

**WILSON PARK — NETBALL COURTS UPGRADE**

*Statement by Member for Belmont*

**MS C.M. ROWE (Belmont)** [12.58 pm]: I rise today to draw attention to the urgent need for upgrades to the netball courts at Wilson Park in Rivervale and to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the volunteers at the Belmont Netball Association. Wilson Park is the home of netball in my electorate. The courts are used by the Belmont Netball Association and its membership of nearly 600 players across six local clubs. A natural consequence of the courts' popularity, along with the age of the courts, is that the playing surfaces are in desperate need of an upgrade. The court surfaces are totally worn and of a substandard quality, increasing the likelihood of player injuries.

The BNA is well placed to establish a strong netball hub at Wilson Park if playing facilities are upgraded to a higher level. An upgrade to the playing surfaces and lighting at Wilson Park would mean a great deal to my community. I am currently in the process of collecting petition signatures in support of these upgrades to demonstrate the level of community support for this project and encourage interested locals to sign my petition.

I would like to finish by acknowledging the dedication of all the volunteers at the BNA. I would especially like to thank treasurer Anne Deacon and administrator Narelle Parker, who have done an outstanding job in organising the return of competition at Wilson Park. I have been working closely with Anne and Narelle to advocate for these upgrades and hope we can succeed in getting this much-needed infrastructure upgrade for our community.

*Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm*