

## 6.1.8 Response to petition requesting public toilet at Eastone Reserve

**Responsible GM:** Debbie Tyson  
**Author:** Doug Evans

### Recommendation(s)

That Council:

- Notes the request, through the submission of a petition by the Cardinia Lakes Early Learning Centre (ELC), for the installation of a new public amenity at Cardinia Lakes (Eastone Reserve). and
- Consult and work in conjunction with the Cardinia Lakes Resident Association, in seeking appropriate community feedback, to determine need and evidence for a new public amenity at Cardinia Lakes (Eastone Reserve).

### Attachments

Nil

### Executive Summary

Council has received a petition requesting the consideration in the installation of public amenities at the Cardinia Lakes site (Eastone Reserve), primarily for the use by preschool children, teachers and supporting parents during their excursions and events at the Quarry.

### Background

At the September Council Meeting a petition was tabled requesting the installation of public amenities at the Cardinia Lakes site (Eastone Reserve).

A Change.org petition carrying 180 signatures of which 60 are Cardinia Shire residents was lodged and an additional written petition signed by 23 persons of which 13 are Cardinia Shire residents have been received.

The petitions have been raised by the Cardinia Lakes Early Learning Centre (ELC) representatives who utilises on a limited capacity the local Quarry Park for bush kinder and excursions. The reasoning for the petition is to primarily support ELC children in the broader engagement of the bush kinder program, maximising the children's' experience and time at the Quarry Park.

The community wide feedback survey in 2020 for the Public Toilet Strategy did not at the time identify any such need and the current Capital Improvement Plan consequently does not include such a requirement.

There is no other supporting data available to Council in further understanding the need for this request and in providing evidence for the petition submitted.

### Policy Implications

Council has previously adopted a Public Toilet Strategy.

## Relevance to Council Plan

### 2.1 We support the creation of liveable spaces and places

2.1.1 Advocate, plan for and deliver accessible community infrastructure and services that address community need.

2.1.2 Plan and maintain safe, inclusive and connected open spaces, places and active travel routes.

### Climate Emergency Consideration

All new facilities, including renovations, refurbishment, additions, renewals, etc. consider materials, supply chains, methodologies that mitigate climate impact and prevent or minimise the impacts on Council and its community.

### Consultation/Communication

It is proposed to consult with the Cardinia Lakes Resident's Association to seek feedback to determine the need and evidence for a new public amenity at Cardinia Lakes (Eastone Reserve).

Following the tabling of this petition Council has received an objection from a concerned local resident to the proposal to construct a toilet block at this location. The resident raises several grounds of objection and advises that other public toilet facilities are available close to the lake.

### Financial and Resource Implications

There is no current data that identifies the Cardinia Lakes (Eastone Reserve) location as a priority site for a new public amenity and consequently the recently adopted Capital Improvement Plan, as part of the Public Toilet Strategy, which addresses renewal/replacement public amenity projects, does not allow for any such budgetary considerations.

Further, the present Capital Improvement Plan relies on external funding resources such as the Growing Suburbs Fund and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure funding programs, in supporting Council's contributions, in order to implement the priorities as identified on this Plan.

Should there be consideration to new public amenities at the Cardinia Lakes (Eastone Reserve), the following steps are recommended:

- Seek initial feedback from the Cardinia Lakes Resident Association, on whether a new public amenity is needed and required at Cardinia Lakes (Eastone Reserve).
- In structuring appropriate feedback from the Resident Association, we would need to have concluded a likely feasible location for the new amenity, including availability of services and that the location best provides universal design suitability.
- In considering budget for a new public amenity at Cardinia Lakes (Eastone Reserve), an unqualified first budget estimate is \$260k based on present new public amenities being installed within the Shire. Note this budget includes for services being available within 10 metres, simplified access requirements to and from the new amenity, and without impact from additional building and planning requirements.

**Conclusion**

The petition submitted by the Cardinia Lakes Early Learning Centre does not provide sufficient and reasonable evidence and need from a broad community perspective that a new public amenity at Cardinia Lakes (Eastone Reserve) is required.