

6.3. MM03: Primrose Park Tennis Courts

A few weeks ago I was approached by members of the Primrose Park Tennis Club seeking my support to get the tennis courts repaired. Council has since received a petition on this subject.

I am pleased to report that Council's engineers are well across this issue. The courts were constructed in 1985/86 on reclaimed landfill on the site of the old sewerage treatment works. There has been settlement on the site, resulting in some displacement and deflection of the tennis court slab.

External engineering consultants have advised Council adding a topping slab or fully replacing the slab would only be a temporary fix and that a new suspended slab with piles inserted into the bedrock would need to be built. As the courts were built on landfill, Council may also need to address issues of land contamination when the work is done. Suffice to say there is no cheap fix for the courts, with the estimates for the work in excess of \$2 million.

Although the playing surface is no longer perfect, I understand there is no immediate safety risk for players, except for the end court which has a more limited use. Since 2018, Council has offered a reduced rent to the operator of the tennis courts.

While there is no funding for the tennis courts in this year's Operational Plan, Council can consider its inclusion in the next Delivery Plan. We can also seek external grant funding for the work to bring it forward.

I therefore recommend:

- 1. THAT** a report on the settlement issues and cost of renewing the Primrose Park Tennis Courts be provided to Council for consideration and incorporation in the Delivery Program.
- 2. THAT** the report explores options for providing equivalent tennis facilities at other locations if appropriate.
- 3. THAT** Council staff seek external grant funding for the renewal of the Primrose Park tennis courts through any relevant State or Federal funding programs.

**COUNCILLOR JILLY GIBSON
MAYOR**