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### Request to be heard?:

**Full Name:** Irene Norman

**Organisation:** Archery Victoria Inc

**Affected property:** Yarra Bowmen Archery Club Bulleen Park

**Attachment 1:**

**Attachment 2:**

**Attachment 3:**

**Comments:** Archery Victoria is the State Sporting Association for the sport of Archery in Victoria. Yarra Bowmen Inc is a member club of Archery Victoria. Archery Victoria is a member region of Archery Australia. Yarra Bowmen is currently located within Bulleen Park and is impacted by the North East Link Project. Yarra Bowmen, although a small club of 40+ members, is an important strategic location for Archery in Victoria. The club, over the last few years, has been building its members and is now a viable club providing services to the communities of Boroondara and Manningham. Each year a National Matchplay Series is run by Archery Australia and a Victorian leg has been featured in this major event over the last several years. For 2020 and beyond, the Archery Victoria Board has been discussing placing this event at the grounds currently occupied by Yarra Bowmen. This event will serve to highlight the great features of this club and will give Yarra Bowmen a higher profile within the community. The economic effects to the Cities of Boroondara and Manningham are also evident with athletes from interstate and overseas coming into those cities and using accommodation and hospitality venues. Archery Victoria is strongly supportive of Yarra Bowmen remaining in their current location or, if that is not possible, that any relocation provide an upgrade of facilities to encompass all disciplines of archery (outdoor target, indoor target, matchplay, clout and field) as well as pavillion access and facilities which will help to attract new archers and particularly women and girls. Archery Victoria's Strategic Plan has a focus on women and girls participation and the current facilities at Yarra Bowmen are insufficient to be attractive to that demographic - as seen by the current low numbers of women and girls accessing the facilities at that club. Our Strategic Plan also has a strong push to increase membership numbers and active participation across the State. The target is to grow our sport significantly over the next 4 years. Yarra Bowmen is a key component of that strategy. Please consider our needs when determining the future of the club. Archery is a sport which is ideally suited to support athletes from 8 - 80+. It is an excellent alternative for athletes with a disability and is suited to both competitive and recreational pursuits. It is an Olympic Sport and athletes from Victoria have achieved that ultimate goal and brought medals back to our state. Yarra Bowmen has huge potential to grow to be an even more inclusive and integral part of the the sport of Archery in Victoria and its' surrounding community. Archery Victoria is strongly supportive of the club and are looking forward to be actively involved in finding an equitable solution for all.