

# Olympic Pools

## Te Kōpuawai o Olympic

### The challenge for redeveloping our Olympic Pools

If there is a new pool getting built this will be awesome make sure it's fully closed in. The current pool has seen better days in all honesty.

— Stefan

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Our Olympic Pool complex was built in 1974, and while it's been expanded and improved since then, the facility is showing its age. There's a growing list of major structural and maintenance issues, and a demand for services that the current complex doesn't provide.

To keep the complex operating, in the last three years we committed an extra \$750,000 for repairs and maintenance. Each year redevelopment is deferred, the higher the maintenance costs will become. If we do nothing it'll lead to closing down some facilities as they become too expensive or difficult to maintain.

In the 2015–2025 Long Term Plan we estimated a redevelopment would cost \$10.5m and we would seek grant funding to pay the full cost.

We undertook a business case in 2017 and now know more investment is needed to make the facilities fit for our community's future needs. We'd need to phase upgrades of the indoor and outdoor pools and still seek external funding to make any upgrade affordable.

### A fit for purpose facility

We surveyed the community in November 2017 and worked with users of the pools to ask what upgrades you'd prefer for Phase One. You told us you wanted "Design Option 3". This includes a fully enclosed indoor 50m pool, a learn-to-swim pool and spa zone, a new administration centre and changing rooms.

**Phase One** to upgrade the indoor pool, main building and facilities would be completed between 2019 – 2021 for an estimated cost of \$21.6m.

**Phase Two** to upgrade the outdoor pools would be done from 2025 – 2026 for estimated cost of \$6.9m.

We propose to contribute \$5.7m of Council funding and seek grant funding for the rest to complete both phases. While there's currently no confirmed grant funding, we're in discussion with Eastland Community Trust. If we don't receive the funding, the timeframes for the project will be pushed out.

Annual operating costs are estimated to increase by \$536k from the current operating cost of around \$950k. However, this option would provide the facilities needed to maximise the use of the pool all year round, grow visitor numbers and provide for a range of activities from competition, health, fitness and recreation.

Our preferred option

Rates increase

▲ 1.8% from 2022

Includes operating costs  
\$5.7m funded by debt and rates

### Downsize to pay less

The other option is "Design Option 1". This includes a 25m indoor pool, a learn to swim pool, and an upgraded administration centre and changing rooms.

**Phase One** to upgrade the indoor pool, main building and facilities would be completed between 2019 – 2021 for a cost of \$14.9m.

**Phase Two** to upgrade the outdoor pools would still be done from 2025 – 2026 for \$6.9m.

We would still contribute the same portion funded by rates and seek grant funding for the rest. If we

don't receive the funding, the timeframes for the project will be pushed out.

Operating costs for this option would increase by \$235K from the current \$950k if the same number of people visit the facility as what's estimated for the preferred redevelopment option. However it's unlikely, given this option wouldn't allow the flexibility of having a pool for competitions and hosting of regional events. A smaller pool also limits simultaneous multiple uses such as water sports, fitness or leisure and swimming lessons. It also limits the potential to grow the number of users at the complex.

Another option

Rates increase

▲ 1.2% from 2022

Includes operating costs  
\$5.7m funded by debt and rates