

# Media Release

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## DAVID HODGETT MP

Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party  
Shadow Minister for Roads and Infrastructure  
Shadow Minister for Ports and Freight  
State Member for Croydon

Saturday 25 August 2018

### Redevelopment of Mooroolbark's Esther Park Community Sports Pavilion

An elected Liberal Nationals Government will contribute \$1 million towards the redevelopment of Esther Park Community Sports Pavilion.

Esther Park is the home of Mooroolbark Soccer Club, which has a long and rich history and today fields strong men's and women's senior sides in State Division 1 and 2, as well as a large and growing number of junior teams. There has been significant growth in female participation at the Club, and there are currently no permanent female amenities or change rooms.

The existing facilities at Esther Park are inadequate to meet the needs of this growing Club and would be redeveloped to provide separate female and male change rooms and associated amenities including first aid room and public toilets. Under the proposed plan, the local community will also be able to use the facilities for meetings, social gatherings and community events.

This funding builds on the commitment by the Liberal Nationals in 2014 and the long campaign from the Club and local community.

Unlike Daniel Andrews who has decided to give a massive \$225 million of taxpayers' money to the AFL to upgrade Etihad Stadium, the Liberal Nationals are getting behind cash-strapped local sporting clubs who desperately need our support.

#### Comments attributable to Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party, David Hodgett:

"Bridget Vallence has been doing extensive work with the local community and Mooroolbark Soccer Club by coordinating a petition and advocating strongly to secure this funding to redevelop Esther Park Community Sports Pavilion.

The Liberal Nationals won't hand over millions of dollars to the AFL to spend on Etihad Stadium. Our goal will be to prioritise funding to our suburban and country sports clubs."

#### Comments attributable to Liberal Candidate for Evelyn, Bridget Vallence:

"Esther Park is at the heart of the local community and is the home of the Mooroolbark Soccer Club. I am delighted to support such an iconic sporting club that's had significant growth in female participation, from juniors to State Division seniors, with an exciting contribution of \$1 million to redevelop its Pavilion.

If I am elected to represent Evelyn, I'll ensure our hardworking community groups and sporting clubs get the funding they require."

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*Liberal Nationals*