

ACT GOVERNMENT

# Introduce activities for the Citizens day



**ACT**  
Government

Transport Canberra  
and City Services

ACT GOVERNMENT

# Play Spaces in the ACT



**ACT**  
Government

Transport Canberra  
and City Services

# Tasks for today

1. Decide why play spaces are important
2. Decide your criteria for allocating \$ (today and into the future)
3. Recommend how we should engage with the community
4. Agree on categories (buckets) for spending and allocate \$1.9m to those categories

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# Background information

## Canberra's playgrounds

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We have a lot of playgrounds

A large proportion of playground may not provide quality play opportunities

They are safe but expensive to replace

Budget is limited

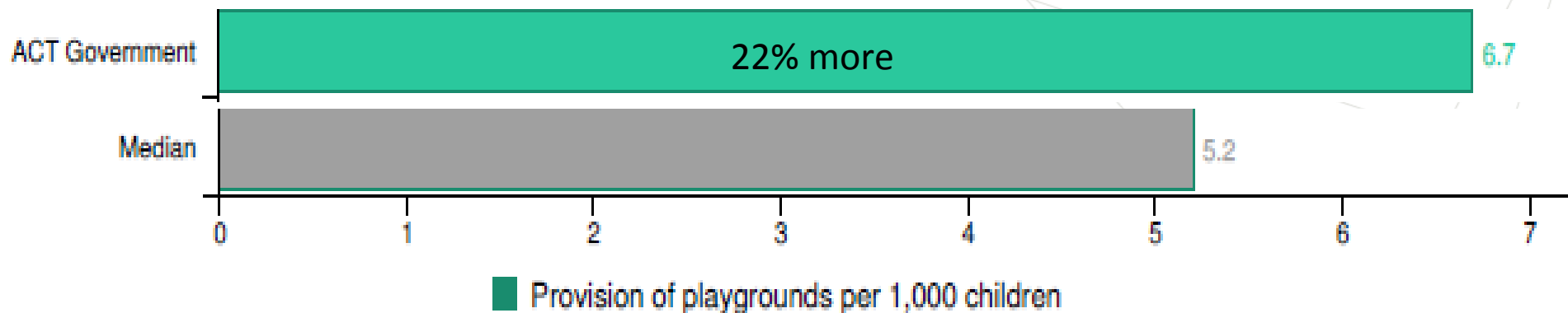
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# Some key evidence

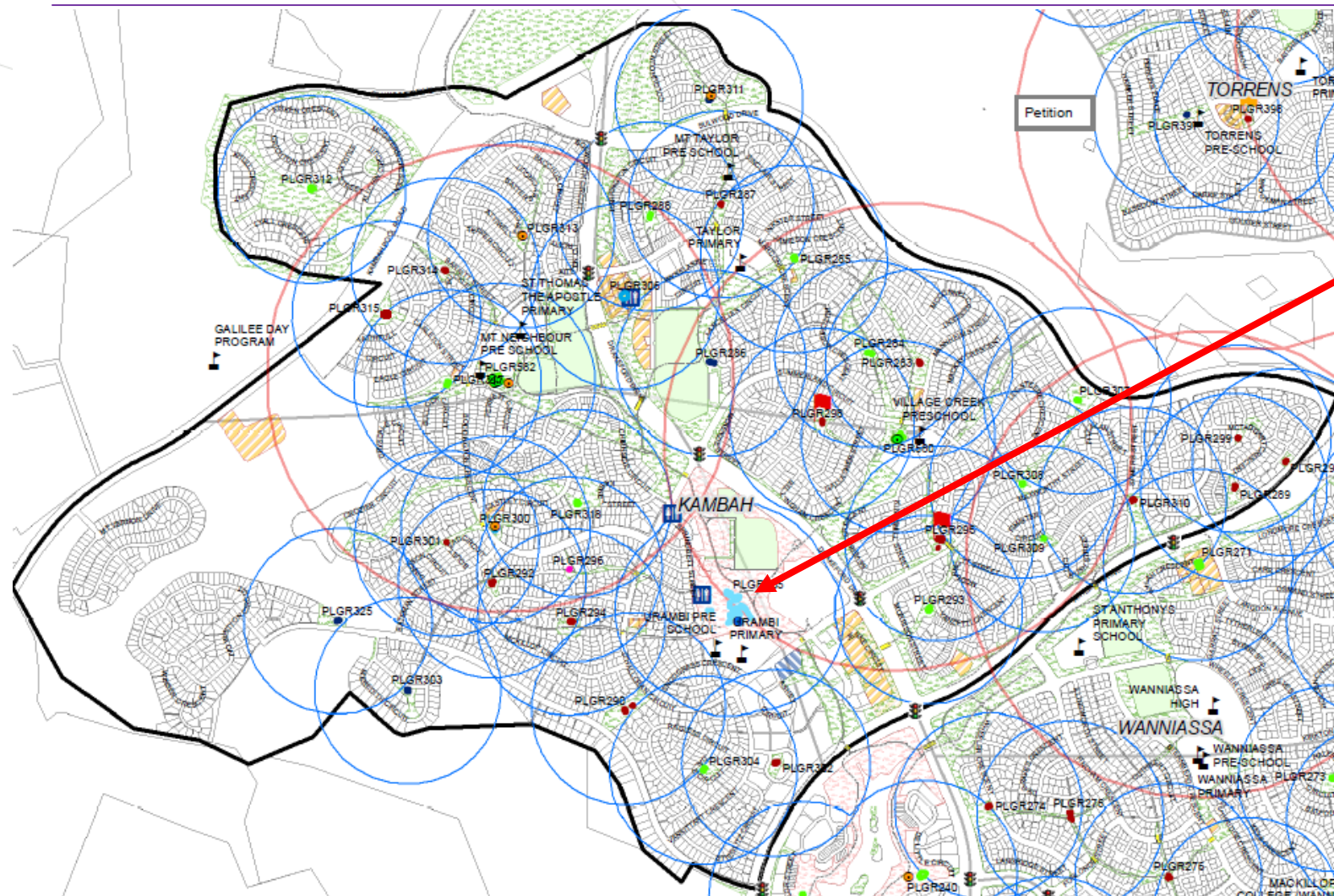
# We have a lot of playgrounds in the ACT

The average number of playgrounds across Australia is 10 playgrounds per 10,000 people

## 2017 Yardstick benchmarked provision indicator across local governments:



## Example: Kambah (Established in 1974)



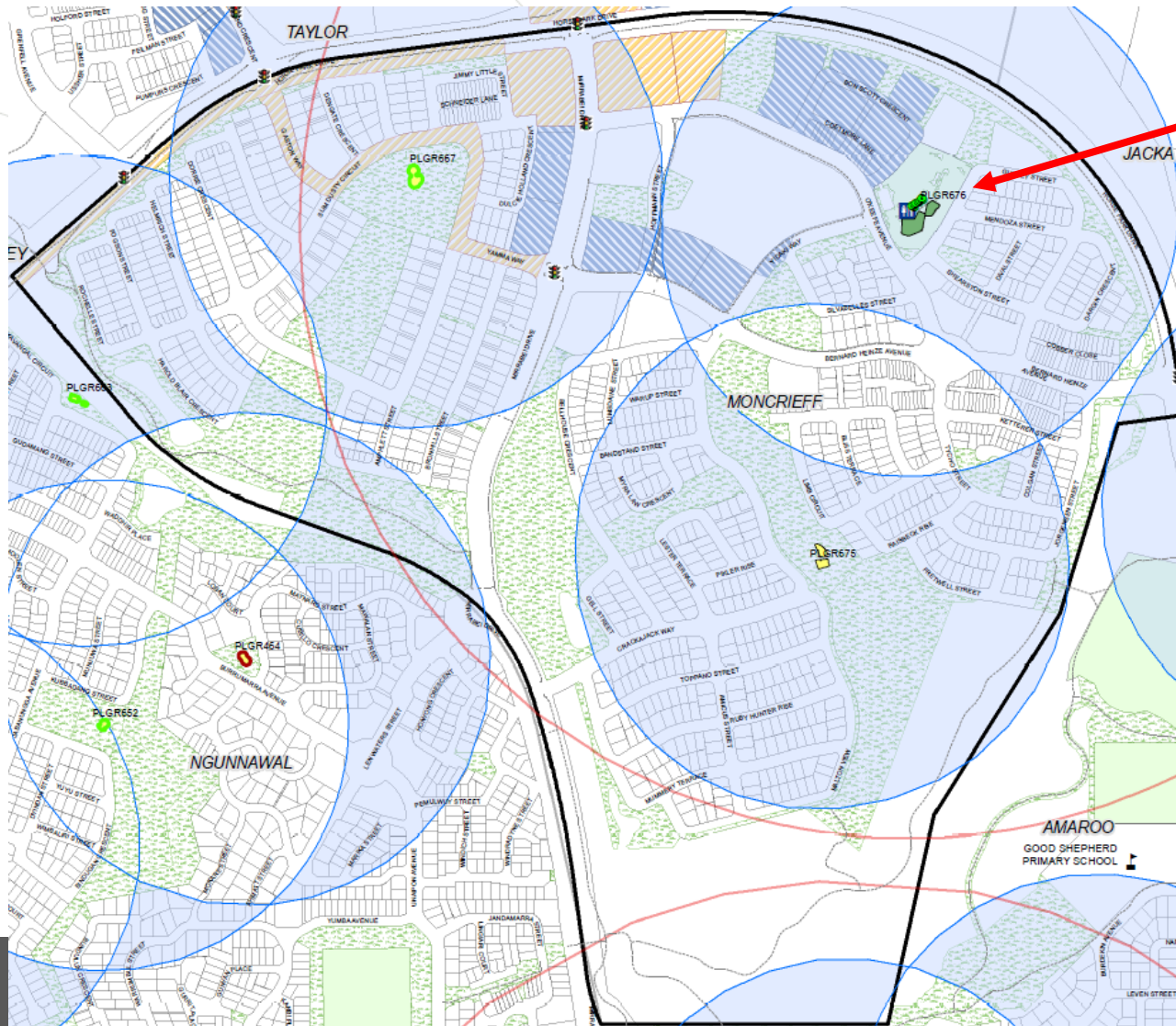
4<sup>th</sup> most  
popular  
playground  
in Canberra

The ACT was administered by the federal government until 1989



# Example: Moncrieff (Established in 2014)

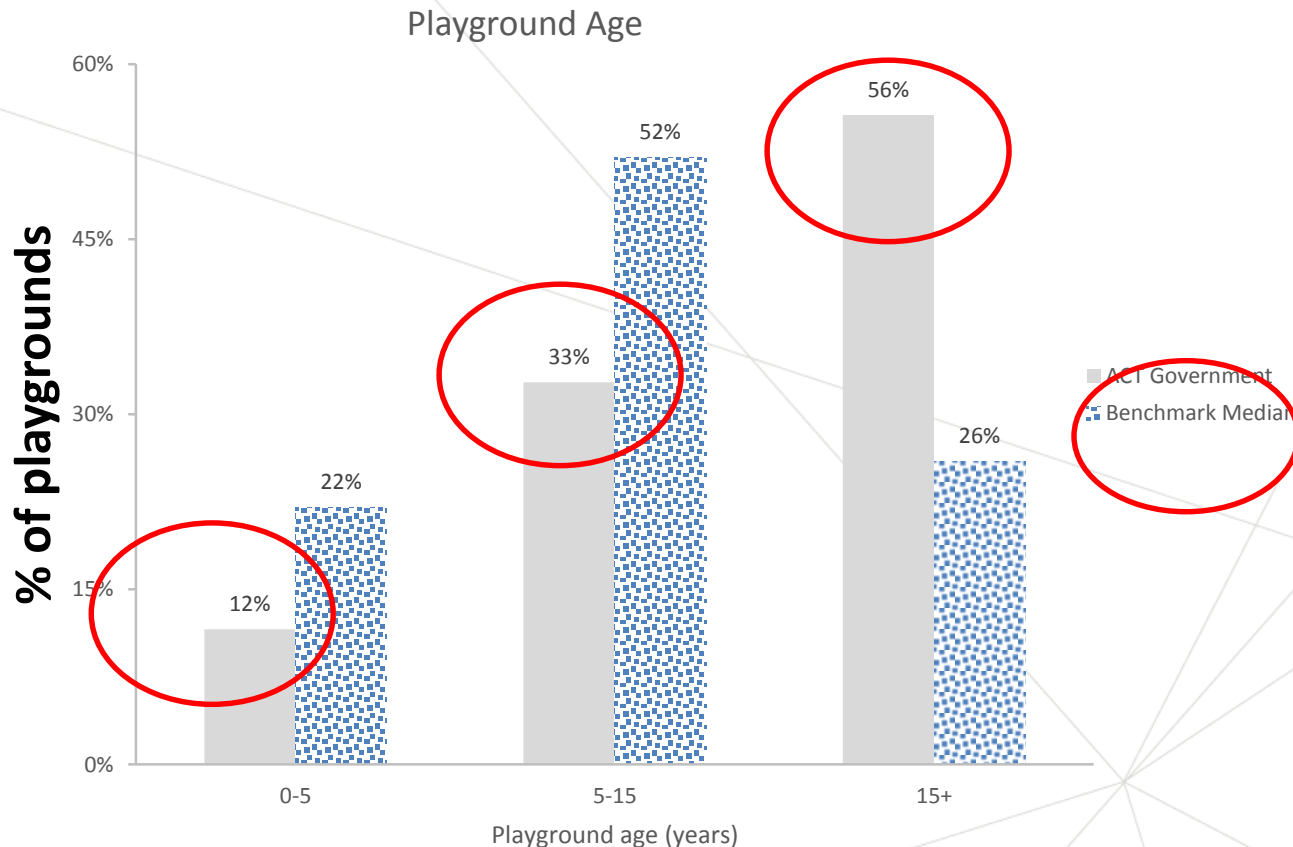
Quantity- provision  
of playgrounds per  
1000 children under  
15



6<sup>th</sup> most  
popular  
playground  
in Canberra

# Many playgrounds are outdated

4. Quality – % of modern playgrounds



Excellent

Good

Average or worse

# Forecast quality

Quality – % of  
modern playgrounds  
(<15 years old)

Year 10 projected Modernisation Score. Target is >75% less than 15 years

Benchmark = 74%

10 year forecast = 66%

Difference = -8%

## Satisfaction with the quality of play spaces in the ACT

A large majority of residents would prefer quality over quantity



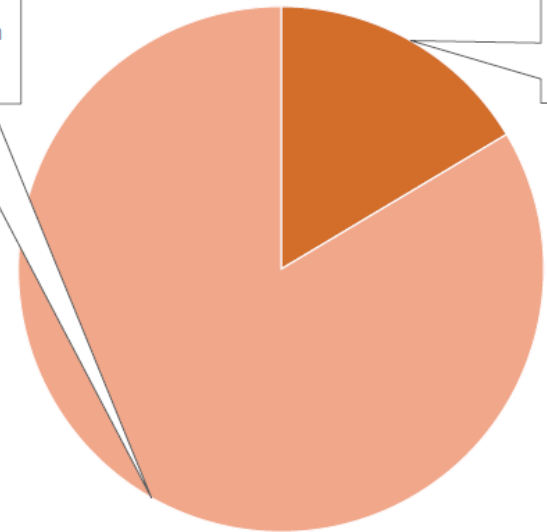
**18%** want **more infrastructure** but with **reduced quality** standard and a lower standard of servicing

**82%** want **less infrastructure** across the suburb but of a **higher quality** and of higher standard of service

WOULD YOU PREFER TO HAVE A NUMBER OF SMALL PLAYGROUNDS IN YOUR SUBURB OR FEWER BUT HIGHER QUALITY PLAYGROUNDS IN YOUR SUBURB?

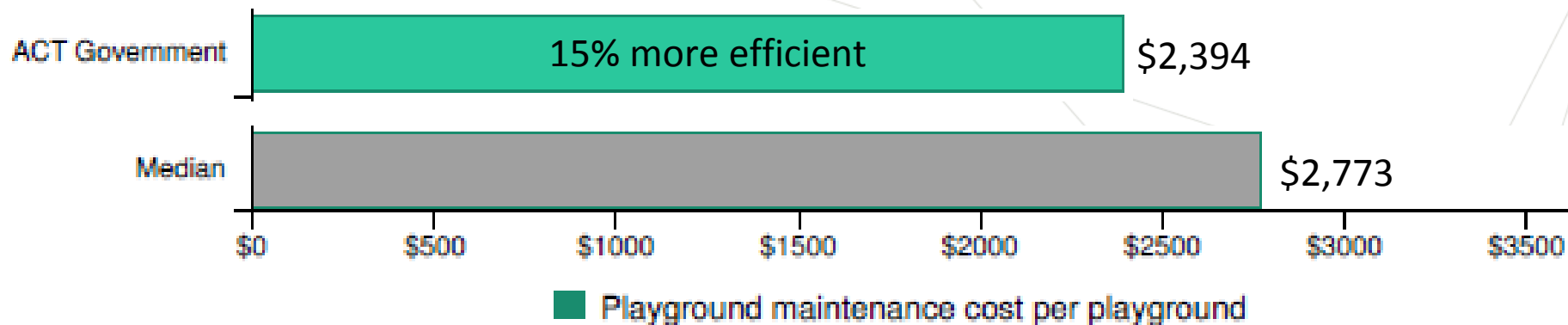
Fewer but higher quality playgrounds in my suburb  
84%

a number of small playgrounds in my suburb  
16%

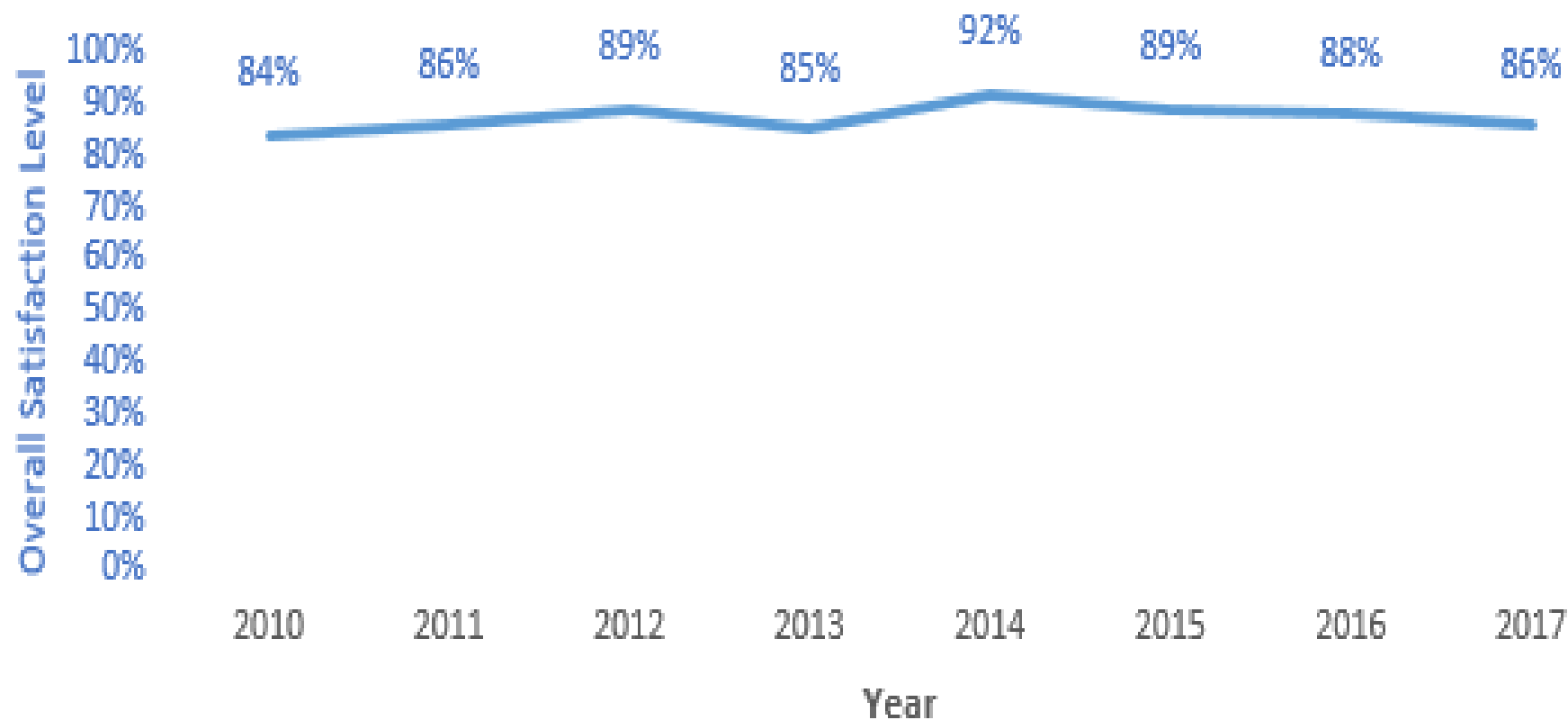


## We have an efficient service program

### Efficiency of inspection and maintenance program



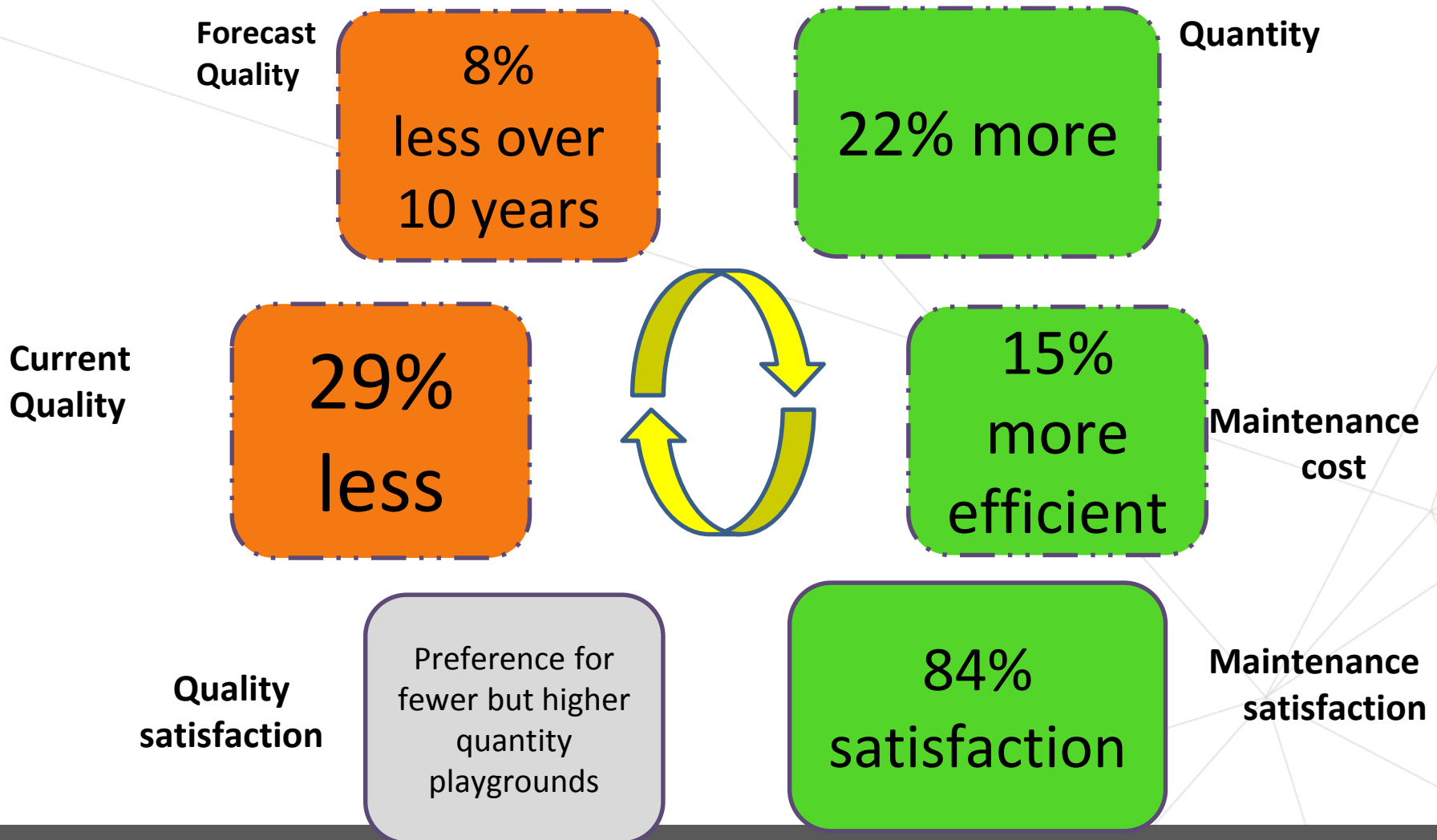
# Customer satisfaction with the provision and maintenance of playgrounds



# New playground costs

Smaller?	\$
Local neighbourhood playground (430)	\$115,000
Natural Play space (5)	\$120-\$175,000
Central Community playground (55)	\$210,000
District Playground (15)	\$260,000 each item
Bigger?	\$

# 2018 data summary





## The Problem - Key Slide

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Limited quality playgrounds are causing community concern.

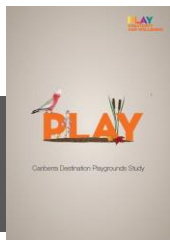
The main causes are:

- High cost to build playgrounds to the current design standard
- The total number of playgrounds
- Budget is limited

# Evidence- community input

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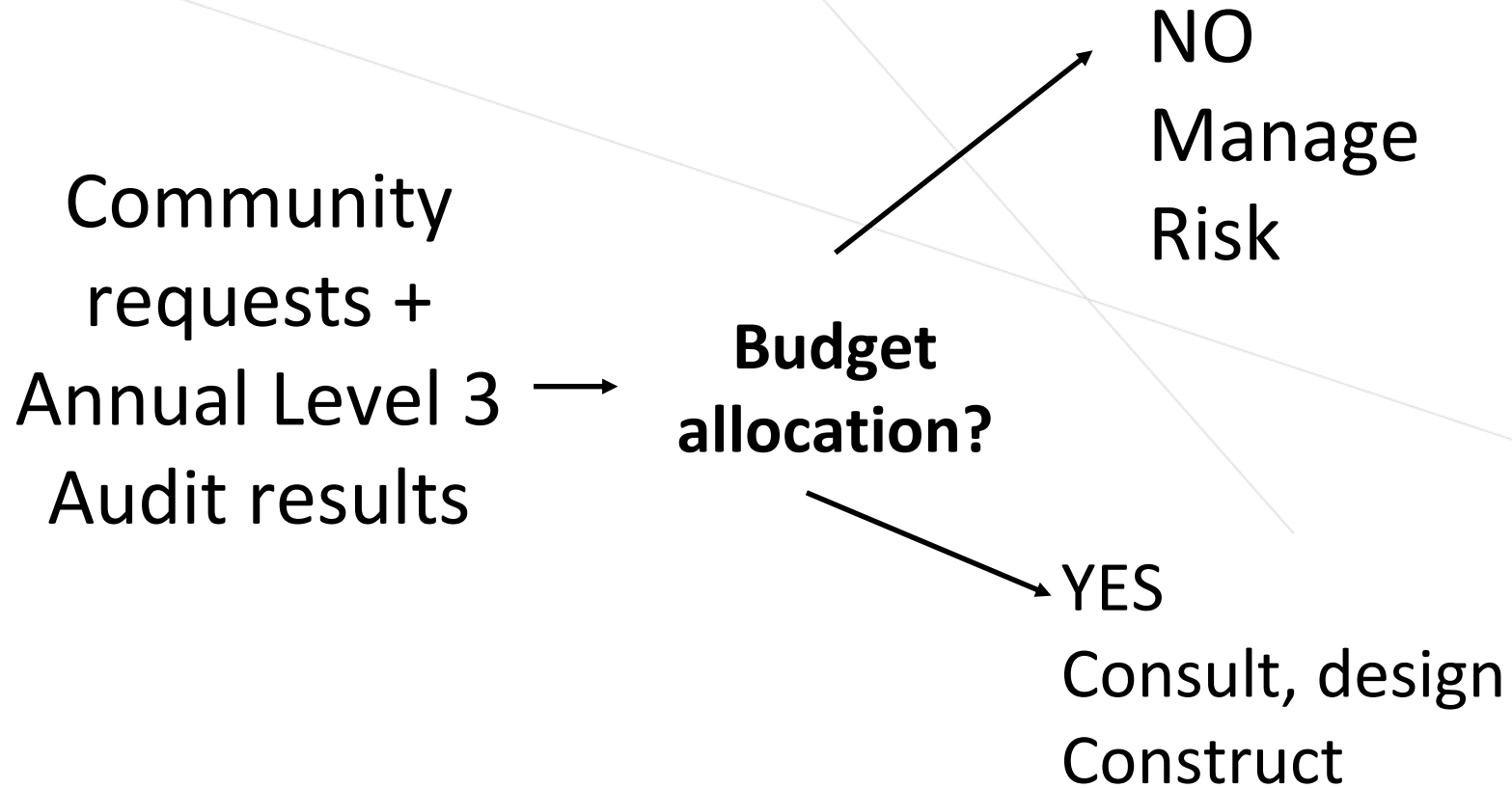
Letters to the Minister  
Chief Minister Talkback  
Community consultation  
Access Canberra requests  
Petitions  
Surveys and reports



Canberra Destination Playgrounds Study 2018

# How does TCCS prioritise?

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## Limitations

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- ✗ **Does not allow for wider 'play space' service gaps such as different age cohorts, accessibility, play diversity**
- ✗ **Does not consider limitations with supporting facilities such as seating, pathways, shade**
- ✗ **Does not consider equity across Canberra**
- ✗ **Does not target suburbs in most need of better recreational, health and social outcomes**

## Forum tasks for today

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1. Describe why play spaces are important
2. Develop community criteria for play spaces
3. Decide how TCCS should engage with the community on play space decision making
4. Allocate up to \$1.9 million on play spaces

## Forum Task 2: Develop community criteria

You have already made progress on this

Apply these to decision making later  
today

## Forum Task 2: Develop community criteria

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- Your criteria will reflect the views of the wider community
- We have heard community views through
  - Better Suburbs Survey 2017
  - The Canberra Destinations Play Study (City Renewal Authority) 2018
  - The Better Suburbs Forum discussions
- Later today you will hear about
  - Four community petition groups
  - Submissions to the Play Spaces Forum

# Forum Task 2: Develop community criteria

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## PLAY Study – over 1000 respondents

- People want fewer but better playgrounds
- Inequity between old and new suburbs
- More age diversity
- More shade, more fences
- More risky play
- More nature play

## Better Suburbs Survey

- Parks and amenities is a top 5 feature

## Better Suburbs Forum so far

- More nature play
- More offerings for wider age ranges
- Less local play spaces and increased quality in larger play spaces
- More play spaces co-located with shops, ovals and other facilities
- More fenced play spaces
- Play spaces that cater to the ageing population
- Community and business partnerships





## Forum Task 3: How TCCS should engage with the community

**–Tell us how we should work with the community to make future decisions about play spaces**

***Hold that thought!***

## Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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- Allocate \$1.9m to play spaces
- Use your criteria to make your decision
- TCCS has suggested four buckets. Are they appropriate?
- Allocate \$ to the buckets
- Work after the forum – some of you may agree to be part of panels to finalise decisions such as the locations of spending for each bucket.

## Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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TCCS suggested buckets

1. New nature play spaces
2. Whole of suburb play reviews
3. Amenity upgrades
4. Refresh existing play spaces

I will explain the rationale behind these buckets, then it will be up to you as a group to decide

## Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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### Bucket 1: New nature play spaces

Cost: \$175,000 per play space

TCCS suggestion: 4 @ \$700,000

# Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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## Bucket 1: New nature play spaces

Strong community support

High value play

Lower construction cost

Complements existing types of play spaces

# Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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## Bucket 1: New nature play spaces

There is a wall display of all the district play spaces in the room today



## Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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Bucket 2: Whole of suburb play reviews

Cost: \$75,000 per suburb

TCCS suggestion: 5 @ \$375,000

## Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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### Bucket 2: Whole of suburb play reviews

Forum panel would select suburbs based on the agreed criteria

TCCS would engage the local community based on your suggestions on how we should engage

Seek budget funding based on engagement outcomes



## Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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### Bucket 2: Whole of suburb play reviews

How would this bucket address community concerns and best practice?

There is a wall display in the room with some example Suburbs

# Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

## Bucket 3: Amenity upgrades for play spaces

TCCS suggestion: \$325,000

Some estimated costs

- Shade Sails \$12,000 - \$26,000 depending on size
- Picnic Tables \$1,600 - \$2,000
- Park Benches \$1,600 - \$4,500
- Shelter 4m x 4m \$12,000
- Drinking Fountains/bubblers \$18,000
- BBQ Double hot plate \$15,000
- Toilets \$180,000 - \$220,000
- Landscaping Shrub beds \$88 m2
- Paths \$180m2
- Bike Track Learn to ride \$260,000 +
- Bike Rack Metal Loop \$900
- Fitness Stations 6 items \$30,000 - \$55,000
- 3 in 1 courts \$140,000 (Basketball, Soccer, netball same as CRIPS)
- Basketball court \$50,000- \$75,000
- Badminton/volleyball (CRIP) \$6,000

# Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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## Bucket 3: Amenity upgrades for play spaces

e.g. Shade sails, paths, landscaping, furniture

Informed by public submissions

Decision making led by a panel from the Forum

Improve experience for children and adults

## Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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### Bucket 4: Refresh existing play spaces

Cost:\$30,000 per play space (approximately)

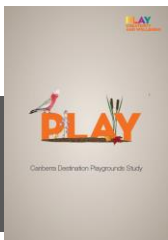
TCCS suggestion: 16 @ \$500,000

# Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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## Bucket 4: Refresh existing play spaces

- Extend life by 5+ years
- Improve function and aesthetics
- Prevents greater costs in the medium term



# Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

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## Bucket 4: Refresh existing play spaces



Wellington Street, Ngunnawal before and after



# Forum Task 4: Participatory budgeting

## Bucket 4: Refresh existing play spaces



Were Street, Calwell before and after