit highlights the important role social infrastructure plays in our growing communities, accessed on October 10, 2024, https://infrastructuremagazine.com.au/2019/11/18/a-spotlight-on-socialinfrastructure/*

Social Infrastructure Mega Trends

Across Victoria, there are increasing challenges in providing and managing high quality and appropriate social infrastructure. This includes:

- Time lags between planning and delivery in growth areas;
- Declining service coordination;
- Increasing and competing government budget pressures;
- Spatial inequalities;
- Lack of innovative service models;
- Ageing and single-purpose buildings, and
- Increasing community dissatisfaction.

Australia's population, which is growing and ageing, as well as increasing urbanisation, advancements in technology and changing work patterns will impact the social infrastructure sector over the next 15 years and beyond.

There are existing and emerging megatrends across all types of social infrastructure. Understanding these can help drive successful outcomes for the Moe CBD and shape a new vision to ensure the community has equitable and sustainable access to essential social infrastructure across all planning catchments.

A Networked Approach

Increasingly, social infrastructure is being designed to operate as part of a network of public facilities, public open spaces, streets and services, which work together as multi-functional spaces to meet a broad range of community needs across a neighbourhood, catchment, or region.

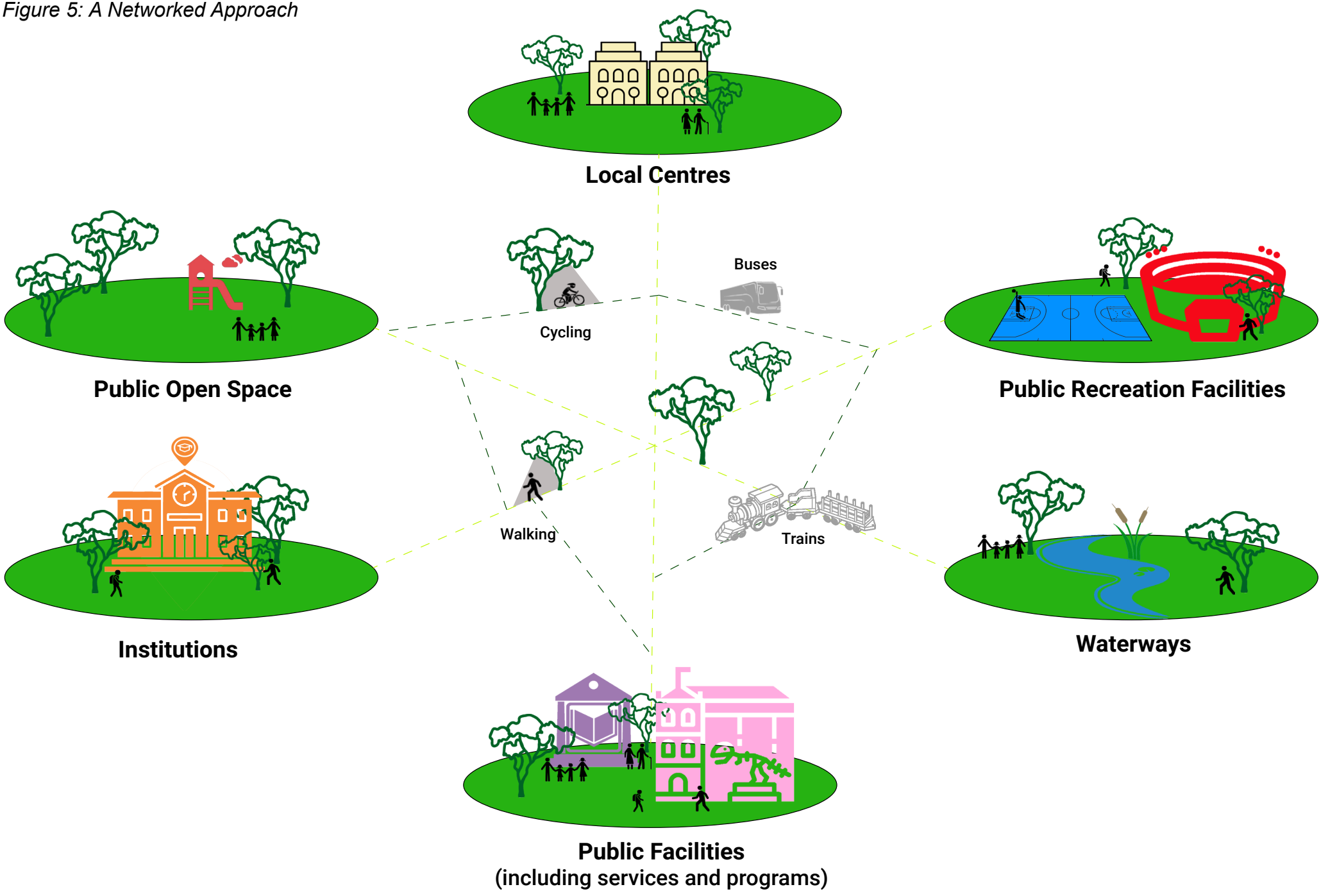
This integrated, strategic approach allows social infrastructure to provide a range of different but complementary offerings, and avoid duplication, with a compact pool of quality, multi-purpose spaces. By considering social infrastructure as part of a network of spaces, services and programs can be delivered locally through outreach in flexibly designed spaces.

The value of this networked approach became increasingly clear during the COVID-19 pandemic, with facilities, services and programs that support living local – that is: local services, community support, small groups and individualised services – being in high demand.

A networked approach also enables services to work together, fostering greater social connection with each other and their communities, and enabling the delivery of outreach services across a local government area. For example, health services provided at the local level were particularly important to tackling the spread of COVID-19, with COVID-19 testing being run at local libraries and community centres.

For people living alone and/or needing support locally, the connection and support of neighbours and voluntary organisations was particularly important during the pandemic.

Figure 5: A Networked Approach



Co-located Services within Community Hubs

The term ‘co-located community hub’ refers to the integration of community facilities and services in one location or building to provide better access to a wider range of services (it is a ‘one-stop shop’ for users). It is also a cost-effective way of delivering and operating these services. Integrating and co-locating social infrastructure within a community hub helps to achieve key gathering points within a community. This approach improves efficiency through encouraging compatible uses, supporting partnerships and resource sharing between different service providers, and increasing overall flexibility and activity in the area. Community hubs provide opportunities to attract a range of users, increase access to services and allow for the coordination of supporting services like public transport.

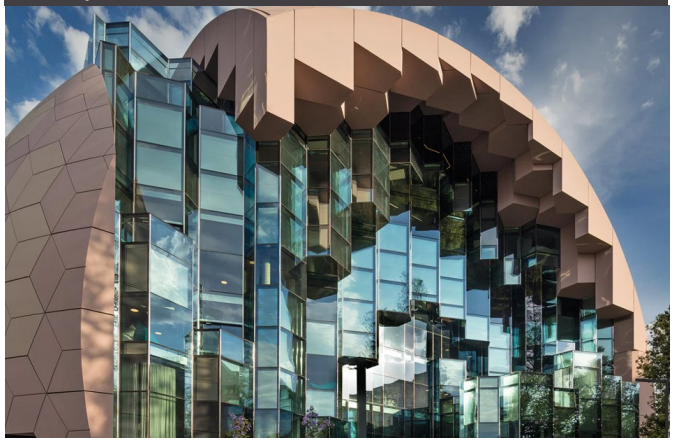
Figure 6: Example of Co-located Services



Going up – stacked and rooftop social infrastructure

Social infrastructure can also be co-located within multi-level or stacked buildings, within mixed-used developments and on the rooftops of commercial, residential or community buildings. Increasingly in higher density cities, social infrastructure is being delivered on rooftops or is designed to have a smaller footprint by ‘building up’. This includes rooftop sports and recreation courts, cultural participation and exhibition spaces in high-rise buildings, and multi-level community hubs in which different floors deliver different services (such as the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre). This kind of social infrastructure is commonly delivered in town centres with high visitation. Benefits of this approach can include a reduction in land costs and an opportunity to utilise more of the ground level as open space.

Figure 7: Stacked Social Infrastructure Example



Multi-purpose, shared and flexible design

Multi-purpose and flexible social infrastructure has been a trend for some time, particularly for new buildings. These spaces support a range of services and programs being delivered at once, and for the space to change over time in response to changing needs. The demand for multi-purpose spaces is accelerated when retrofitting existing infrastructure to accommodate a range of essential activities. For example, spaces used for organised sport will also need to accommodate informal activities such as walking, running and cycling; theatres and cinemas may also need to function as smaller performance spaces; public streets can be shared for active transport, such as walking and cycling; and community centres can become food banks, testing centres and emergency evacuation/ support centres.

Figure 8: Example of Multi-purpose Design



Outdoor rooms for collaboration and innovation

Gathering, learning, socialising, collaborating and delivering programs outdoors is increasing in popularity. Recent events have accelerated the demand for outdoor meeting and collaboration spaces, with people who are working from home seeking social connection, and innovation precincts encouraging collaboration in informal environments. This trend of delivering community spaces in parks and outdoor areas can be seen in initiatives such as Gippsland Performing Arts Centre where the covered area acts as an additional space.

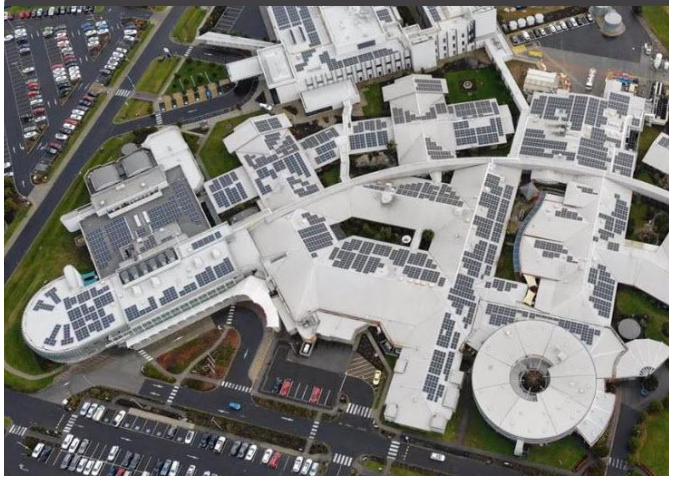
Figure 9: Example of Outdoor Rooms



Environmentally sustainable development

Social infrastructure offers opportunities for local government to lead by example, demonstrate new sustainable materials and technologies, and deliver best practice projects with an educational role. Environmentally sustainable social infrastructure typically has lower operating costs and is therefore more financially viable and sustainable to operate. The location of an environmentally sustainable development should promote walking, cycling and the use of public transport, which can also help to foster a healthy, active community. An example of this is the Latrobe Regional Hospital (shown below).

Figure 10: Example of ESD



Shared use of community infrastructure

Sharing existing social infrastructure has the potential to maximise the use and efficiency of a variety of spaces and buildings. This may decrease the need to build new facilities that replicate existing infrastructure, making assets work harder for the benefit of all. There may be opportunities in areas with social infrastructure deficiencies, including growth areas, to share social infrastructure with primary and secondary schools, and with other community partners.

Figure 11: Example of Shared Infrastructure



Increasing the capacity of what we have – 'making it work harder'

Before planning new social infrastructure, local governments are increasingly reviewing the capacity of existing social infrastructure and identifying opportunities for re-purposing facilities that are well located and have the capacity to be modern, flexible and multi-purpose. They are asking the question: "Can existing infrastructure be extended or improved, or is new investment needed?"

In the context of unprecedented population growth and increasing community expectations, improving the capacity, efficiency and performance of existing social infrastructure will need to be a priority in order to meet demand.

Significant capacity enhancements can be achieved by making smaller, incremental investments in existing infrastructure. This could include installing synthetic turf on hard-working sports fields or increasing the amenity and utilisation of ageing infrastructure by adding modern technology.

Revenue streams

Being public, much of the social infrastructure operates on a not-for-profit basis, with approaches to income generation ranging from hiring out spaces to fundraising and receiving grants. To enhance the cost-effectiveness and sustainability of community infrastructure, many operators rely on rental income, however there is still usually a gap between income and expenses, including maintenance costs. Increasingly, the operation of assets like community facilities relies on revenue methods that generate reliable and increasing sources of income in order to improve the asset's financial viability and sustainability.

Public Private Partnerships and cross-sector collaboration

Public Private Partnerships allow governments and the private sector to work together and share resources to plan for, deliver and manage major projects. This usually involves governments providing incentives for the private sector to deliver a public asset or service. To be successful, these partnerships require a shared vision, early commitment and comprehensive planning. Public Private Partnerships usually have the public interest at heart and can deliver increased value for money.

Case Studies

Lucas Community Hub

The Lucas Community Hub is a facility within the City of Ballarat completed in 2018. The facility will be funded by the City of Ballarat and the Victorian Government and is located in Coltman Plaza, easily accessible from the Ballarat West growth area.

The Lucas Community Hub offers community rooms for hire, maternal and child health and immunisation services
Hub features include:

- Community room - Capacity: 80 seated;
- Meeting room - Capacity: 16 seated;
- Two-room kindergarten facility;
- Three Maternal and Child Health rooms;
- Specialist consulting room; and

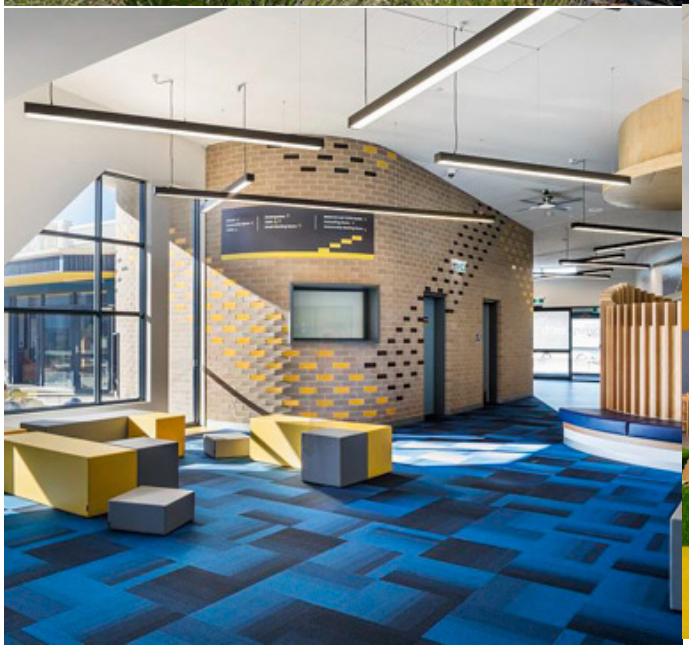
These spaces have access to AV functionality, a fully equipped kitchen, a concierge/reception at the entrance, an informal lounge space, public wifi and an outdoor garden terrace.

The model is a stand alone facility with co-located services.

The Lucas Development includes a primary school and a regional community health service near this site. The kindergarten provides three- and four-year-old programs with ‘wrap around care’ to support the needs of working families. According to the YMCA, ‘the new Hub is a “one stop shop” for children’s education and health services. This makes it easier for busy families to connect, learn and be part of the community.’

Source: Architecture & Design, 2023, date accessed: 2.10.2024, URL: https://www.architectureanddesign.com.au/projects/cultural-entertainment-sports/lucas-community-hub-brand-architects







Hyphen Library and Gallery Wodonga

Hyphen features several galleries – Artspace Gallery, Playspace Gallery and Community Gallery – as well as a full library service. It also features:

- Three meeting rooms;
- A Community Studio overlooking the courtyard suitable for workshops, meetings and presentations;
- A Creative Studio for resident artists;
- Tech Studio;
- Sound Studio; and,
- A Sculpture Terrace.

Hyphen offers a range of activities, programs and events including storytime, children's art workshops, author and artist talks, STEAM programs, exhibitions and art programs.

It has several meeting rooms and an outdoor space that can be hired out to the public.

In addition, the front courtyard is shared between the Wodonga Senior Citizen's Centre, Hyphen and the Cube (Wodonga's Theatre) which has a cafe within it for people to enjoy the space. The courtyard is regularly used for events.

This is an example of shared infrastructure.



Source: Wodonga City Council, 2024, date accessed: 2.10.2024, URL: https://www.hyphenwodonga.com.au/





Berninneit Cultural Centre, Cowes

Berninneit (Burn-eh-neet) cultural centre is the heart of art, performance, community and culture in Cowes, Phillip Island. The building houses a performing arts space and cinema, gallery, library, historical museum, events spaces and community meeting rooms, as well as Bass Coast Shire Council's Customer and Visitor information service for Cowes.

The Passivehaus building was $27.2 million major project, that commenced in March 2022 and opened to the public on 02 November, 2023.

Meaning "Gather Together", the name Berninneit is a Boon Wurrung word selected by the community, following Council's decision to name the building with a First Nations naming word as an act of reconciliation.

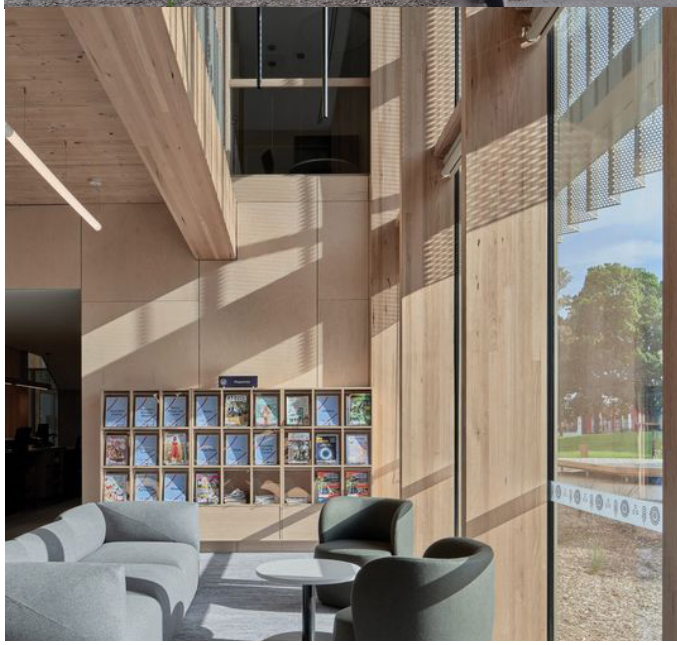
Berninneit is operated as part of Bass Coast Cultural Venues. The 260 seat performing arts space and cinema offers a full program of events including new release cinema, music, dance, comedy and theatre, alongside community events and venue hire.

The Grand Hall comprises three conjoined multifunctional spaces that can be separated by operable walls.

It is an example of co-locating services and multi-purpose design in the one building.



Source: Jackson Clements Burrows, 2024, date accessed: 4.11.2024, URL: https://jcba.com.au/projects/berninneit-cultural-and-community-hub





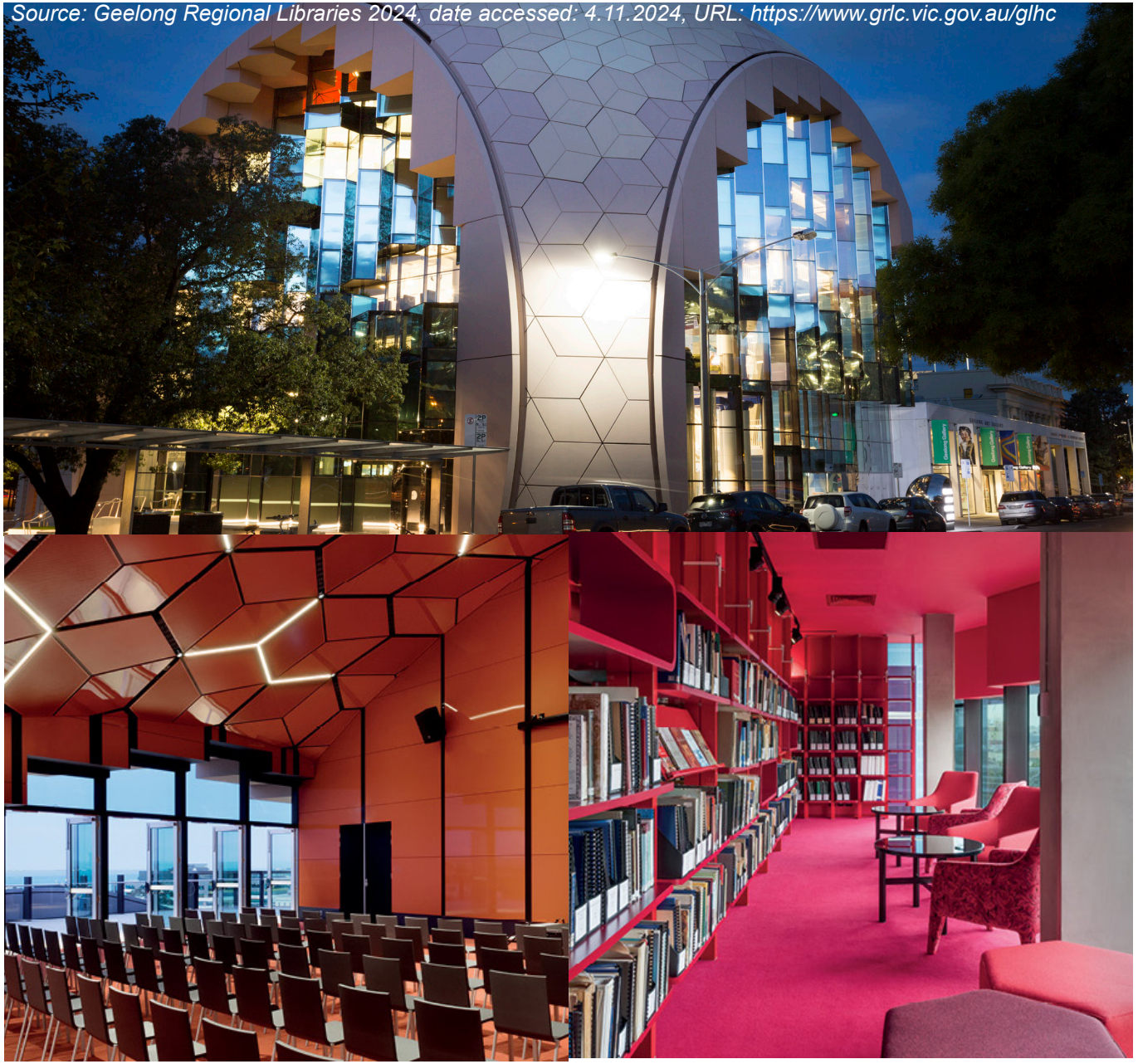
Geelong Library and Heritage Centre (The Dome)

The Geelong Library and Heritage Centre is an example of stacked infrastructure. This includes:

Ground Floor - Library, Exhibition Space and Cafe;
Level 1- Dedicated space for children and young people including a family room, activities room and a youth space;
Level 2 - Inspiration space, including the library's print and digital collection for adults, a series of meeting rooms;
Level 3 - The Geelong Heritage Centre;
Level 4 - Staff administration for Geelong Regional Library Corporation; and
Level 5 - Flexible, multipurpose event space with capacity to seat up to 250 people and a Balcony space catering for up to 100 people.

The Dome's other special features include:

- 6,000m^2 of space;
- Major event space, seating 300 people with sweeping views of Geelong;
- Public: an 80-seat café, with an outdoor deck area leading into Johnstone Park;
- High-end digital technology and high speed internet access;
- Heritage Centre repository and reading room;
- Eight meeting rooms available for community groups and corporate hire;
- An exhibition space curated by the Geelong Gallery; and
- Powerful WiFi and high-speed internet access.



Source: Geelong Regional Libraries 2024, date accessed: 4.11.2024, URL: https://www.grlc.vic.gov.au/glhc

2.0 DRIVERS OF NEED

Population Drivers

Population Characteristics

The following data is sourced from Remplan 2023. The Statistical Area (Level 1) used to source figures for the study area do not align with the study area as such these figures include the industrial areas to the north of the town centre. When only the suburb figure is available an (S) is placed beside the figure. All figures are based on the census data from 2021.

Cultural Diversity

In Moe-Newborough 51% have ancestry other than western European descent, while 13% speak a language other than English at home.

Education

In Moe-Newborough 79% of the workforce (7,825 persons) have completed a qualification outside of school.

Density and Movement

The area to the north of the CBD, bounded by Bell St, Moore St, Bennett St and Hennessey St is the densest area in Moe-Newborough with a density of 10.74 persons per hectare.

Travel to Work

In Moe-Newborough, 75% of workers travel by car to work either as the driver or passenger. 3% walked or used public transport while 9% worked from home.

Jobs in Study Area

There are 3044 jobs within the study area The three biggest employment sectors are healthcare and social assistance (16.6%), retail (16.4%) and construction (11.2%).

	Study Area	*Moe-Newborough*	*Latrobe*	*Gippsland*
Population	2,130	17,291	77,318	300,848
Median Age	46 (S)	45	42	46
Median Household Income	$902 (S)	$1,017	$1,260	$1,343
Under 19	20%	22%	23%	22%
20-64	54%	54%	56%	53%
65+	26%	24%	21%	25%
Languages Other Than English	2%	13%	14%	12%
First Nations	2.55%	2.62%	2.15%	1.93%
Renting	34% (S)	29%	25%	21%
Homeowners	61% (S)	67%	71%	85%
Lone Households	3%	18%	14%	13%
Family Households	57%	74%	78%	79%
Medium Density Housing	3%	10%	7%	5%
Volunteering	8%	13%	13%	17%
SEIFA (1 being the lowest)	793	877	931	972
Engaged Youth (15-24)	98%	76%	79%	83%
Jobs	3,044	5,758	35,322	118,867
Visitor Spend (Domestic Day)	-	$172	$172	$124

Source:Remplan Community, 2024

Forecast Growth

Residential Population Growth

Between 2021 and 2041, the age structure forecasts for Moe - Moe South indicate a 5.5% increase in population under working age, a 27.5% increase in population of retirement age, and a 1.4% increase in population of working age.

Knowledge of how the age structure of the population is changing is essential for planning age-based facilities and services, such as child care, recreation and aged care.

Employment Growth

Employment growth over the past year has been among the strongest in the nation, with industry-weighted employment projections ranking in the top 10% (Area Search, 2024).

The unemployment rate was 7.0%, compared to 3.4% for Regional Victoria. Total employment increased 6.6% over the year to June 2024 in Moe - Newborough, while labour force increased 6.3%. These figures can be compared to Regional Victoria's performance, where total employment increased 4.3%, and the labour force increased 4.7%.

Currently there is approximately 1 job for every 3 residents. If the same percentage is applied to the population in 2041, then 6,170 total jobs or an additional +412 jobs will be needed to cater to the population growth.

It is predicted that the area should increase by 6.9% every five year period. This predicted growth should cover the anticipated need for jobs in the area.

	Moe				*Moe-Newborough*				*Latrobe*			
	2031		2041		**2031**		2041		**2031**		**2041**	
Age group		**%**		%		**%**		%		**%**		**%**
Babies and preschoolers (0-4 yrs)	533	5.1	515	4.8	919	5.2	899	4.9	4,475	5.3	4,507	5.0
Primary Schoolers (5-11yrs)	814	7.8	783	7.3	1,432	8.0	1,395	7.5	6,557	7.8	6,488	7.2
Secondary schoolers (12-17yrs)	748	7.2	748	7.0	1,308	7.3	1,333	7.2	5,913	7.0	6,028	6.7
Tertiary education (18-24yrs)	728	7.0	728	6.8	1,254	7.0	1,276	6.9	6,294	7.5	6,250	6.9
Young workforce (25-34yrs)	1,110	10.7	1,171	10.9	1,830	10.3	1,955	10.6	8,209	9.7	8,973	9.9
Parents and homebuilders (35-49yrs)	1,819	17.5	1,755	16.4	3,073	17.2	2,955	16.0	14,509	17.2	13,870	15.3
Older workers and pre-retirees (50-59yrs)	1,180	11.3	1,287	12.0	2,010	11.3	2,228	12.0	10,443	12.4	11,844	13.1
Empty nesters and retirees (60-69yrs)	1,418	13.6	1,327	12.4	2,442	13.7	2,303	12.4	12,023	14.2	12,260	13.5
Seniors (70-84 yrs)	1,789	17.2	1,988	18.6	3,085	17.3	3,479	18.8	13,582	16.1	16,362	18.1
Elderly aged (85 yrs and over)	276	2.6	406	3.8	473	2.7	707	3.8	2,410	2.9	3,982	4.4
Total Persons	10,414	100.0	10,709	100.0	17,824	100.0	18,529	100.0	84,416	100.0	90,565	100.0

Source:Informed Decisions, 2024

Figure 12: Demographics Profile for Moe-Newborough

Moe/Newborough Township Snapshot

Population of

17,291 people

51.2% Female

48.8% Male

Average person per dwelling

2.2

Median age is

45 years

Education attainment

11.1% Completed year 12

24.1% Completed a certificate III or IV

7.4% Diploma or advanced diploma

2.6%

Identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people

Participate within the workforce

48.9%

High percentage of unemployment

8.4%

Work in Moe/Newborough

5110 person

49.7%

Work fulltime

11.2%

Were born overseas

Median personal income is

$583 per week

The top three industries of employment are

Aged Care	4.2%
Hospitals	4.2%
Other Social Assistance Services	4.1%

Strategic Drivers

Relevant State Strategies

Victorian Local Government Act

Defining our role and function as a Council. Two of the functions of Council relating to Social Infrastructure noted in the Act are;

- Planning and providing services and facilities for the local community; and
- Providing and maintaining community infrastructure in the municipal district.

Planning & Environment Act 1987

The Act sets out the objectives including:

- to provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land;
- to secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria

The Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

The Act outlines specific directions for local government in relation to health and wellbeing. This includes 'creating supportive environments for health and strengthening the capacity of the community and individuals to achieve better health.'The Victorian Government also supports current policies that promote co-located or integrated service delivery within integrated community facilities, encouraging increased community access to services, improved service referral opportunities and shared facilities use.

Relevant Local Strategies

Latrobe Council Plan and Municipal health and Wellbeing Plan 2025 - 2029

The Council plan sets outs the community vision, which is:

In 2035, Latrobe City is a vibrant, thriving, healthy, connected and welcoming regional community where everyone feels safe and involved.
Our local businesses prosper, create diverse job opportunities, foster a highly skilled workforce and draw significant investment.
Latrobe City is a hub of growth, learning, opportunity, and innovation.
We have stunning natural surroundings and outstanding creative, educational, recreational and cultural opportunities that underpin exceptional wellbeing and renowned visitor experiences.

Latrobe Planning Scheme: Municipal Planning Strategy

Latrobe is the principal service centre for Gippsland that boasts a wide range of health, community and education services, including Latrobe Regional Hospital in Traralgon West and Federation University at Churchill.

Latrobe's ageing population will have future implications on the provision of community infrastructure. To achieve a vision for a connected and inclusive built environment, it is important that accessibility of community services is enhanced.

Planning for community infrastructure seeks to:

- Support a range of health, social and recreational facilities including the expansion of educational facilities;
- Support hubs of integrated community services; and
- Encourage community facilities to locate in or near activity centres and be accessible by public transport

Moe and District Social Infrastructure Plan 2018

The purpose of the Plan is to provide a framework to facilitate the efficient and sustainable provision of a broad range of social infrastructure in Moe and Newborough until 2038.The plan looked at health facilities and services, educational facilities and services, support services, general facilities and meeting spaces, and libraries.

Participation Drivers

Community Participation Trends

The ways in which we participate in community and cultural activities has changed over time; this influences how we use communal spaces and the need for community assets. While there is no data on community participation specifically, by analysing the participation of volunteers and demand, the following trends have been identified:

There is an increasing demand for incidental volunteering opportunities rather than ongoing and regular volunteering. Regular volunteering is higher in regional areas though.[1]

People are time poor and increasingly interested in programs that occur after work hours and on weekends.

People are looking for opportunities to participate in programs where they can connect socially, build new relationships and contribute to their community.

There is increasing interest in programs and services that support capacity building, DIY and sustainability outcomes, as demonstrated by the increasing number of maker spaces like men's sheds.

People are increasingly interested in accessing and borrowing new technologies, particularly those they can't afford to buy for personal use.

People want to participate in community activities outside of the home.



Source: McKenzie, T., 2023. Purvis Lane

References

1. *March 2024, Volunteering Australia, Key volunteering Statistics, Canberra, ACT*
2. *2022, Australian Sports Commission, The future of Australian Sport: Megatrends shaping the Sport Sector over Coming Decades, Canberra, CSIRO.*

Cultural Participation Trends

All data has been sourced from the Australia Council for the *Creating Value: National Arts Participation Survey 2023* (Creative Australia, 2023) and the ABS (released 2023) *Survey of Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events 2021-2022*. This data reflects the high level assumptions below.

Children

In 2021-22, most Australian children aged 5 to 14 years participated in a cultural activity outside of school hours (94%), a decrease from 96% in 2017-18:

- 90% of children participated in screen based activities with 24% of those children spending 20 hours or more per week;
- 72% participated in reading for pleasure; and
- 59% participated in a creative activity.

The highest participation rates for creative activities were arts and crafts (39%), singing or playing a musical instrument (19%), and creative writing (19%).
Children's attendance at cultural venues or events fell from 94% in 2017-18 to 80% in 2021-22.

People with Disability

51% of people with a disability are likely to create art. 90% of respondents with an intellectual disability believe that they felt more connected with arts and that the arts make them happier and healthier.

Young People

People aged 15-24 years were more likely to participate (41%) than any other age group with two thirds producing some form of art in the past 12 months (68%).
Almost all young Australians aged 15–24 recognise the positive benefits of arts and creativity in our lives and communities. Young Australians increasingly attend arts and cultural events to improve their wellbeing (35% up from 24% in 2019, compared to 32% of Australians overall). Almost two in five young Australians attend the arts to understand other perspectives and cultures (37%) and half connect with their culture and community through arts and creativity (51%). Cultural infrastructure can provide spaces for young people to develop their creative skills, including by providing access to digital and new technology resources.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

First Nations people (73%), are the most likely demographic group to create art. The majority of First Nations living in regional and remote communities recognise the positive impacts of creative engagement in society and economy. First nations people in regional and remote areas agree that the arts have a 'big' or 'very big' impact on certain aspects of life at much higher rates than First Nations respondents overall and Australians overall. There is a need for infrastructure that supports the cultural practices and economic empowerment of Aboriginal communities.

People from Culturally Diverse Backgrounds

Compared to the general population, people from culturally and linguistic diverse backgrounds (CALD) are more likely to engage with the arts as the arts are a great means to foster connection with communities and heritage as it helps them:

- Get to know people in their community
- Feel connected to their heritage;
- Improve their health and wellbeing; and
- Knowing the wider community has more understanding of their culture.

However, language barriers, transport and cost may prevent participation. Ensuring cultural infrastructure is flexible, welcoming, accessible and culturally appropriate will support ongoing participation and inclusion for culturally diverse communities, particularly for new migrants.

Older People

Arts participation is lower for older people despite its proven benefits for an ageing population. Women over 65 (35.8%) are more likely to participate in cultural activities than men over 65 (19.3%). Barriers to participation may include cost, ability, accessibility and transport. It is important that older people can participate in cultural activities in spaces that are near their home and meet their access needs.

Open Space and Recreation Participation Trends

Popularity of walking on the rise
Activities done on paths and trails are increasing in popularity, such as walking, bushwalking and running.

Growth in commitment-free physical activity
Increasing participation in individual sports and fitness activities, such as aerobics, running, walking and gym workouts. People are fitting fitness activities into their busy lives rather than committing to regular organised sports.

Increasing demand for indoor recreation
Sporting preferences of multicultural communities, for climate comfort, safety at night and co-location with other facilities can often be catered for in indoor recreation facilities (for example, basketball, badminton, table tennis and futsal).

Increasing participation of women and girls
The large growth in female participation, within traditionally male-dominated sports, puts pressure on playing facilities to diversify amenities and be universally accessible.

Increasingly time poor
People are generally spending less time recreating, but expect more from their physical activity.

Impact of climate on outdoor recreation
Climate change and an increase in the number of days with extreme weather conditions is driving demand for indoor recreation facilities. On hot days, the use of outdoor sports and recreation facilities is limited. Indoor facilities are often air-conditioned and can support participation regardless of heat and rain.

Accessible recreation
Universal access is gaining traction in its importance, meaning that everyone – regardless of age, cultural background or physical ability – can collectively enjoy activities. Australia has an ageing population. It will become increasingly important to provide recreation and fitness opportunities that are attractive, accessible and safe for older people.

Casualisation of sports and recreation
Popular activities include walking, going to a play space, relaxing in parks and casual ball sports – activities that are done solo or in small social groups.

New business models for sports associations
Market forces are likely to exert greater pressure on sport, with loosely organised community sports associations replaced by organisations with corporate structures and more formal governance systems. This also includes technological opportunities attracting investment.

Adventure sports
'Extreme' lifestyle, adventure and alternative sports are becoming more mainstream, particularly among younger generations. Examples include hiking, skateboarding, BMX and rock-climbing.

Cultural diversification
Recreational activities from around the world are more readily available due to a diversifying population with unique hobbies and interests.

Hybrid Sports
The pandemic has created a demand for a hybrid sport and fitness delivery model – with personalised home-based sports or exercise being combined with attendance at venues, including gyms or sports clubs.

Participation Trends

National Participation Trends

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) *AusPlay: National Sport and Physical Activity Participation Report, 2023* tracks the recreation activities (both sport and nonsport physical activities) Australians participate in. The findings include:

- A majority of Australians (56%) participate in sport or other physical activities at least three times a week. The most popular physical recreation activities are recreational walking, fitness/gym, swimming, cycling and athletics;
- For those over the age of 18, sporting clubs are not the main way Australians participate in physical activity. Among those adults who participate in physical activity (78%), 22% participate in sport based activity, and 16% participate in non-sport-related physical activity;
- Participation has dropped to pre-pandemic levels for people over 15. It has increased again to (48%) for children (0-14 years) after the pandemic but is still below pre-pandemic levels (55%);
- Participation declines as age increases;
- The major motivation for participation in physical activities health and fitness (83%), followed by fun and enjoyment (48%), and social reasons (36%). Social reasons has dropped 2% from during the pandemic; and
- Not having enough time (27%) and poor health or injury (25%) are the main barriers to participation.

Victorian Participation Trends

Sports Participation in Victoria 2015 - 2022 (VicHealth et al, 2024) outlines the following participation trends in Victoria:

- Over half of all sport participants are aged between 4-14 years. It is highest amongst adolescents between 10 and 14 years (57%) and drops significantly during late adolescence (32%);
- Participation in the 10-14 year age group has declined sharply in 2022 compared to previous years;
- Sports participation is higher across all ages for males (19%) than females (10%). Covid changes in participation were less positive for females than for males in all age groups;
- Sports participation is higher in regional Victoria compared to Metropolitan Melbourne;
- The overall participation rate dropped below 10% in 2020 before increasing to 13% in 2021 and peaking in 2022 at 14%, which represents 924,235 Victorians;
- The overall female participation rate was slightly higher in 2022 (9.7%) than it was in 2021 (9.0%), and is just slightly higher than pre-COVID participation rates;
- Sports participation has increased after the pandemic adults over 15 years;
- Of all the 5-9 year olds in regional areas, 71% participate in organised sport; and
- Latrobe has an overall participation rate of 14.5% which is the lowest in Gippsland together with East Gippsland Shire. it ranks 35th out of 40 in Regional - Other Areas.

Regional Participation Trends

The *Gippsland Sport Census Report 2023* (GippsSport, 2023) highlights:

- Australian rules, basketball and cricket are the most popular sports;
- Forty percent (40%) of sporting clubs have seen an increase in membership from the previous season;
- Forty-eight percent (48%) of respondents identified their facilities as a barrier to increasing membership; and
- Twenty-two percent (22%) of club respondents have recorded an increase of non-playing roles form the previous season.

What the Community Said

We need better access to safe spaces to run programs.
~ GippsSport.

The Leisure Centre is not appealing for new mums. It is offputting for women and girls.
~Gippsport.

The building is no longer fit for purpose, it does not have adequate storage, the roof is falling apart. Exhibitions cannot be held in the building as there is no space.
~Moe Historical Society.

Safety is the top priority, and then an automated irrigation system as it is manually moved and relies on volunteers to move it.
~ Monash Soccer Club.

GARDS needs a new space, somewhere that is disability friendly.
~GARDS.



The showers are too open to be used by the females. They are non-compliant.
~ Newborough Football Netball Club.

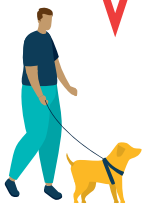


Only 2 of the tennis courts are ever publically available which makes them difficult to use. We need better access to tennis courts.
~ Male resident, 40s.



Moe Town Hall could better, maybe for creative space. Magistrates Court is a underutilised.
~Female resident, 50s.

Add a fenced Dog Park
~ Map respondent.



There is a wonderful raised lawn as part of the library that overlooks the railway station and has a wonderful view looking west. This could be an excellent area for public use with some seats, tables, even a BBQ and shelter.
~Make Moe Glow.

We are now meeting at the Moe Service Centre as the current meeting spot in Wirilda is falling apart and not maintained.
~ Latrobe Valley Astronomical Society.

Ensure all toilets are disabled-accessible.
~ Map respondent.



Blocker to people joing community groups is the cost.
~Salvation Army.

Moe has an ageing population so it needs better access to PTV and some interconnectivity between the trains and buses.
~Female resident, 70s.



Enclosed playground on [Market St] would be good for families close to the shops and public transport.
~ Map respondent.

Cycling pathways throughout the CBD - Install bike racks and secure poles for locking bicycles. Provide a bicycle repair station near bike racks.
~ Map respondent.



The Moe Botanic Gardens are lovely garden. Library is amazing.
~ Female resident.



Development of a new Moe Performing Arts Centre for major arts to accommodate all sorts of events, like Moe Dance Eisteddfod, concerts and exhibitions, etc.
~ Map respondent.



More green space
~ Map respondent.



3.0 AUDIT OF FACILITIES

Existing Infrastructure

The audit uses the following approaches to collect baseline data:

- Review of Council's facilities list (public halls, libraries, and other public buildings) to identify buildings designed for or used to house social infrastructure;
- Online audit of service sectors linked to social infrastructure, including those delivered by the not-for-profit and private sector; and
- Discussions with Council staff from the relevant departments.

This audit also reviews the Moe and District Social Infrastructure Plan 2018. It does not replace the document as this document has a different purpose.

The facilities were then mapped.

This list was then used to determine whether the provision of facilities will meet the future needs of the population over the life of the Moe Activity Centre Plan Review (to 2041) in Chapter 4.

A summary for the four types of social infrastructure is also provided in this chapter.



Source: Latrobe City Council, 2023. Moe Skate Park

Table 1: Existing Infrastructure

Facility Type	*Provided in CBD*	*Provided within Moe-Newborough*	*Provided in Latrobe City*
Open Space	HG Stoddart Memorial Park Kingsford Street Reserve	Arapiles Drive Reserve Haunted Hills Road Reserve Narracan Drive Reserve Southwell Avenue Reserve WH Burrage Reserve Avon Court Reserve Wester Avenue Reserve Eastern Avenue Northern Avenue Reserve Boolarra Ave North Reserve Parkside Drive Reserve Boolarra Ave Reserve Yinnar Street Reserve Newstead Street Reserve Retford Street Reserve Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve Ollerton Avenue Reserve Dudley Court Reserve Fern Close Reserve Copperhead Court Reserve Saxtons Drive Reserve Kingsford Street Reserve Bristol Street Reserve Truscott Road Reserve John Street Reserve Stoddart Street Reserve Stirling Street Reserve King Street Reserve Prince Street Reserve GEST Community Garden Moe Community Pollinator Garden	

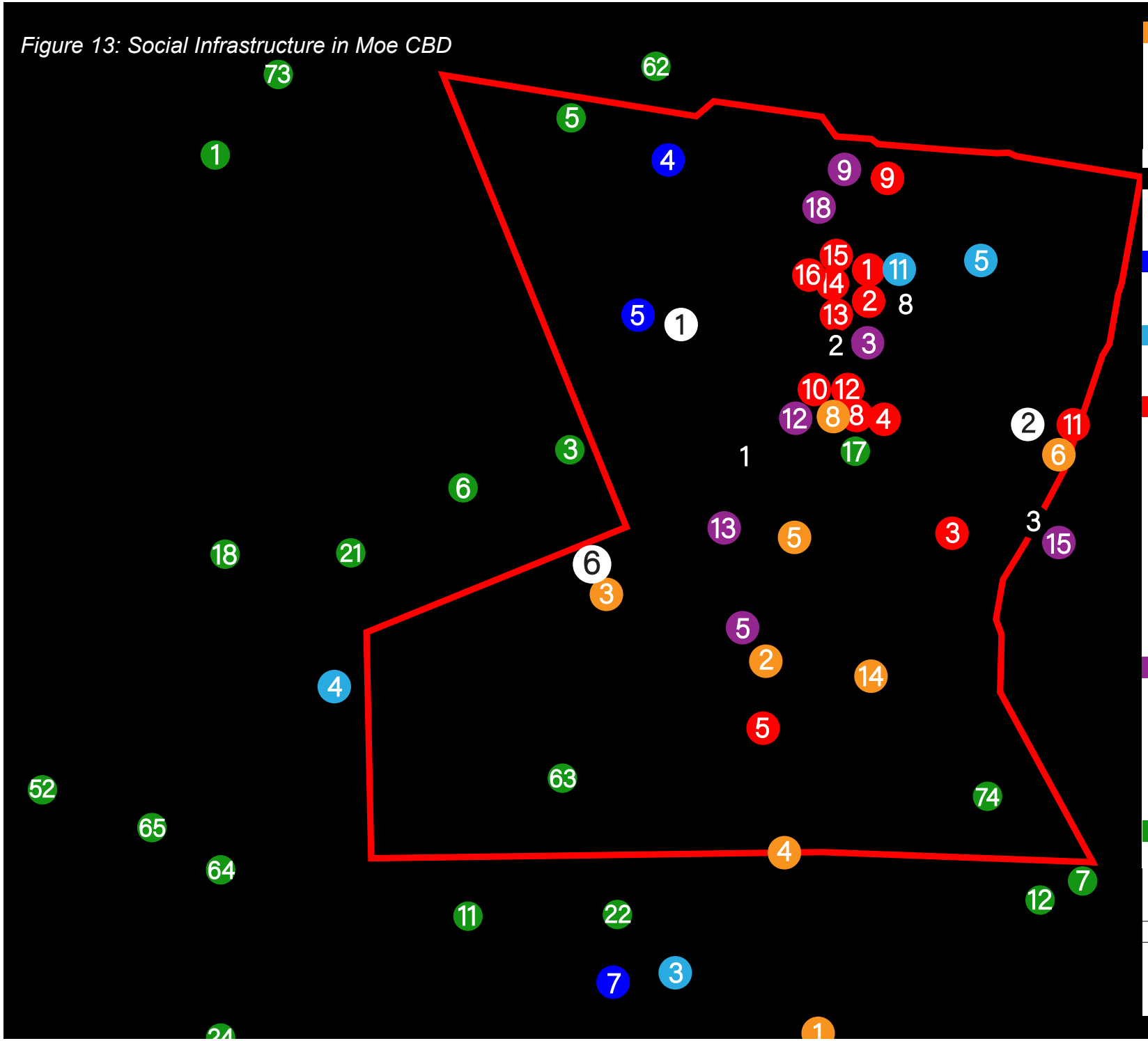
Facility Type	*Provided in CBD*	*Provided within Moe-Newborough*	*Provided in Latrobe City*
Recreation Facilities	Stadium 34 Moe Skate Park HG Stoddart Memorial Park Playground	Moe Equestrian Park Yallourn Golf Club Moe Bowling Club Newborough Bowling Club Joe Tabuteau Pavillion- Racecourse Latrobe Leisure Moe Outdoor Pool Latrobe Leisure Moe Newborough Moe Tennis Centre WH Burrage Reserve Baseball Pavillion Ted Summerton Pavillion Olympic Reserve Soccer Pavillion W.H. Corrigan Reserve Soccer Pavillion Monash Reserve Tennis Pavillion Burrage Reserve Soccer Pavillion Northern Reserve Football Pavillion Lions Park Playground Ferguson Street Reserve Playground Hennessey Street Reserve Playground Apex Park Playground Ted Summerton Reserve Playground Mervyn Street Reserve Playground Marshall Avenue Reserve Playground Phillip Street Reserve Playground Scott Avenue Reserve Playground Scorpio Drive Reserve Playground Randall Crescent Reserve Playground TB Drew Park Playground Bayley Street Reserve Playground Wirrana Drive Reserve Playground Merton Court Reserve Playground Jeeralang Avenue Reserve Playground Balfour Street Reserve Playground Monash Reserve Playground Arapiles Drive Playground	Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium AFL Centre of Excellence Gippsland Sports and Entertainment Park Morwell Town Common Wooden Park Newman Park

Facility Type	*Provided in CBD*	*Provided within Moe-Newborough*	*Provided in Latrobe City*
		Moe Golf Club Harvey Street Park Playground Smallburn Avenue Reserve Playground Boolarra Avenue Reserve Playground Hallston Street Reserve Playground Stearman Street Reserve Playground Montane Boulevard Reserve Playground Botanic Gardens Playground Marengo Street Playground	
Cultural Facilities	Moe Town Hall Old Gippstown -Theatre	Lowanna College - Theatre	Latrobe Regional Gallery Gippsland Performing Arts Centre
Community Facilities	Moe Service Centre and Library High Street Community Hub	Moe & District Historical Society Old Gippstown - Gippsland's Heritage Park Newborough Public Hall Moe Scout Hall Newborough Scout Hall Moe Cemetery	Latrobe City Council Headquarters Kernot Hall Latrobe Regional Airport
Early Years	Acorn Acres Early Learning & Care Bluebird Early Education Centre	Moore Street Preschool Murray Road Preschool Little Saints Early Learning Centre - Moe Little Saints Early Learning Centre - Newborough Moe Heights Preschool East Newborough Preschool Moe Early Learning Centre Good Beginnings Preschool 54 Reasons Community Playgroups Flag Moe Community Playgroup	Yallourn North Uniting Playgroup

Facility Type	*Provided in CBD*	*Provided within Moe-Newborough*	*Provided in Latrobe City*
Primary and Secondary Schools	Albert Street Primary School	Baringa Special School Elizabeth Street Primary School South Street Primary School St Kieran's Primary School Newborough East Primary School Newborough Primary School St Mary's School Lowanna College	
Emergency Services	Moe Police Station Moe CFA Fire Rescue Victoria Fire Station 79	Moe Ambulance SES Moe Unit Newborough CFA	
Senior Citizens	Moe RSL Moe Senior Citizen Centre Moe Retirement Village	Yallourn Newborough RSL Moe District Meals on Wheels Inc. Newborough Senior Citizen Centre ACSAG Narracan Gardens Nursing Home Querencia Latrobe City Respect - Baw Baw Views Latrobe Valley Village	
Disability Services	Better Lives Support Services Omega Care Life Skills Victoria Statewide Autistic Services	Genesis Disability TLC Disability Support Services Headway Gippsland	

Facility Type	*Provided in CBD*	*Provided within Moe-Newborough*	*Provided in Latrobe City*
Health Services	Regional Imaging Gippsland Tanjil Place Medical & Latrobe Skin Clinic United Medical Centre Moe Central Gippsland Family Practice Latrobe Community Health Service Latrobe Urgent Care Centre Moe-Newborough Health Hearing Australia Moe Optical L& F Eye Care Clearview Radiology Australian Clinical Labs Dorevitch Pathology Melbourne Pathology Moe Bond Radiology	Newborough Health Rutherglen Medical Outa Mi Mind	Latrobe Regional Hospital
Adult Education	Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership	Moe Neighbourhood House TAFE Gippsland - Yallourn Campus	Federation University

Figure 13: Social Infrastructure in Moe CBD



Place of Worship

2	St Andrews Centre
3	Now Church Moe
4	Moe Baptist Church
5	Calvary Baptist Church
6	Christian Church of God
8	Gippsland Christian Church
14	Moe Gospel Church

General Community Services

1	Moe Service Centre and Library
2	Moe Town Hall
3	Moe & District Historical Society

Early Years Services

4	Acorn Acres Early Learning & Care
5	Bluebird Early Education Centre

Education

5	Albert Street Primary School
11	Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership

Health Services

1	Regional Imaging Gippsland
2	Tanjil Place Medical & Latrobe Skin Clinic
3	United Medical Centre Moe
4	Central Gippsland Family Practice
5	Latrobe Community Health
8	Moe-Newborough Health
9	Hearing Australia
10	Moe Optical
11	L& F Eye Care
12	Clearview Radiology
13	Australian Clinical Labs
14	Dorevitch Pathology
15	Melbourne Pathology Moe
16	Bond Radiology

Seniors and Disability Services

3	Moe RSL
5	Moe Senior Citizen Centre
9	Moe Retirement Village
12	Better Lives Support Services
13	Omega Care
15	Life Skills Victoria
18	Statewide Autistic Services

Recreation and Open Space

5	Stadium 34
17	Moe Skate Park
63	Kingsford Street Reserve
74	HG Stoddart Memorial Park

Emergency Services

1	Moe CFA
2	Moe Police Station
6	Fire Rescue Victoria - Fire Station 79

Figure 14: Social Infrastructure in Moe



* Disability services that are run from home are not captured in this data.

Place of Worship

1	New Life Christian Centre
2	St Andrews Centre
3	Now Church Moe
4	Moe Baptist Church
5	Calvary Baptist Church
6	Christian Church of God
7	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
8	Gippsland Christian Church
14	Moe Gospel Church

General Community Services

1	Moe Service Centre and Library
2	Moe Town Hall
3	Moe & District Historical Society
4	Old Gippstown- Gippsland's Heritage Park
6	Moe Scout Hall
7	Moe Cemetery
8	Moe Old Gippstown Men's Shed
9	Carpenter Bee Men's Shed

Early Years Services

1	Moore Street Preschool
4	Acorn Acres Early Learning & Care
5	Bluebird Early Education Centre
6	Moe Heights Preschool
7	Moe Early Learning Centre
9	Good Beginnings Preschool

Education

1	Baringa Special School
2	Elizabeth Street Primary School
3	South Street Primary School
4	St Kieran's Primary School
5	Albert Street Primary School
10	High Street Community Hub
11	Moe Neighbourhood House
13	Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership

Health Services

1	Regional Imaging Gippsland
2	Tanjil Place Medical & Latrobe Skin Clinic
3	United Medical Centre Moe
4	Central Gippsland Family Practice
5	Latrobe Community Health - Moe with Urgent Care Centre
8	Moe-Newborough Health
9	Hearing Australia
10	Moe Optical
11	L& F Eye Care
12	Clearview Radiology
13	Australian Clinical Labs
14	Dorevitch Pathology
15	Melbourne Pathology Moe
16	Bond Radiology

Seniors and Disability Services

3	Moe RSL
5	Moe Senior Citizen Centre
8	Querencia Latrobe City
9	Moe Retirement Village
10	Baw Baw Views Residential Aged care
12	Better Lives Support Services
13	Omega Care
15	Life Skills Victoria
16	TLC Disability Support Services
18	Statewide Autistic Services

Emergency Services

1	Moe CFA
2	Moe Police Station
6	Fire Rescue Victoria - Fire Station 79

Recreation and Open Space

1	Moe Equestrian Park
3	Moe Bowling Club
5	Stadium 34
6	Joe Tabuteau Pavillion- Racecourse
7	Latrobe Leisure Moe Outdoor Pool
11	Ted Summerton Pavillion
12	Olympic Reserve Soccer Pavillion
17	Moe Skate Park and Playground
18	Lions Park Playground
19	Ferguson Street Reserve Playground
20	Hennessey Street Reserve Playground
21	Apex Park Playgrounds
22	Ted Summerton Reserve Playground
23	Mervyn Street Reserve Playground
24	Marshall Avenue Reserve Playground
25	Phillip Street Reserve Playground
26	Scott Avenue Reserve Playground
27	Scorpio Drive Reserve Playground
28	Randall Crescent Reserve Playground
29	TB Drew Park Playground
30	Bayley Street Reserve Playground
31	Wirrana Drive Resere Playground
51	Parkside Drive Reserve
57	Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve
62	Saxtons Drive Reserve
63	Kingsford Street Reserve
64	Bristol Hawker Reserve
65	Truscott Road Reserve
66	Stoddart Street Reserve and Playground
67	John Street Reserve and Playground
68	Stirling Street Reserve
69	King Street Reserve
70	Prince Street Reserve
72	GEST Community Garden
73	Moe Community Pollinator Garden
74	HG Stoddart Memorial Park and Playground
77	Elizabeth Street Primary School Playground
78	Marengo Street Playground
79	Arapiles Drive Playground

Figure 15: Social Infrastructure in Newborough



Place of Worship

9 Newborough Uniting Church
10 City Builders Church
11 Plymouth Brethren Christan Church
12 Saint Aidan's Anglican Church
13 The Salvation Army- Moe Corps

General Community Services

5 Newborough Public Hall
10 Newborough Scout Hall

Early Years Services

2 Murray Road Preschool
3 Little Saints Early Learning Centre - Moe
8 East Newborough Preschool
10 Little Saints Early Learning Centre - Newborough

Education

6 Newborough East Primary School
7 Newborough Primary School
8 St Mary's School
9 Lowanna College
12 TAFE Gippsland- Yallourn Campus

Health Services

6 Newborough Health
7 Rutherglen Medical
17 Outa Mi Mind

Seniors and Disability Services

1 Headway Gippsland
2 Yallourn Newborough RSL
4 Moe District Meals on Wheels Inc.
6 Newborough Senior Citizen Centre
7 ACSAG Narracan Gardens Nursing Home
11 Latrobe Valley Village
14 Genesis Disability

Recreation and Open Space

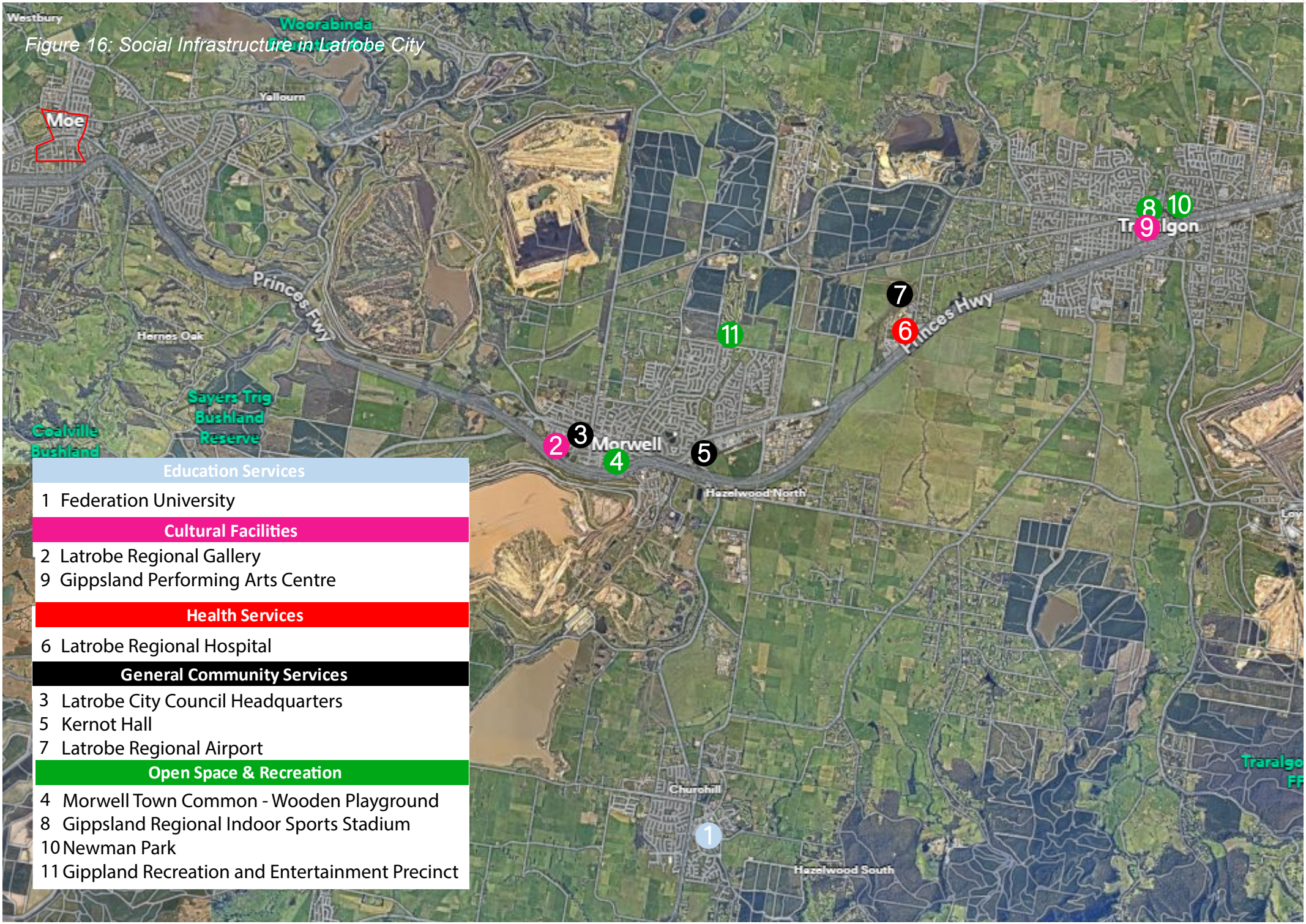
2 Yallourn Golf Club
4 Newborough Bowling Club
8 Latrobe Leisure Moe Newborough
9 Moe Tennis Centre
10 Burrage Reserve Baseball Pavillion
13 W.H. Corrigan Reserve Soccer Pavillion
14 Monash Reserve Tennis Pavillion
15 Burrage Reserve Soccer Pavillion
16 Northern Reserve Football Pavillion
32 Merton Court Reserve Playground
33 Jeeralang Avenue Reserve Playground
34 Balfour Street Reserve Playground
35 Monash Reserve Playground
36 Harvey Street Park Playground
37 Smallburn Avenue Reserve Playground
38 Boolarra Avenue Reserve Playground
39 Hallston Street Reserve Playground
40 Stearman Street Reserve Playground
41 Montane Boulevard Reserve Playground
42 Botanic Gardens Playground
43 Haunted Hills Road Reserve
44 Narracan Drive Reserve
45 John Field Reserve and Playground
46 Burrage Reserve
47 Avon Court Reserve
48 Western Avenue Reserve
49 Eastern Avenue
50 Northern Avenue Reserve
51 Boolarra Ave North Reserve
53 Boolarra Ave Reserve
54 Yinnar Street Reserve
55 Newstead Street Reserve
56 Retford Street Reserve
58 Ollerton Avenue Reserve
59 Dudley Court Reserve
60 Fern Close Reserve
71 Moe Golf Club
75 Newborough BMX Track
76 Joe Carmody Athletics Track

Emergency Services

3 Moe Ambulance
4 SES Moe Unit
5 Newborough CFA

* Disability services that are run from home are not captured in this data.

Figure 16: Social Infrastructure in Latrobe City



Public Open Space and Recreation Facility Summary

Quality public open spaces make for liveable, sustainable and healthy neighbourhoods. They provide the local community with a broad range of passive and active leisure activities to participate in for fun, relaxation, health and wellbeing, and to connect with family and friends.

Moe-Newborough has 360 hectares of public open space within the town boundary with 97.45% of existing housing within 400m of public open space. The public open space includes 17 sports spaces, 34 play spaces, three (3) indoor recreation centres, one (1) dog park with one (1) proposed, two (2) community gardens and one (1) skate park.

Table 2: Audit of Public Open Space

Public Open Space	
Sports Spaces	17
Play Spaces	34
Indoor Recreation Facilities	3
Dog Parks	1 (1 future)
Community Gardens	2
Skate Parks	1

Public Open Space

Moe-Newborough has a variety of open spaces within close proximity. Regional parks within a 2km radius of the study area include Apex Park and Playground (extending to Lions Park), Haunted Hills Mountain Bike Park, Ted Summerton Cricketing Centre of Excellence, and Moe-Yallourn Rail Trail. It also has two bushland reserves - Edward Hunter Bushland Conservation Reserve and Ollerton Avenue Bushland Conservation Reserve.

However, the northern corner of Saviges Road and Bell Street is the only area in the CBD that does not have a public open space (over 0.3ha) within 400m walking distance.

Sports Spaces

Moe-Newborough is well-serviced by sporting facilities. It has 17 sporting facilities including two golf courses, two pools (one outdoor and one indoor pool), one racecourse, one equestrian centre, two lawn bowls facilities, two (2) indoor stadiums with multiple multipurpose courts, one baseball facility (1), one althletics track (1), three (3) soccer pavilions two (2) tennis centres and multiple ovals and netball courts.

Play spaces

There are 34 play spaces within Moe-Newborough. There are 30 local play spaces, one district (Moe Botanic Gardens) and three regional facilities (all at Apex/Lions Park listed as one on maps). These are well distributed with largely only the growth areas requiring new playgrounds to cater to the new developments.

Indoor Recreation Facilities

There are two (2) indoor recreation/sports facilities (including Moe PLACE) and one indoor aquatic centres (which also has indoor recreation) within Moe-Newborough.

Dog Parks

There is one (1) off-leash dog park in at College Park, Newborough between Monash Road, Eastern Avenue and John Field Drive.

There is one (1) proposed fenced dog park at the Moe Botanic Gardens. The proposed fenced dog park is within 800m of the Moe CBD.

Community Gardens

Community Gardens are valuable assets as they provide multiple benefits for the health and wellbeing of community including improved social connections, physical activity, healthy eating, environmental education and positive mental wellbeing outcomes.

There are two (2) community gardens within Moe-Newborough. Of these, one is located within 800m of the Moe CBD. They are:

- GEST Community Garden; and
- Moe Community Pollinator Garden.

The Gippsland Employment Skills Training (GEST) Community Garden is located on Old Sale Road on land owned by Gippsland Water. It is open to volunteers.

The Moe Community Pollinator Garden is located on 99 Saviges Road on land owned by Council and leased by the Latrobe Valley Beekeepers Association. It is open to all members of the community.

Skate Parks

There is one (1) skate park within Moe-Newborough: Moe Skate Park on George Street within the Moe CBD. Moe Skate Park is a significant urban renewal project that opened in late 2023 and is particularly popular with young people.



Source: McKenzie, T., 2023, Playground at Moe Skate Park

Figure 17: Provision of Open Space

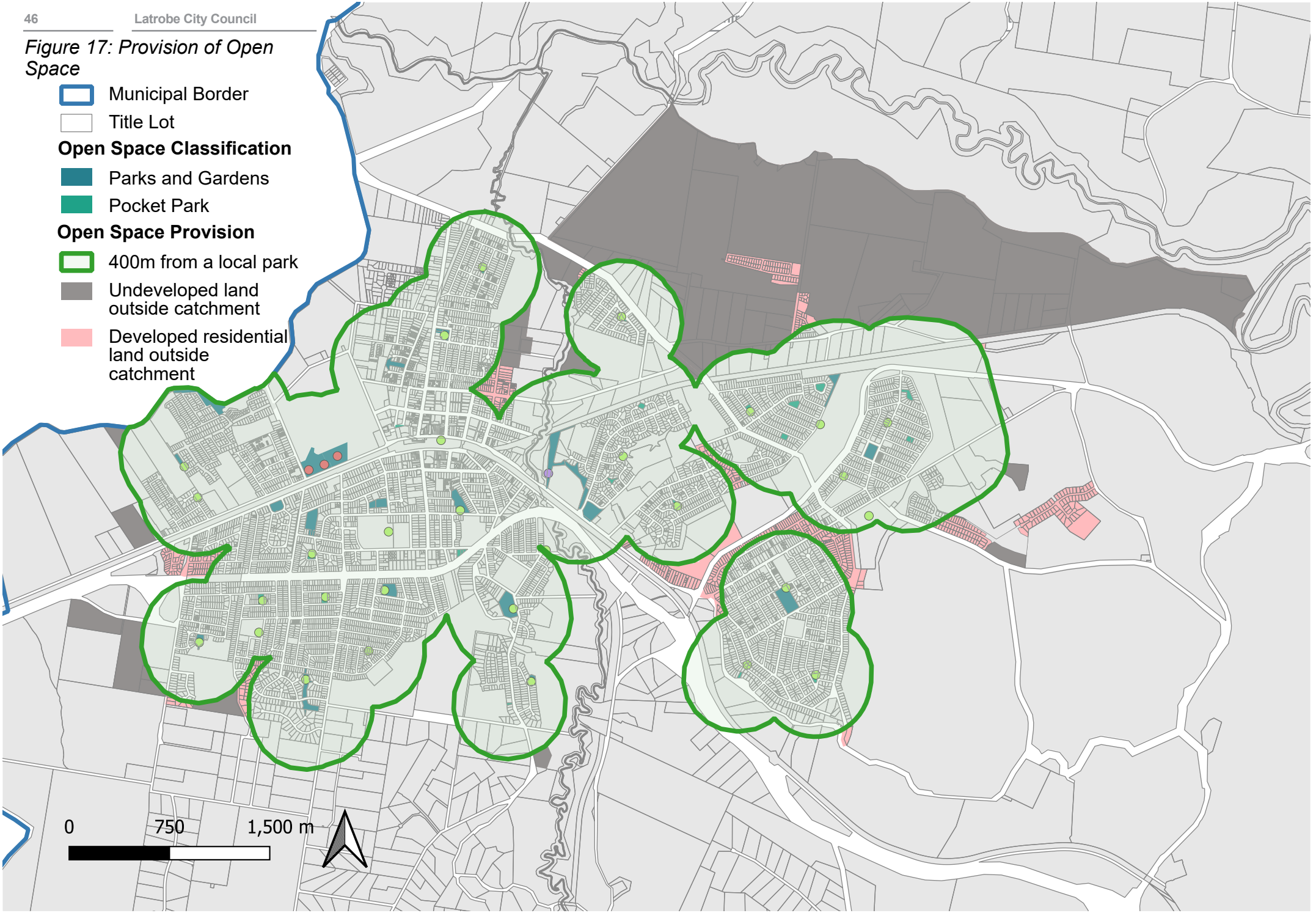


Figure 18: Open Space Hierarchy

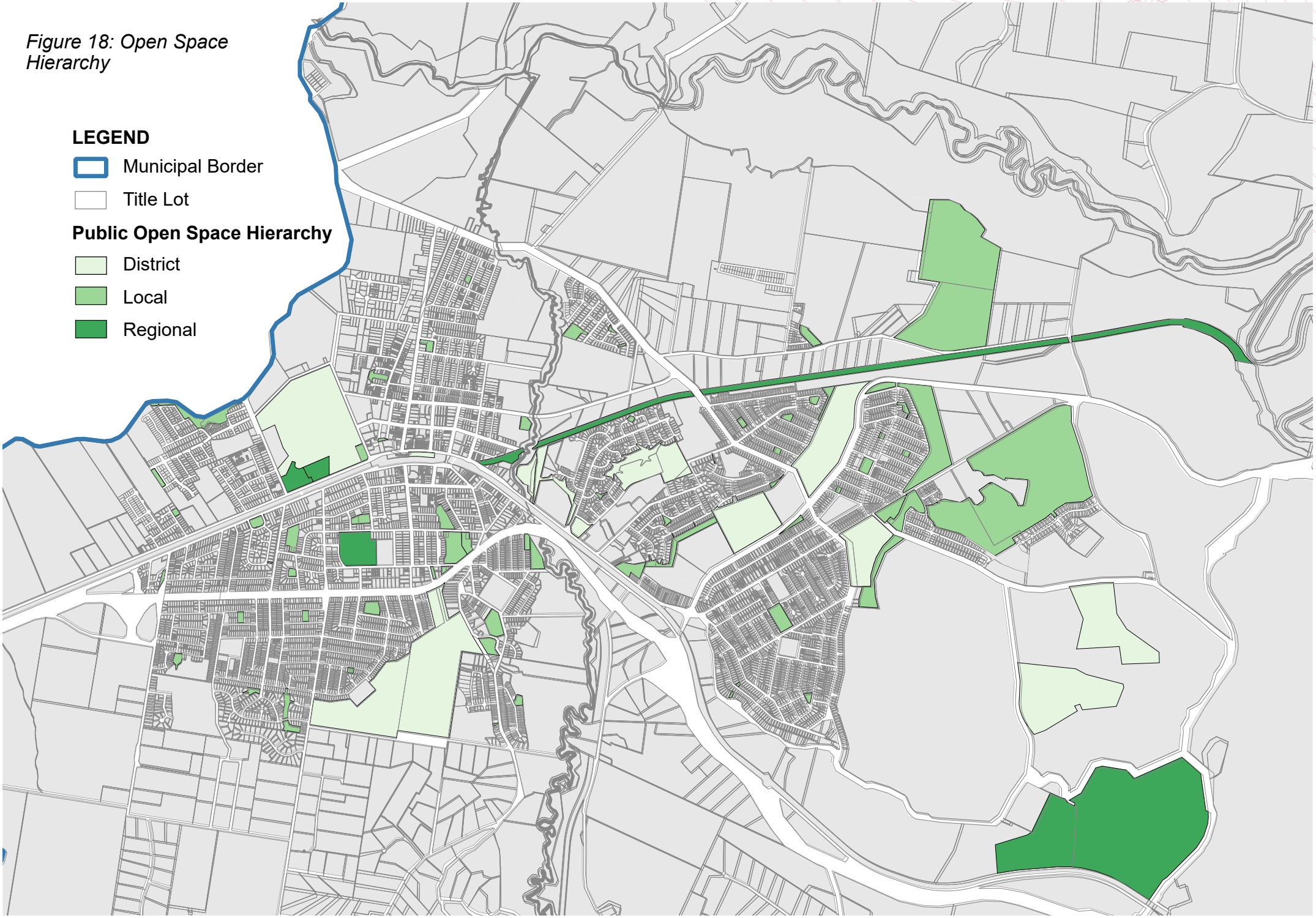
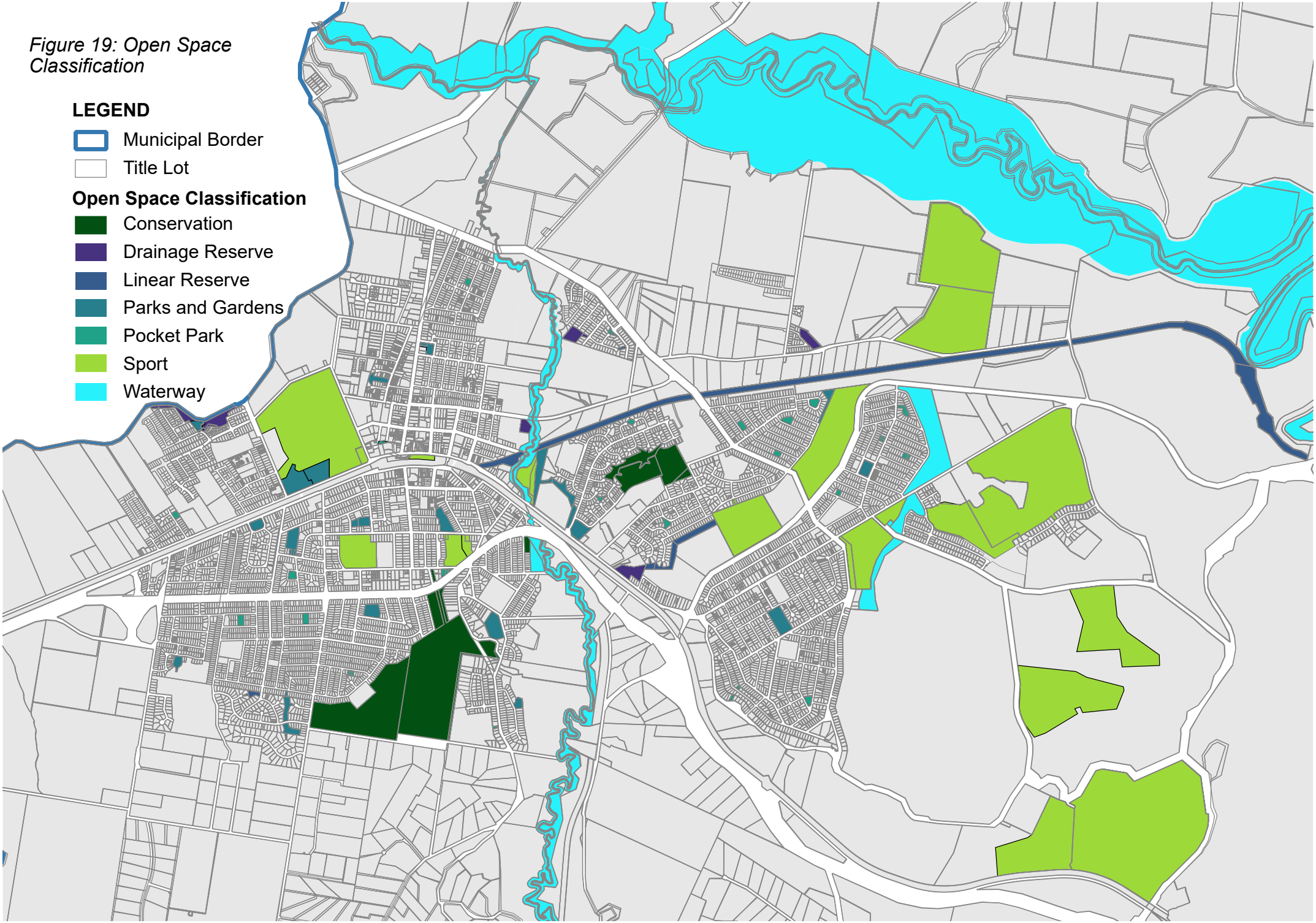


Figure 19: Open Space Classification



Community Facility Summary

Community Facilities provide opportunities for connection and socialisation.

As shown in Table 3, there are 48 public facilities located within Moe-Newborough. This includes one community centre and library, five (5) halls or neighbourhood houses, nine (9) early education and child care facilities, 11 education facilities, 17 health facilities and five (5) emergency service facilities.

Table 3: Audit of Community Facilities

Community Facilities	*Number*
Community Centres and Libraries	1
Halls, Neighbourhood Houses	5
Early Education and Childcare	9
Education (Primary, Secondary and Tertiary)	10
Health Services	17
Senior and Disability Services	8
Emergency Services	5

Community centres and libraries

There is one community centre within the Moe CBD which services Moe-Newborough. There are five (5) halls and neighbourhood houses within Moe Newborough including High Street Community Hub, Moe Neighbourhood House, Newborough Public Hall, Moe Scout Hall, Moe Town Hall

Early education and childcare

There are nine (9) long day care centres/ preschools located within Moe-Newborough. Of these, two (2) are located within the Moe CBD. These include:

- Acorn Acres Early Learning and Care; and
- Bluebird Early Education Centre.

Education

There are ten (10) educational institutionswithin Moe-Newborough which includes 5 public primary schools, one high schools, two private primary schools, one TAFE campus and one special school.

Of the aforementioned schools, one (1) primary school (Albert Street Primary School) is within the Moe CBD.

St Kieran's Primary School and South Street Primary School are within 800m of the Moe CBD.

Health facilities

There are 17 health services within Moe-Newborough. Of these, six (6) are medical centres, three (3) are pathology labs. Three (3) are radiology labs, three (3) are optometrists or audiologists, one (1) is a paediatric mental health service and one (1) is a level four community health facility with an urgent care centre. Only three services are located outside of the Moe CBD. Most of the services are co-located with a medical clinic.

Senior and disability services

There are 18 senior and disability services provided within Moe-Newborough. These include two (2) RSLs, two (2) Senior Citizen's Halls, five (5) Retirement Villages, one (1) meals on wheels service and 8 disability services.

Of these, three senior services are located in the Moe CBD, including:

- Moe RSL;
- Moe Senior Citizen Centre; and
- Moe Retirement Village.

There are five disability services located within the Moe CBD.

Emergency facilities

There are six (6) emergency services within Moe-Newborough. Of these, one (1) is an ambulance service, three (3) are fire stations, one (1) is a police station and one (1) is a SES unit. Moe Police Station, Fire Rescue Victoria - Fire Station 79 and Moe CFA are located within the Moe CBD. The Moe Ambulance service is located within 800m of the Precinct.

Cultural Facility Summary

Quality cultural spaces Cultural facilities serve as essential civic infrastructure that safekeep heritage, educate the public, and foster local arts. They encompass physical and virtual spaces such as museums, art galleries, libraries, theatres, and community centers that preserve societal stories and provide platforms for creative expression.

As shown in the Table 4 the Moe-Newborough town has a small number of cultural facilities, including three (3) theatre or performance places, one (1) museum, three (3) artist studios and three (3) men's shed.

Table 4: Audit of Cultural Facilities

Cultural Facilities	*Number*
Theatres and Performance Spaces	3
Museums and Galleries	1
Creative Arts Facilities	-
Artist Studios	3
Makers' Spaces	-
Men's Sheds	3

Theatres and Performance Spaces

The Moe Town Hall located within the Moe CBD, Old Gippstown theatre - located at Moe's exit ramp from the Princes highway and Lowanna College theatre - located in Newborough are all capable of holding performances.

Museums and Galleries

The Old Gippstown Heritage Park is the only Museum within Moe-Newborough. While the Moe Historical Society collects historical documents, the facility is not available to hold events so this has not been calssed as a museum.

Creative Arts Facilities

There are no identified creative arts facilities within Moe-Newborough.

Artist Studios

There are three artist studios that have been identified. These include:

- Cool House;
- Art-FX Sharon Anderson; and
- Hot-FX Photography.

Only Hot FX Photography is within the Moe CBD.

Makers Spaces

There are no identified Maker's Spaces within Moe-Newborough although the Moe Arts Society does meet at the Moe Service Centre.

Mens' Sheds

There are two (2) Men's Shed located in Moe at Old Gippstown and Moe Neighbourhood House, there is also one located outside of the Moe-Newborough town boundary between Newborough and Yallourn.



Source: Mama Knows East, 2017. Old Gippstown, Date accessed: 4 Nov 2024. URL: https://www.mammaknowseast.com.au/places-to-go/old-gippstown-moe-gippsland

Figure 20: Cultural Facilities in Moe-Newborough



Cultural Facilities

1	Moe Town Hall	4	Hot-FX Photography	7	Old Gippstown Men's Shed
2	Lowanna College Theatre	5	Art-FX Sharon Anderson	8	Carpenter Bee Men's Shed
3	Old Gippstown Heritage Museum	6	Cool House		

4.0 CAPACITY AND UTILISATION

Capacity Assessment

Table 6 provides an overview of the existing capacity of existing Council-run services and facilities in Moe and Newborough. It uses a 'traffic light' system.

- Green indicates the facility or service can accommodate growth (less than 75%);
- Orange indicates that the facility or service is nearing capacity and should be monitored over time (between 76% and 85%); and
- Red indicates that the facility or service cannot accommodate any additional growth (greater than 85%).

Usage has also been considered to determine whether there is scope to cater for the future demand within existing facilities.

Table 5: Capacity and Utilisation of Facilities

Facility	*Key Facts*	*Capacity*	*Usage*
Early Years			
In 2 Learn South Street	Outside School Hours Care. 24 places after school hours care, 24 places before school hours care. Trial only for before school care, may not continue due to low enrolments.	24 24	8% 50%
Our Patch OSHC at St Kieran's Primary School Moe	Outside School Hours Care and vacation care 45 places before school hours care only.	45	27%
Albert Street PS TheirCare	Outside School Hours Care and vacation care. 20 places after school hours care, 20 places before school hours care.	20 20	40% 85%
Our Patch OSHC at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Primary School - Newborough	Outside School Hours Care and vacation care. 45 places after school hours care, 45 places before school hours care.	45 45	18% 78%
Newborough PS TheirCare	Outside School Hours Care and vacation care. 30 places after school hours care, 30 places before school hours care.	30 30	13% 47%
Newborough East PS TheirCare	Outside School Hours Care and vacation care. 50 places after school hours care, 50 places before school hours care.	50 50	20% 60%
Moe Early Learning Centre	Long day care and vacation care. 3 year old kinder (run in two sessions). 4 year old kinder (run in two sessions).	128 44 54	100% 64% 98%

Facility	*Key Facts*	*Capacity*	*Usage*
Moe Heights Kindergarten	3 year old kindergarten.	6	83%
	4 year old kindergarten.	27	85%
Moore Street Kindergarten	3 year old kindergarten.	15	87%
	4 year old kindergarten.	27	85%
Murray Road Kindergarten	3 year old kindergarten.	22	68%
	4 year old kindergarten.	36	92%
East Newborough Kindergarten	3 year old kindergarten.	22	91%
	4 year old kindergarten.	27	89%
Bluebird Early Education Centre Moe	Long day care.	65	100%
Acorn Acres Early Learning & Care	Long day care .	51	40%
Little Saints Early Learning Centre - Moe	Long day care and vacation care. Have only 100 families on the waitlist.	75	100%
Little Saints Early Learning Centre - Newborough	Long day care and vacation care. Have enough places for 123 families but are at capacity due to resourcing appropriately qualified staff.	83	100%
Moe Community Playgroup	Every Thursday, 9:30-11:30.	17	100%
Community Hub Playgroup - Moe	Every Friday 10:00am - 11:00am. Community Hub Playgroup is for families with additional needs (either parent or child).	no cap	100%
54 Reasons Supported Playgroups	Prince Street, Moe - Play2Learn	no cap	100%
	Albert Street, Moe - Supported	15	100%
	Prince Street, Moe (1) - Supported	8	88%
	Prince Street, Moe (2) - Supported	10	50%
Meeting Rooms			
Moe Service Centre Meeting Room 1	Available 8.30-5.15 Mon-Fri and Sat 9-12	5	100%
Moe Service Centre Meeting Room 2	Available 8.30-5.15 Mon-Fri and Sat 9-12	4	100%
Moe Service Centre Meeting Room 3	Available 8.30-5.15 Mon-Fri and Sat 9-12	30	100%

Facility	*Key Facts*	*Capacity*	*Usage*
Moe Service Centre Meeting Room 4	Available 8.30-5.15 Mon-Fri and Sat 9-12	20	100%
Moe Service Centre Meeting Room 5	Available 8.30-5.15 Mon-Fri and Sat 9-12	40	100%
Moe Service Centre Meeting Room 6	Available 8.30-5.15 Mon-Fri and Sat 9-12	10	100%
Moe Service Centre Meeting Room 7	Available 8.30-5.15 Mon-Fri and Sat 9-12	10	100%
Moe Town Hall - Theatre	Available to book anytime. Requires three days notice before booking. $15.00 per hire for a standard hire ($60.00 for four hours)	400	17%
Moe Town Hall - Meeting room	Available to book anytime. Requires three days notice before booking. $15.00 per hire for a standard hire ($60.00 for four hours)	35	0%
Newborough Public Hall	Available to book anytime	200	75%
High Street Community Hub Room 1 - Education/Training	Available to book anytime Community Rate (3 Hours): $52.50 Commercial rate: (3 Hours) $82.50	20 Seated 60 Standing	0%
High Street Community Hub Room 2 - Multipurpose	Available to book anytime Community Rate (3 Hours): $52.50 Commercial rate: (3 Hours) $82.50	40-50 Theatre 60 Standing	0%
High Street Community Hub Room 3 - Medium room for casual meetings	Available to book anytime Community Rate (3 Hours): $52.50 Commercial rate: (3 Hours) $82.50	12 seated	0%
High Street Community Hub Room 4 - Medium room for formal meetings	Available to book anytime Community Rate (3 Hours): $52.50 Commercial rate: (3 Hours) $82.50	6-12 seated	5%
High Street Community Hub Room 5 - Small room suitable for 1:1 bookings	Available to book anytime Community Rate (3 Hours): $52.50 Commercial rate: (3 Hours) $82.50	2 people seated	0%
High Street Community Hub Hall - Large space for exhibitions and events	Available to book anytime Community Rate (3 Hours): $52.50 Commercial rate: (3 Hours) $82.50	100 seated 150 Standing	10%

Facility	*Key Facts*	*Capacity*	*Usage*
Gippsland Heritage Park - Emden Meeting Room	Available to book anytime Rate varies depending on what is required Security required for 18ths and 21st, no smoking on site. Busiest during summer months	14	5%
Gippsland Heritage Park - Woolshed	Available to book anytime Rate varies depending on what is required Security required for 18ths and 21st, no smoking on site. Busiest during summer months	20-40	5%
Gippsland Heritage Park - Whistle Stop (includes bar and stage)	Available to book anytime Rate varies depending on what is required Security required for 18ths and 21st, no smoking on site. Busiest during summer months	70-90	5%
Gippsland Heritage Park - Narracan Hall	Available to book anytime $250 to book fro the day Security required for 18ths and 21st, no smoking on site. Busiest during summer months	50	5%
Latrobe Leisure Centre - Meeting Room 1	Not available Mon / Thurs 9am-12:30pm, or Mon-Fri 9pm onwards $32.80 per hour ($98.40, 3 hours)	10 Seated	9%
Latrobe Leisure Centre - Meeting Room 2	Not available Mon / Thurs 9am-12:30pm, or Mon-Fri 9pm onwards $32.80 per hour ($98.40, 3 hours)	80 theatre 50 seated	9%
Ted Summerton Cricket Pavilion - Social Room (ground Floor)	Hours 7am-16:30pm Mon - Fri Only full day hire available $607 for the full day	150	0%
Ted Summerton Cricket Pavilion - Meeting Room (Upstairs)	Hours 7am-4:30pm Mon - Fri Only full day hire available $607 for the full day	60	0%
Moe Tennis Club - Main Room	During tennis season, clubrooms are in use most days and evenings- 8 external functions a year with a few extra regular mid-week bookings. Base rate $100/hour but increases with addition of the bar.	75	50%

Facility	*Key Facts*	*Capacity*	*Usage*
Moe Senior Citizen's Centre - Main Hall	Open 7am -10pm every day. Regularly hired out once a week on Mondays between 8:30am - 1:30pm and 5:30pm - 8:30pm. Public Liability Insurance required for commercial hire. Half day hire minimum for $105.	80	8%
Moe United Soccer Club Pavilion	Available between Monday-Friday 7am:-4:30pm. Only full day hire available . $607 for the full day.	80	0%
Monash Soccer Club - Main Room	Available all the time. $250 bond (no further costs).	80	3%
Newborough Public Hall	Available 7am - 11pm. Regularly hired 3 days a week for 8 hours between 7:30am-3:30pm Tues, Wed, Fri. Community $60 (4 hour block). Commercial $105 (4 hour block). Subject to additional cleaning fee.	200	26%
Newborough Senior Citizen's Centre - Main Hall	Open 7am -11pm every day. Public Liability Insurance required for commercial hire. Half day hire minimum for $105.	80	0%
Yallourn Golf Club - Function Room	Available all the time. $350 for five hours ($210, 3 hours).	200	6%
Yallourn Golf Club - Members Lounge	Available all the time. $350 for five hours ($210, 3 hours).	150	85%
Schools			
Albert Street Primary school	Operates 6 classes, could operate 8 classes.	200	56%
South Street Primary school		250	97%
Moe Primary School (Elizabeth Street)	New building under construction, 4 classes.	100	77%
Newborough Primary school	5 classes.	150	63%
Newborough East Primary School	An estimate of overall capacity has been provided only as this was not provided by the school.	350	86%
St Mary's Catholic Primary School		350	77%

Facility	*Key Facts*	*Capacity*	*Usage*
St Kieran's Primary School	Have recently expand capacity.	300	84%
Lowanna College	Have room to expand.	1100	98%
Baringa Special School		180	100%

The following facilities have been identified as having hirable facilities, however, no further details have been supplied. Facilities include:

- Moe Scout Hall;
- Moe Heights Neighbourhood House;
- Newborough Scout Hall;
- Moe Golf Club;
- Moe Salvation Army;
- Newborough Yallourn United Soccer Club;
- St Aidan's Anglican Church Hall;
- St Kieran's Hall and Meeting Room; and
- Uniting Church Hall.

5.0 PROVISION OF FACILITIES

Infrastructure Hierarchy

A *Short Guide to Growth Area Community Infrastructure Planning* (ASR Research, 2009) has the following indicative community infrastructure hierarchy which indicates which services should be provided within Moe-Newborough.

As Moe-Newborough has a current population of 17,056 persons (Forecast.iD, 2023), it falls into Level 2 of the provision ratio. It is anticipated to grow to 18,401 persons by 2041 which still falls into the Level 2 provision. It does operate as a part of the Larger networked city of Latrobe City which means that it does provide some higher order services.

Table 6: Social Infrastructure Hierarchy

Hierarchy	*Provision Ratio*	*Items*
Level 1	Up to 10,000 people	Government Primary Schools (including out of schools hours care)/Early Years Facility Level 1 Council Community Centres/ Early Years Facility/ Neighbourhood House Local level Active Open Space Local level Passive Open Space (including local level playgrounds) Long Day Child Care Centres Social housing
Level 2	Between 10,000 and 30,000 people	Government Secondary Schools Catholic Primary Schools District level indoor recreation centres Level 2 Council Community Centres/Early Years Facility/ Neighbourhood Houses Low Order Tennis Facilities Low Order Youth Facilities Maternal & Child Health (within every second level 1 early years facility) Occasional Child Care (as part of every neighbourhood house and leisure centre) Residential Aged Care

Provision of Infrastructure

The provision of social infrastructure can be calculated as whether there is an appropriate level of servicing by using the matrix as shown in Table 7 based on *Planning for Community Infrastructure in Growth Areas* (ASR, 2008), the figures are calculated using the population forecasts as shown in Chapter 2.

For the number of persons in Moe-Newborough category the Estimated Resident Population for 2024 and 2041 (Forecast .id, 2023). The number of households uses the projected number of dwellings for 2024 (8,677 dwellings) and 2041 (9,492 dwellings) from Population .id.

Where aged care specifies high and low care, the assumption has been made that a unit has one bed. It is assumed a unit is a low care bed, where beds are provided, these are considered high care beds for the sake of the provision of infrastructure.

Hierarchy	*Provision Ratio*	*Items*
Level 3	Between 30,000 and 60,000 people	Libraries Aquatic Leisure Centres Community Arts Centres Catholic Secondary Schools Higher Order Active Open Space Reserves Regional level indoor recreation centres High Order Tennis Facilities Lawn Bowls Facility High Order Dedicated Youth Facilities Level 3 Council Community Centres Level 3 Council and Community Services Health Precincts (DHS Level 2 Community based health precincts - dedicated outreach health precinct sites) Early Childhood Intervention Service Planned Activity Group facility Delivered meals facility Regional level adventure playgrounds Other independent schools
Level 4	Provisions for the entire municipality	Main Council Civic Centre Level 3 Community-based health precincts – Day hospitals that contain main or outreach Community Health Centre site (including Mental Health) Synthetic athletics track
Level 5	Provisions for two or more municipalities	Highest Order Performance Arts Facility Universities/TAFEs Level 4 Community-based health precincts - Hospitals with community-based health services Regional Parks

Infrastructure Provision

Table 7: Provision of Social Infrastructure

Service Area	Benchmark	Existing Facilities	Population in Moe	2023 Requirement	2041 Requirement	Assessment by Benchmark
Early Years						
Maternal and Child Health - Level 2	1 dual room facility for every 280 (0 year olds)	3 rooms	171	1.22	1.33	Sufficient (+2)
4 year old kindergarten - Level 1 or 2	1 30-place preschool room for every 30 4-year olds	10	142	4.73	6.20	Sufficient (+4)
3 year old kindergarten - Level 1 or 2	1 30-place preschool room for every 30 3-year olds	5	171	5.70	6.20	Insufficient (-1)
Playgroup - Level 1 or 2	1 playgroup session per 5,000 people (uses a general meeting space.)	3	17,056	3.41	3.68	Insufficient (-1)
Long Day Care - Level 1	1 place per 6.8 children aged 0-6 years	258	1247	184	194	Sufficient (+74)
Occasional Care - Level 2	3 places per 1,000 children (0-5 years)	0>	1052	3.16	3.37	Insufficient (-3)
Outside School Hours Care	150 places for 1000 children (0-5 years)	238	1052	158	169	Sufficient (+69)
Early Childhood Intervention Services	1.6 centres per 10,000 children aged 0 - 6 years	1*	1247	0.20	0.21	Not required for Level 2
Education						
Neighbourhood House	1 per 10,000 people	1	17056	1.71	1.84	Insufficient (-1)
Primary School	1 school per 8,000- 10,000 people	5	17056	2.13	2.30	Sufficient (+3)
Secondary School	1 school per 18,000 residents	1	17056	0.95	1.02	Sufficient (=1)
Special Education	1 school per 60,000 residents	1	17056	0.28	0.31	Sufficient (+1)
Independent Primary School	1 school per 5,000 households (depending on Catholicity rate)	2	7788	1.56	1.69	Sufficient (=2)
Independent Secondary School	1 school per 16,000 households (depending on Catholicity rate – requires three feeder primary schools)	0	7788	0.49	0.53	Not required for Level 2

> The nearest Occasional Care facility is Nido Early School Trafalgar, less than 10 minutes drive from Moe.

Service Area	Benchmark	Existing Facilities	Population in Moe	2023 Requirement	2041 Requirement	Assessment by Benchmark
Seniors						
Senior Groups - Level 1 or 2	1 per 10,000 people (general space)	2	17056	1.71	1.84	Sufficient (=2)
Residential Aged Care – Low Care	44 low level beds per 1,000 people aged 70 years and over	128	2929	128.88	144.06	Insufficient (-16)
Residential Aged Care – High Care	44 high level beds per 1,000 people aged 70 years and over	210	2929	128.88	144.06	Sufficient (+70)
Libraries and Community Centres						
Library	1 Library per 30,000 people	1	17056	0.57	0.61	Sufficient (=1)
Multi-purpose community centre - Level 3	1 Level 3 Multi -Purpose Community Centre per 40,000 to 50,000 people	1	17056	0.43	0.46	Sufficient (+1)
Meeting Rooms and Program Spaces						
Small community meeting space	1 x 1-20 people venue per 4,000 people	29	17056	4.26	4.60	Sufficient (+25)
Medium community meeting space	1 x 21-50 people venue per 8,000 people	6	17056	2.13	2.30	Sufficient (+4)
Large community meeting space	1 x 51-100 people venue per 8,000 people	8	17056	2.13	2.30	Sufficient (+6)
Extra large community meeting space	1 x 101-200 people venue per 8,000 people	3	17056	2.13	2.30	Sufficient (+1)
Conference sized community meeting space	1 x 200+ venue per 20,000 people	1	17056	0.85	0.92	Sufficient (=1)
Youth Services						
Services for young people	1 per 10,000 people	1	17056	1.71	1.84	Not required for Level 2
Youth Space	1 per 8,000 people	1	17056	2.13	2.30	Not required for Level 2
Emergency Services						
Police Station	1 police station per 37,037 people	1	17056	0.46	0.50	Sufficient (=1)
SES Facility	1 VICSES unit per 108,866 people.	1	17056	0.17	0.17	Sufficient (+1)
CFA Station	1 CFA station per 14,739 people	2	17056	1.16	1.25	Sufficient (+1)

Service Area	Benchmark	Existing Facilities	Population in Moe	2023 Requirement	2041 Requirement	Assessment by Benchmark
Ambulance Station	1 ambulance station per 56,583 people.	1	17056	0.30	0.33	Sufficient (+1)
Cultural Infrastructure						
Arts and Cultural Facilities: Level 1 - Flexible, multipurpose, shared use community art space	1 per 8,000 to 10,000 people	2	17056	2.13	2.30	Sufficient (=2)
Arts and Cultural Facilities: Level 2 or 3 Co-located, dedicated performing art and/or exhibition facilities	1 co-located (e.g. government secondary college) performing arts facility per 40,000 to 60,000 people	1	17056	0.43	0.46	Sufficient (+1)
Arts and Cultural Facilities: Level 4/5 – Regional Arts Centre	1 Regional Arts Centre per municipality	1*	17056	0.00	0.00	Sufficient (+1)
Open Space						
Active Open Space Reserve - Level 1	One Level 1 active open space reserve (8ha per active open space reserve) per 6,000 people.	5	17056	2.84	3.07	Sufficient (+2)
Higher order active open space reserve: Level 3, 4 & 5	1 higher order active open space reserve (30ha open space reserve) per 50,000 people.	1	17056	0.34	0.37	Sufficient (+1)

1. **Municipal wide service provided outside of Moe-Newborough*
2. *^Includes indoor cricket centre*
3. *+One court to be provided at Apex park, Moe in the future*
4. *%Desktop assessment of DFFH housing only*

Service Area	Benchmark	Existing Facilities	Population in Moe	2023 Requirement	2041 Requirement	Assessment by Benchmark
Active open Space Reserve Pavilions- Level 1	1 per 6,000 people	5	17056	2.84	3.07	Sufficient (+2)
Active open Space Reserve Pavilions- Level 3	1 per 50,000 people	1	17056	0.34	0.37	Sufficient (+1)
Passive open space reserves: Level 1	0.7 to 1 ha of passive open space per 1,000 people	161.24	17056	17.06	18.40	Sufficient
Passive open space reserves: Levels 2	2.5 to 4 ha of passive open space per 2 kilometre radius	63.33 (5) 28.92 (6)	Moe Newborough	2.5 2.5	4 4	Sufficient
Playgrounds: Level 1	1 facility per 2,000 persons	32	17056	11.37	12.27	Sufficient (+20)
Fitness Stations: Level 2	1 per 15,000 people	1	17056	1.13	1.23	Sufficient (=1)
Off-leash dog park	1 per 50,000 people	2	17056	0.34	0.37	Sufficient (+2)
Recreation Facilities						
Council Indoor Aquatic/Fitness Centres Leisure Centres: Levels 3 or 4	1 Council Aquatic Leisure Centre per 40,000 to 50,000 people	1	17056	0.43	0.46	Sufficient (+1)
Council Indoor recreation centres /stadiums (hard court) - Level 3	1 (4-6 court) facility per 40,000 to 60,000 people	1	17056	0.43	0.46	Sufficient (+1)
AFL fields - Level 1	1 field per 5000 - 7000 people	5	17056	3.41	3.68	Sufficient (+1)
AFL Field - Regional Level	1 2-field facility per 30,000-50,000 people	1*	17056	1*	1*	Sufficient (=1)
Soccer fields - Level 1	One field per 5000 to 7000 residents	6	17056	3.41	3.68	Sufficient (=4)
Soccer fields - Regional level	1 3-field facility per region	1*	-	1*	1*	Sufficient (=1)
Athletics - Level 4	1 venue per municipality	1	-	1	1	Sufficient (=1)
Baseball/Softball - Level 3	1 venue per municipality and field per 40,000 people	2	17056	0.43	0.46	Sufficient (=1)
Cricket - Level 1	1 field per 4000 to 5000 people	5	17056	4.26	4.60	Sufficient (=5)
Cricket - Regional Level	Minimum one ground, preferably two with Indoor and outdoor training	1^	17056	1	1	Sufficient (=1)
Netball - Level 1	1 court per 3500 people	13	17056	4.87	5.26	Sufficient (+9)

Service Area	Benchmark	Existing Facilities	Population in Moe	2023 Requirement	2041 Requirement	Assessment by Benchmark
Netball - Level 2	1 x 2-court outdoor netball facility per 16,000 persons	2	17056	1.07	1.15	Sufficient (+1)
Netball - Level 3	1 eight-court complex per 50,000 people	1	17056	0.34	0.37	Sufficient (+1)
Hockey - Level 5	One synthetic field per 100,000 people	1*	17056	0.17	0.18	Sufficient (=1)
Tennis - Level 1	One court per 3000 people	16	17056	5.69	6.13	Sufficient (+10)
Tennis - Level 2	1 x 2 court (free to the public) facility (no pavilion) per 25,000 to 35,000 people	2	17056	0.68	0.74	Sufficient (+1)
Tennis - Level 5	1 sixteen court facility per 40,000	1*	17056	0.43	0.46	Sufficient (=1)
Golf	No parameters	2	17056	-	-	Sufficient (=2)
Lawn Bowls	1 green per 10,000 people	5	17056	1.71	1.84	Sufficient (+3)
Motor Sports	No parameters	1	17056	-	-	Sufficient (=1)
BMX Tracks	1 per 50,000 people	2	17056	0.34	0.37	Sufficient (+2)
Shooting Sports - Level 5	1 range per region	1	17056	1	1	Sufficient (=1)
Basketball - Level 1	1 court per 3500 people	5	17056	4.87	5.26	Sufficient (=5)
Basketball (outdoor) - Level 1	1 court per 8000 people	2	17056	2.13	2.35	Sufficient (=2)
Basketball - Level 4	1 indoor 5-court facility per region	2	17056	1	1	Sufficient (+1)
Cycling	1 velodrome per region (500,000)	1	17056	0.03	0.04	Sufficient (+1)
Horse riding/Equestrian	No parameters	1	17056	-	-	Sufficient (=1)
Health Services						
Community Based Health Care (Level 4)	1 per 100,000-200,000 people	1	17056	0.17	0.18	Sufficient (+1)
Community Based Health Care (Level 5)	1 per 200,000-250,000 people	1*	17056	0.09	0.09	Sufficient (+1)
Social Housing	5.0% of all dwellings	511%	8677	434	475	Sufficient (+86)

Implications

Moe-Newborough has a level 2 provision ratio. However, it also provides higher order facilities as a part of Latrobe City.

The provision ratio indicates that there is an immediate and ongoing need for:

- 1x 30-place 3-year old kindergarten room;
- 2x playgroups; and
- 1x Neighbourhood House.

The Lake Narracan Precinct Structure Plan identifies a future Community Centre at the Becks Bay Village which will include:

- 2x kindergarten rooms; and
- 1x flexible activity room for playgroups, occasional care, community meetings, neighbourhood house programs, youth activities and/or seniors' activities.

This will cater for most of the future need with the exception of an additional playgroup room. There is an immediate need for a playgroup room in Newborough.

While there appears to be ample meeting rooms, there are ongoing barriers to booking these. There is also a need from community groups for meeting rooms with ongoing storage solutions. There are not many that are purpose built for community groups with a lot of equipment such as the Latrobe Valley Astronomical Society, the Moe Arts Society or the Moe Historical Society.

There is a lack of Gallery space for community events with a number of events being held at the Library or in other towns.



Source: Event Venues Gippsland, 2024. Latrobe Leisure Centre Newborough, Date accessed: 21 November 2024 ,URL: https://eventvenuesgippsland.com.au/venues/latrobe-leisure-moe-newborough/,

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Monitoring

It is recommended that Council review the key assumptions, models and actions of this needs analysis in line with the release of new Census data to ensure they are still relevant and reflect the future needs and aspirations of the local community.

It is recommended that monitoring and review occur as a part of a Latrobe wide Social Infrastructure Plan to ensure a wholistic approach.

Measurements and milestones for the improvements in social infrastructure are outlined in Table 9.

Relevant Sustainable Development Goals include:

- 3: Good Health and Well-Being;
- 4: Quality Education;
- 10: Reduced Inequalities; and
- 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.

Table 8: Measurements

Theme	*Indicator*	*Measurement*
Community Infrastructure	Community Centres	Dwellings within 1000m of a Community Centre
	Culture & Leisure	Dwellings within 3200m of a Museum/Art Gallery
		Dwellings within 3200m of a Cinema
		Dwellings within 1000m of a Library
	Early Years	Dwellings within 800m of Childcare
		Dwellings within 1600m of Out of School Hours Care
	Education	Dwellings within 1600m of a Government Primary School
		Dwellings within 1600m of a Government Secondary School
	Health and Social Services	Dwellings within 1000m of a Residential Aged Care Facility
		Dwellings within 1000m of a Dentist
		Dwellings within 1000m of a GP
		Dwellings within 1000m of a Maternal, Child and Family Health Centre
		Dwellings within 1000m of other Community Health Care Centres
		Dwellings within 1000m of Pharmacies
	Sport and Recreation	Dwellings within 1200m of Public Swimming Pools
		Dwellings within 1000m of Sports Facilities
Public Open Space	Public Open Space	Dwellings within 400m of a 1.5 hectare park

Public Open Space

The following uses the Liveability Index from the Australian Urban Observatory.

Rationale

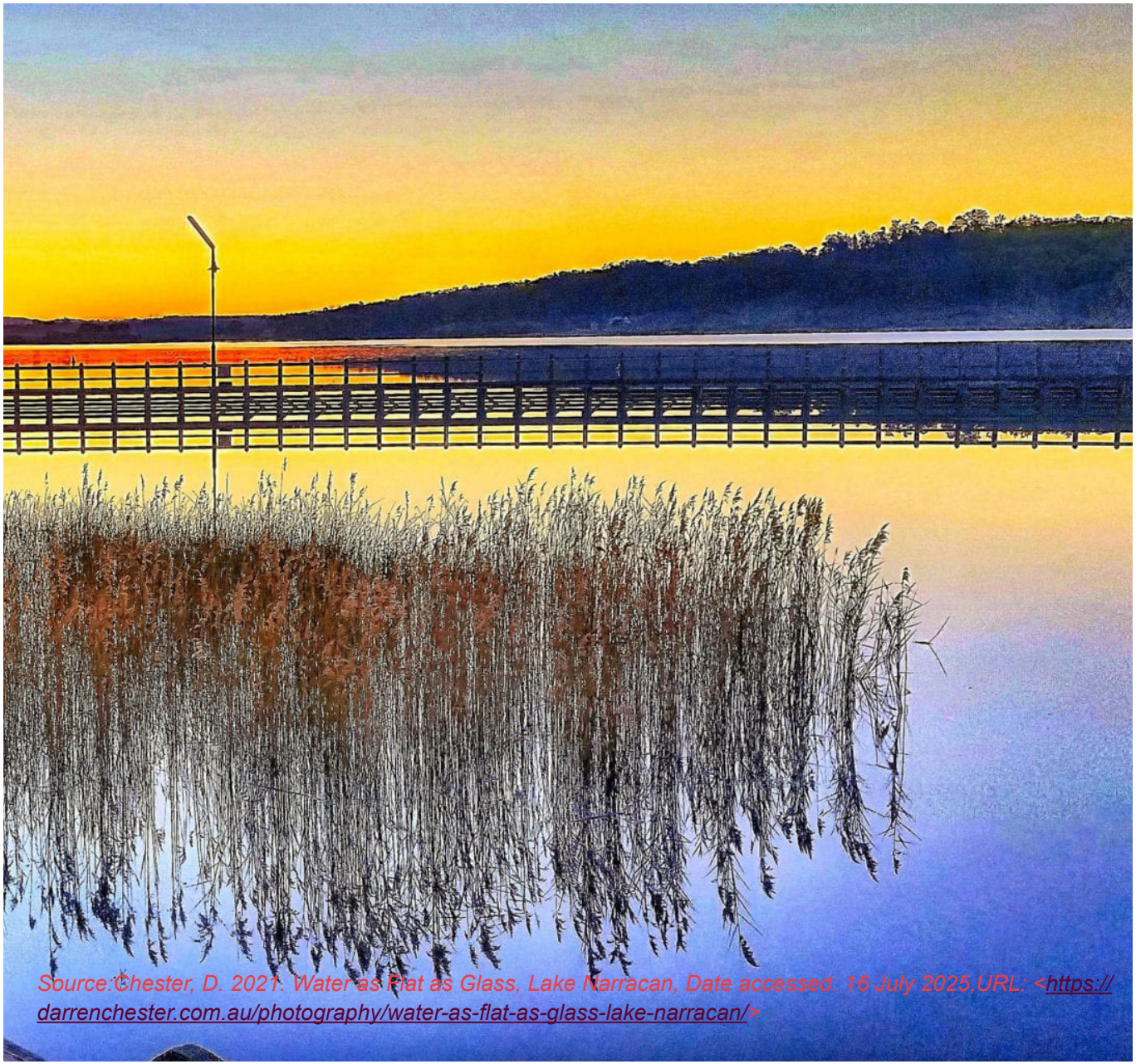
Public open space includes parks, open areas, and places where people can congregate for active and passive recreation and enjoyment. Parks are one form of public open space that usually include grassed areas and gardens, and some green recreational space. Parks support both the physical and mental health of people living nearby and are important for supporting the local ecology and biodiversity of an area.

What was measured

Public open space was defined as urban parks greater than or equal to 1.5 hectares, since larger parks have been shown to support physical activity. Access was measured as the percentage of dwellings within 400m based on a walkable road network distance. The distance of 400m represents a 5-minute walk for most people.

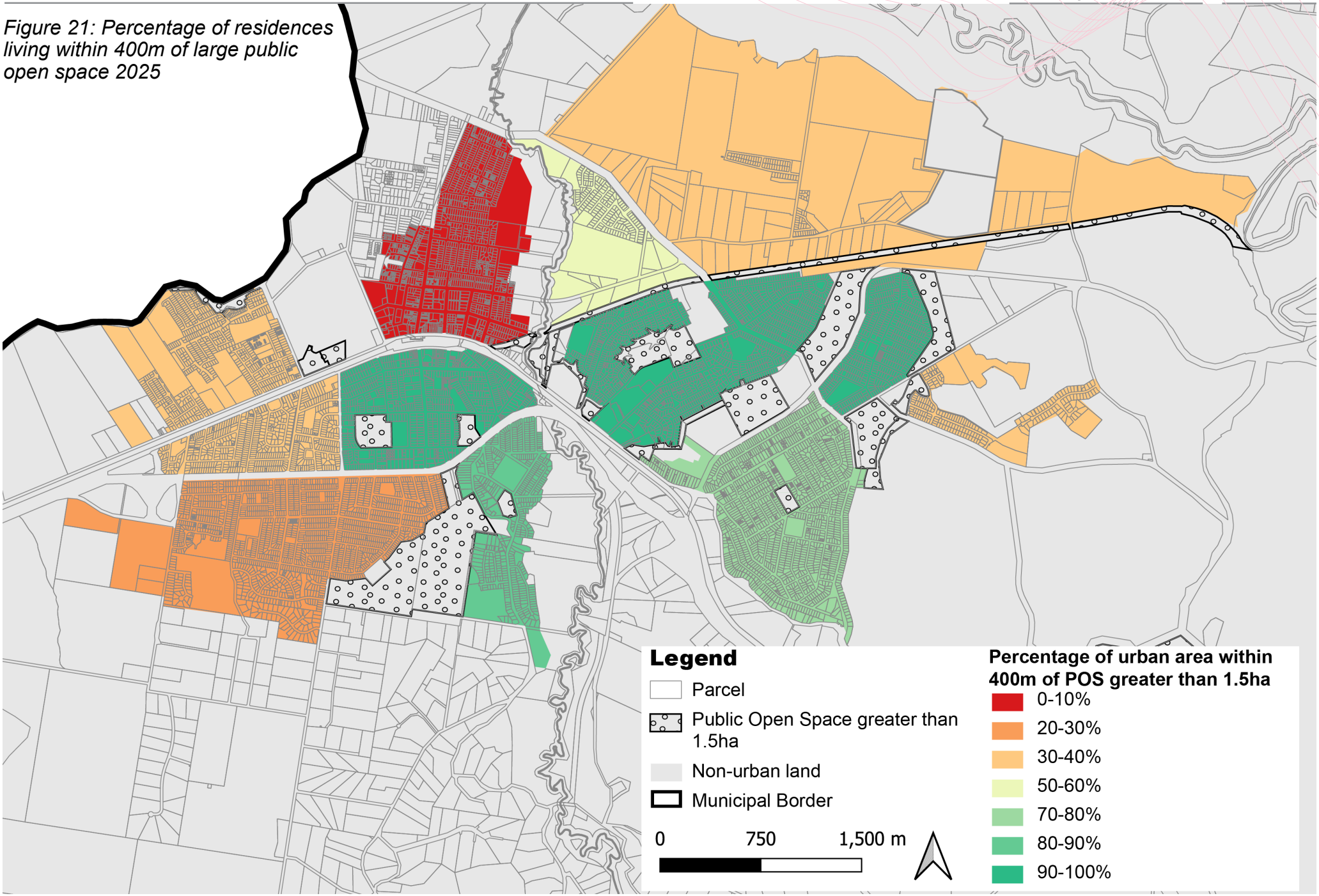
Results

The percentage of residences living within 400m of public open space of at least 1.5 hectares in Moe-Newborough is 39.36%. Moe is at 42.93% and Newborough us at 66.30%. A closer analysis of access to public open space across the neighbourhoods in Moe-Newborough reveal wide variation over the city. This is shown in Figure 20.



Source:Chester, D. 2021. Water as Flat as Glass, Lake Narracan, Date accessed: 16 July 2025,URL: <https://darrenchester.com.au/photography/water-as-flat-as-glass-lake-narracan/>

Figure 21: Percentage of residences living within 400m of large public open space 2025



Social Infrastructure

Rationale

Social infrastructure provides access to essential community services and resources. Access to a wide range of different types of social infrastructure is therefore important for the creation and ongoing development of healthy communities. High levels of access to social infrastructure are linked to increased physical activity and wellbeing, and increases satisfaction with the local community improving social interactions and mental health outcomes. Social infrastructure is therefore a key component of liveability.

What was measured

Binary indicators will be used to record the presence (=1) or absence (=0) for the 16 types of social infrastructure destinations. The Social Infrastructure Index represents a social infrastructure mix score created by summing the 16 binary indicators for each participant. Score for the Social Infrastructure Index range from a minimum of 0 to a maximum of 16 if all types are present. Sports facilities are limited to public swimming pools and council supported recreation/leisure centres.

Results

The average number of social infrastructure destinations accessible within recommended distances from dwellings across all areas of Moe-Newborough is 7.5 out of a total of 16.

Moe has a score of 8, while Newborough on average has a score of 6.5.

A closer analysis of access to public open space across the neighbourhoods in Moe-Newborough reveal wide variation over the city. This is shown in Figure 21.

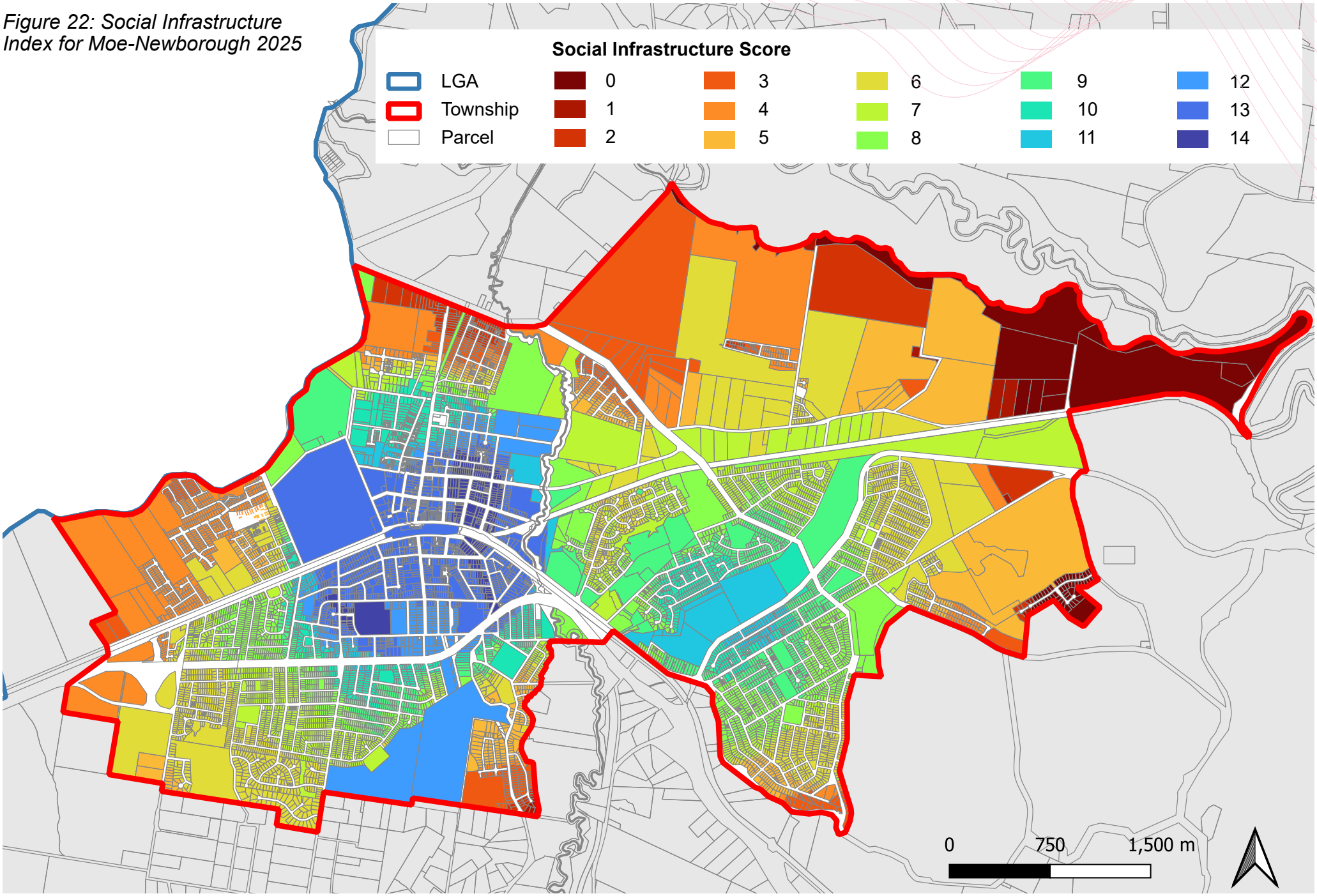
In comparison, Ballarat has an average score of 3 out of 16 while Bendigo has an average of 4 out of 16.

Lake Narracan is likely to improve as a Primary School, Kindergarten and Community Centre have been identified in the Precinct Structure Plan.



Source: All Homes, 2025. Ted Summerton Reserve, Date accessed: 17 July 2025 ,URL: <https://www.allhomes.com.au/53-wirraway-street-moe-vic-3825>

Figure 22: Social Infrastructure Index for Moe-Newborough 2025



Recommendations

The recommendations are drawn from the Audit of Facilities, Provision Assessment, Capacity and Utilisation Assessment, Community Consultation and the baseline results for the Social Infrastructure measurements.

The Audit of Facilities highlights that there are very few cultural facilities within Moe-Newborough.

The Provision Assessment indicates that there is an undersupply of:

- Three year old kindergarten rooms;
- Playgroups (specifically within Newborough);
- Neighbourhood House programs; and
- Aged care beds.

Occasional Care also came up as insufficient, however, there is one in Trafalgar within close driving distance. As such, it is not required at the moment.

There is provision within the Lake Narracan Precinct Structure Plan for kindergarten rooms, and a large meeting room for a playgroup space which will cover these requirements. As such, it is recommended that planning for this facility be brought forward to meet the need.

The Capacity and Utilisation Assessment highlights that there is a wide variety of meeting rooms available, however, community perceptions highlighted that:

- Appropriate could not be found for community groups, particularly thoses with storage needs;
- The public thought Council prices should be reviewed to be consistenet with other local providers; and
- Meeting rooms with more modern amenities were more likely to be booked out.

As there are a number of facilities that are underutilised, that are managed by Council, there is the potential to explore options like repurposing facilities to bookable gallery spaces or makers' spaces. To provide storage spaces that community groups could book.

This data also suggest that Council facilities should be audited on their condition and blockers for community participants to use the facilities.

The Measurements and Milestones highlights that Moe and Newborough have access to a large number of social infrastructure services. In this category for the Liveability Index, Moe and Newborough both rank higher than regional cities such as Ballarat and Bendigo. Meausrements such as this highlight the liveability of the township and should be promoted.

The Moe & District Social Infrastructure Plan identified that booking rooms was a barrier to greater usage. At the time, there were a number of different systems that needed to be used to book differentrooms. This created a system that was confusing for community members. Council has recently released 'Bookable' which moves all meeting rooms oto to one public interface. It would be beneficial to continue to educate the public on this program to ensure confidence with the new system.

Table 9: Recommendations

No.	*Recommendation*	*Council's Role*	*Key Partners*	*Priority*	*Budget*
1	Bring planning forward for Beck's Bay Village Community Centre as identified in the Lake Narracan Precinct Structure Plan.				
2	Explore options for meeting spaces that have appropriate storage solutions to meet the needs of community groups.				
3	Explore options to better utilise council facilities to better meet the communities needs such as gallery spaces.				
4	Review rates for council meeting rooms.				
5	Audit Council facilities in Moe-Newborough to identify blockers to greater community usage.				
6	Educate the public on the new Bookable booking system for Council meeting rooms.				
7	Promote the liveability of Moe-Newborough.				
8	Advocate to establish a Neighbourhood House program in Newborough.				
9	Work to establish a playgroup in Newborough.				

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Morwell Library
63-65 Elgin Street, Morwell

Moe

Moe Service Centre and Library
1-29 George Street, Moe

Traralgon

Traralgon Service Centre and Library
34-38 Kay Street, Traralgon

Churchill

Churchill Community Hub
9-11 Philip Parade, Churchill

To obtain this information in languages other than English, or in other formats, please contact Latrobe City Council on 1300 367 700.