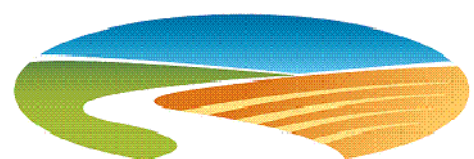




SWIMMING POOLS IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2018-2022



LODDON
SHIRE

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Loddon Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land comprising the Loddon Shire Council area. Council would like to pay respect to their Elders both past and present.

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1 INTRODUCTION

Loddon Shire Council has five outdoor swimming pools, located in Boort, Pyramid Hill, Mitiamo, Inglewood and Wedderburn. The day to day management of all five pools is currently outsourced to Unified Community Sports and Leisure. Council is responsible for maintaining and upgrading the facilities and contributes a significant financial contribution to the operational costs each season.

The Swimming Pools Improvement Plan 2018-2022 provides both an assessment of the current provision of Council swimming pools and a plan to increase the numbers of people to use the facilities. It also includes an analysis of the feedback received through community consultation for the ongoing provision and services of the pools to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle.

The Plan provides broad direction with actions in relation to the provision of services and minor works along with investigations for significant upgrades to the pool facilities for the future.

2 PURPOSE

Council's Swimming Pool Development Plan 2014-2018 provided a range of actions to improve the amenity of Council's five public swimming pools, including solar water heating, shade structures, water play features, perimeter fencing, pool painting and cyclic maintenance.

The purpose of the Swimming Pools Improvement Plan 2018-2022 is to continue this work by identifying the capital works and routine maintenance necessary to operate safely and improve the amenity for each of the pools. Additionally the plan aims to encourage people who currently do not use the swimming pools to use them and for those who do, to do so on a more regular basis. The overall objective is to increase fitness and social connectedness.

Council has consulted with the community to better understand what would entice residents to frequent the swimming pools more often. It has set about putting in place a plan of actions that seeks to encourage residents to swim more often.

The intention of the plan is to provide a framework to make incremental changes to the delivery of services and operations of Council's swimming pools while staying within current budget restraints.

Activities outside of the purview of this plan include:

- a major overhaul of core operational hours of the pools
- plans for major capital works, although the plan does have recommended actions that after investigations are completed may trigger further works
- changes to the current contractual arrangements with Unified Community Sports and Leisure.

3 BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The financial objective of the Swimming Pools Improvement Plan is to deliver the recommended actions within the existing swimming pool budget allocation.

Some actions listed within the plan involve further investigation which may trigger further works in the future. Should this be the case, funding will need to be secured to deliver any identified works.

4 RISK ANALYSIS

The following risks have been identified in the delivery of operations and maintenance of the five swimming pools. This plan aims to reduce or eliminate these risks.

4.1 Financial risk

Over the past five years costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the swimming pools have significantly increased, placing greater pressure on Council to find ways of operating more efficiently.

Water, energy, water treatment and waste water disposal costs contribute a large amount to the operation of running swimming pools. In the past 10 years these expenses have doubled in price (see table 1 below). Council has little flexibility in limiting these costs as legislative requirements dictate levels of compliance in the operations of all public swimming facilities.

The actions set out in this plan are intended to be achieved within the current operational budget. There are also a number of actions identified for investigation. Pending the outcome of these investigations further funding may be required to implement capital works. This is outside of the scope of this current improvement plan.

Table 1: Pool maintenance and management costs 2007-2018

Swimming pools 2017-18	Amount (\$)
Pool contract management	276,720.50
Pool chemicals	27,394.37
Pool maintenance	105,895.11
Pool power	20,007.00
Pool water	65,625.76
Total 2017/18	495,642.74

Swimming pools 2013-14	Amount (\$)
Pool contract management	200,000.00
Pool chemicals	3,808.00
Pool maintenance	90,000.00
Pool power	22,000.00
Pool water	46,000.00
Total 2013/14	361,808.00

Swimming pools 2007-08	Amount (\$)
Pool contract management	126,000.00
Pool chemicals	18,000.00
Pool maintenance	80,800.00
Pool power	10,000.00
Pool water	25,000.00
Total 2007/08	259,800.00

4.2 Legislative requirements and risk

There are a wide range of legislative requirements which Council must comply with as an operator of public swimming pool facilities.

Public aquatic facilities are regulated under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 and the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009. This includes swimming and spa pools with public access.

Public pool operators need to comply with Part 6 of the Regulations to maintain water quality.

In addition to this, Council needs to comply with the following legislation and regulations:

- Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009
- Health Infectious Diseases regulations 2001
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2004
- Dangerous Goods Act 1985
- Dangerous Goods (Storage and Handling) Regulations 2000
- Chemical Notifiers Self-Assessment Tool
- Various Australian Standards and codes of practice
- Child Safety Standards
- Royal Life Saving Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations

New pressures from legislative requirements and government initiatives are impacting how Council delivers swimming pool services including when lifeguards are required to be on duty and how many are required at any given time. These all impact on the how the swimming pools operational budget is spent.

The risk of not complying with legislation could have devastating consequences for patrons, staff, contractors and Council.

4.3 Increasing costs of operating swimming pools versus health and social benefits for the community

Currently Council subsidises patrons \$20.06 per visit (see table 11 in Appendix). It is well understood by local governments across the country that costs have been outstripping the income received through the fees charged. Council does not expect to operate the pools at a profit. However, the expense needs to be justified by the health and social benefits gained and an understanding that Council swimming pools are highly valued by the community.

According to Royal Life Saving Australia “Research shows that every visit to a public swimming pool creates health benefits worth \$26.39, meaning that the average aquatic facility creates improved health outcomes worth \$2.72 million each year to Australian society.” Additionally they also report a weekly visit to a public swimming pool would be enough to lift most Australians out the “physically inactive” category, leading to improved health outcomes, reduced health system costs and better attendance at work.

4.4 Unsafe behaviours and public safety risk

Consultation with the community highlighted concerns pertaining to the unsafe behaviour of some patrons at the swimming pools as well as the supervision of swimmers from both parents/caregivers and lifeguards.

The following actions have been identified to address safety risks associated with unsafe behaviour and supervision of swimmers:

- work with contractor to develop a strategy aimed at recruiting more senior lifeguards to better deal with unruly behaviour and enforce pool rules
- advertise and promote parental supervision
- provide free entry into pools for all adults supervising children
- implement adult only swimming time using mature aged volunteer lifeguards.

5 PROJECT METHODOLOGY

The following tasks were undertaken in the preparation of this Swimming Pools Improvement Plan:

- detailed community and stakeholder consultation process
- analysis of local attendance and financial data
- identification of future aquatic needs for the residents of Loddon Shire and
- preparation of the Swimming Pools Improvement Action Plan.

6 COUNCIL SWIMMING POOLS

6.1 Location and description

Council owns and operates five outdoor swimming pools in Boort, Pyramid Hill, Mitiamo, Inglewood and Wedderburn. Table 2 outlines the facilities at each of these swimming pools.

Table 2: Aquatic components of swimming pool facilities

Pools	Location	Facilities
Boort	Lake View Street	50 m pool – solar heated, toddlers pool, infant wading pool, basketball ring, barbeque
Pyramid Hill	106 Victoria Street	33 m pool – solar heated, toddlers pool, infant wading pool, barbeque
Mitiamo	Glossop Street	25 m pool – solar heated, infant wading pool
Inglewood	Grant Street South	33m pool – solar heated, infant wading pool, basketball ring
Wedderburn	Peters Street	33 m pool –solar heated, infant wading pool, basketball ring, cricket nets, barbeque

6.2 Management structure

The day to day management of the Shire's five swimming pools are contracted to Unified Community Sports and Leisure (UCSL).

Council is responsible for all maintenance and facility improvement costs at each of these facilities.

UCSL is responsible for staffing and operating the pools and kiosks as per the agreed tender conditions with the exception of Pyramid Hill swimming pool

Pyramid Hill swimming pool sits under a different management structure, with a Section 86 Committee in place who are in charge of running the kiosk and general operations. UCSL provide the lifeguards while Council retains the majority of responsibility for maintenance and major upgrades at the pool.

6.3 Past ten years capital works for the swimming pools

Over the last ten years Loddon Shire Council has invested significant funds into capital works at the pools. The following tables provide an overview of the past works delivered at the five swimming pools during the 2008 -2018 period.

Table 3: Total expenditure swimming pools capital works program from 2008-18

	Cost Breakdown (\$)		
	Cost LSC	External	Total
Loddon Shire Council capital works and major maintenance for swimming pools 2008/18	1,335,221	1,238,232	2,573,453

Table 4: Total expenditure Boort swimming pool capital works from 2008-18

Boort swimming pool Capital works and major maintenance from 2008/18	Cost Breakdown (\$)		
	Cost LSC	External	Total
Wet deck installation	110,000	100,000	210,000
Pool shell repairs and painting	50,000	-	50,000
Solar pool blanket installation	10,886	25,000	35,886
Filtration/circulation systems/ chlorination	55,000	-	55,000
Buildings – change rooms / kiosk	35,000	-	35,000
Plant room/ chemical Shed	25,000	20,000	45,000
Fences	25,000	-	25,000
Grounds/ paths/ irrigation	16,000	9,000	25,000
Shade structures	17,000	29,000	46,000
Solar heating	17,500	45,000	62,500
Recreation facilities bbq area	14,000	-	14,000
Total cost	375,386	228,000	603,386

Table 5: Total expenditure Inglewood swimming pool capital works from 2008-18

Inglewood pool Capital works and major maintenance from 2008/18	Cost Breakdown (\$)		
	Cost LSC	External	Total
Pool shell main and toddlers painting/upgrades	45,000	15,000	60,000
Solar pool blanket Installation	8,000	25,000	33,000
Filtration/backwash system - toddlers	4,300	7,900	12,200
Buildings plant room and storage	33,000	-	33,000
Buildings kiosk/DDA and change rooms*	140,000	217,000	357,000
Fences - external perimeter	22,000	-	22,000
Solar heating	20,000	40,000	60,000
Grounds/pathways/irrigation	13,333	6,667	20,000
Water features	11,333	5,667	17,000
New shade structures	10,334	20,666	31,000
Recreation facilities - water feature/b-ball/cricket	11,333	5,667	17,000
Total cost	318,633	343,567	662,200

*Under construction

Table 6: Total expenditure Mitiamo swimming pool capital works from 2008-18

Mitiamo pool Capital works and major maintenance from 2008/18	Cost Breakdown (\$)		
	Cost LSC	External	Total
Pool shell repairs and painting	35,000	-	35,000
Filtration/circulation systems/chlorination	18,000	44,000	62,000
Buildings plant room/kiosk/change rooms	22,000	54,000	76,000
Fences - external perimeter	20,000	-	20,000
Grounds/pathways/irrigation	18,000	6,667	24,667
Solar heating	15,000	30,000	45,000
Shade Structures	10,334	20,666	31,000
Recreation facilities - water feature	11,333	5,667	17,000
Total cost	149,667	161,000	310,667

Table 7: Total expenditure Pyramid Hill swimming pool capital works from 2008-18

Pyramid Hill Pool Capital works and major maintenance from 2008/18	Cost Breakdown (\$)		
	Cost LSC	External	Total
Pool Shell repairs and painting	30,000	-	30,000
Filtration/circulation systems/chlorination	40,000	64,000	104,000
Buildings change rooms/tennis	120,000	200,000	320,000
Plant Room/chemical Shed	40,000	-	40,000
Fences - external perimeter	20,000	-	20,000
Grounds/pathways/irrigation	21,000	5,000	26,000
Shade structures	10,334	20,666	31,000
Solar heating	15,000	30,000	45,000
Recreation facilities water features/bbq	10,667	11,333	22,000
Total cost	307,001	330,999	638,000

Table 8: Total expenditure Wedderburn swimming pool capital works from 2008-18

Wedderburn Pool Capital works and major maintenance from 2008/18	Cost Breakdown		
	Cost LSC	External	Total
Pool Shell repairs and painting	35,000	-	35,000
Filtration/backwash systems	30,000	80,000	110,000
Buildings plant room and storage	38,000	-	38,000
Buildings kiosk and change rooms	16,000	-	16,000

Wedderburn Pool Capital works and major maintenance from 2008/18	Cost Breakdown		
	Cost LSC	External	Total
Fences - external perimeter	15,000	-	15,000
Irrigation	4,000	9,000	13,000
Shade structures	10,334	20,666	31,000
Solar pool blanket installation	8,000	25,000	33,000
Solar heating	20,000	40,000	60,000
Recreation facilities water features/bbq	8,200	-	8,200
Total cost	184,534	174,666	359,200

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 Consultation process

A consultation strategy was implemented in the development of this plan. Consultation took place from March to April 2018 and included surveying the community, lifeguards and Council staff as well as interviews with the contractor. In total 143 people were surveyed, which provided 163 responses (some respondents commented on more than one pool).

The consultation specifically aimed to identify possible improvements to increase the patronage at the swimming pools:

- simple ideas that would encourage people to frequent the swimming pools:
- activities that people would to see implemented
- desired swimming pool opening hours
- minor and major improvements to facilities
- enhanced communication methods of informing the community about pool activities

Four different cohorts were surveyed to seek the feedback and recommendations for the improvement of swimming pools. Two meetings were held with the Manager of UC SL to determine the issues and possible suggestions for improvement from operational standpoint.

Table 9 outlines the groups who were surveyed and the number of respondents. Table 10 lists the numbers of respondents submitting responses and which of the five swimming pools they frequent.

Table 9: Groups surveys and number of respondents to each survey

Groups surveyed	Number of respondents
Swimming Pool Users	82
Community Members	30
Unified Community Sports and Leisure Staff	8
Loddon Shire Staff	19
Total number surveyed	143

Table 10: Number of Respondents commented on the following pools

	Pool Users survey	Community Survey	UCSL staff	LSC staff survey	Total
Boort	18	5	4	4	31
Inglewood	21	10	3	1	35
Mitiamo	5	8	0	0	13
Pyramid Hill	25	1	1	0	27
Wedderburn	18	22	3	14	57
Total	87	46	11	19	163

7.2 Consultation outcomes

7.2.1 Swimming pool users survey

Pool users were invited to respond to a survey about the use of Council's public swimming pools and to share their thoughts on how Council can make small improvements, in terms of operations and facilities.

A total of 87 responses were received. Their key responses were as follows:

- 88% wanted extended opening hours
- 81% would like more organised activities – particularly more inflatable days as these are seen as very popular
- 76% indicated they like more recreation/play equipment
- 72% wanted to see more information regarding the services and programs
- the introduction of early morning lap swimming has been popular and people would like to see this continued
- multiple respondents wanted to see the introduction of morning adult only time with the possibility of hosting water aerobics/ strength training.
- some children and youth want to see the reintroduction of diving boards.

Respondents indicated the major priorities for the facilities of the pools should be:

- provision of more shade structures
- upgrading of change rooms, showers and toilet facilities
- upgrading of kiosks at Inglewood, Pyramid Hill and Wedderburn
- installation of water play/splash equipment.

7.2.2 General community survey

Shire residents were invited to complete an on-line or hard copy survey about the provision of Loddon Shires' public swimming pools. 46 surveys were returned. The key results are as follows:

- 70% respondents have at some stage frequented one of Loddon Shire Council's pools
- 7 people indicated that they would attend more frequently if there was adult only lap swimming or late morning water aerobics type activities
- 6 people indicated they would like more events held
- 4 people wanted extended hours
- several people wanted to be kept informed of the services and programs being offered.

Of the 30% of people that indicated that they did not use Council's pools these were the reasons given:

- I do not like swimming or do not swim – 7 people
- I live too far from pool – 5 people
- opening hours are not long enough or suit my needs – 5 people
- too many children and/or behaviour of children at the pool – 3 people

- have other priorities/ do not have time – 2 people
- entry price – 1 person
- use other options to swim - 1 person
- would use it if there were therapy classes – 1 person.

7.2.3 Unified Community Sports and Leisure staff

UCSL staff were surveyed and were asked the following questions:

1. What two to three main issues, if any, at the pools you work at need to be addressed?
2. What are some small improvements / project they think Council can do to improve the facilities or level of services at the pools?

In total 11 surveys were completed. Three staff members completed the survey on two pools, five staff members filled in the survey for just one pool.

Their key responses were as follows:

- requests for more recreational equipment across all the swimming pools
- need to introduce more programs such as water aerobics – there is a demographic there to support this
- there is a challenge in keeping accurate records of people entering and this has created a range of issues including:
 - inability to accurately monitor patron numbers and locations
 - difficulties in effectively supervising patrons
 - inaccurate attendance records
- first aids kits need re-stocking and keeping up to date. One response noted that when in need of an ice pack for a patron they were unable to find one
- ability and experience to manage inappropriate behaviour
- lawns and cleaning maintenance needs to occur more often
- not enough shade for lifeguards to stand on one deck (Boort)
- advertise more on Facebook/social media to promote the opening times and swimming lessons.

7.2.4 Council staff

Council staff were surveyed. The aim of surveying staff was to ascertain community feelings and receive feedback from local residents as many staff members live locally.

In total 19 staff members responded to the survey. The following is a summary of the key responses received:

- more organised events – particularly the inflatable days as these are proving popular – 5 people
- extended opening hours – 4 people
- lower the price of entry or make free for some groups – 4 people
- continuation of morning lap swimming and seek to have water aerobics - 3 people
- ability and experience of lifeguards to manage inappropriate behaviours of some patrons – 2 people
- open up the pool at lunch time for staff (Wedderburn) 3 people
- the introduction of solar heating has been a great influence on people attendance – just need it at Boort – 1 person
- more shade needed - 1 person
- play music for fun – 1 person

7.2.5 Outcomes from meeting held with Unified Community Sports and Leisure

A meeting was held with the Manager of UCSL in April and a subsequent follow up in May. The Manager was able to produce statistical data on attendances and gate takings. The Manager also discussed the following as either issues and or possible solutions to day to day operations of the swimming pools.

Conversations stemming from these meetings included the following:

- A significant amount of contract lifeguard hours are currently used by local schools. Schools are able to be subsidized for the costs of lifeguards under Council's Fees and Charges.
- The Victorian Government in the past two years has introduced a mandatory Swimming in Schools program for years five and six students at primary schools. This will directly increase the amount of lifeguard hours provided at a reduced rate to the schools, impacting on the amount of hours for the general community.
- Greater clarity of responsibilities of the Pyramid Hill Swimming pool is required between the three parties; Council, the Section 86 committee and UCSL
- To provide a greater level of service at Pyramid Hill pool, the kiosk workers could be trained in first aid thereby reducing the need for two lifeguards at any given time
- Review the opening times at some pools to better meet the needs of the community
- Ensure the pools are ready one to two weeks earlier for handover before the season commences to allow time to provide on-site training to all staff ahead of opening and to rectify any maintenance issues before opening to the public.

8 KEY FINDINGS AND ISSUES

There are six key findings stemming from the analysis of collated data, the surveys conducted and the meetings held with the contractor, along with an analysis of the key statistical and financial data.

8.1 Increasing opening hours without increasing operational budget

The greatest request from the community was increased opening hours. In the 2017-2018 budget the cost to Council to operate its five swimming pools from November to March was \$495,642. Council received an income of \$34,293 from gate takings.

Council's biggest expense pertaining to the operational budget is the contract for the provision of lifeguards at \$276,720. In order to increase opening hours for the pools, without additional budget allocation, Council will need to adopt innovative and smarter practices without affecting the safety of patrons.

What has emerged from the consultation with Loddon Shire staff has been the concept of using volunteer lifeguards to enable morning lap swimming sessions to take place. This is subject to enough community members volunteering to undertake the training and to become volunteer lifeguards. Then Council may be able to implement morning lap swimming and adult only swimming times through the use of volunteer lifeguards.

The added advantage of this proposal is that this could attract more senior lifeguards to the pools with the potential of employment with Unified Community Sports and Leisure.

8.2 Participation and partnerships- more structured activities and community events

The results from the community consultation undertaken as part of developing this plan clearly demonstrated that people wanted more activities and events centred around the pools. Feedback showed that many felt that this was a pivotal strategy in enticing people to use the swimming pools more.

The inflatable days were seen as particular popular way of getting families to attend the pools. Both parents and youth responding to the survey requested more alternative activities, including non-water based activities, to help entice youth to attend the pools and to stay for longer periods of time.

There were also calls for more adult activities. The introduction of early morning lap swimming was welcomed and people want to see this continue. Elderly residents particularly demonstrated a strong interest in adult only swimming time and structured sessions such as water aerobics/ strength training. A number of these types of activities are now factored in the swimming pools improvement plan 2018-2022. However, it is important to note that to bring these ideas to fruition Council will need to work in partnership with individuals (volunteer lifeguards), groups and organisations within the community.

8.3 Greater communication with the community

The feedback received clearly indicated that the community wants better communication about what is happening at the pools. In particular they want to be updated about events and activities being hosted at the pool and changes to opening hours.

The pool opening hours are reliant on weather conditions and can be subject to change at short notice. During extremely hot periods opening hours are often extended. Pools are not opened if the weather forecast for the following day is 23 degrees celsius or less.

Currently Council relies on its website, Facebook, the Mayoral Column and media releases to inform the community of pool activities and opening hours.

In response to this a range of actions have been set out in the Swimming Pool Improvement Plan. These include the investigation of using a text messaging service and regular updates on Council's website.

8.4 Upgrading facilities

Council is currently operating and maintaining a network of ageing swimming pools, with all five pools being between 50 and 60 years of age. The majority of associated infrastructure is also of a similar age with much of it in need of replacement or updating.

Over the last ten years Council has invested a significant amount of money updating the plant and pump infrastructure which is not something easily seen by the general community. Hence there may be a lack of understanding in the community about how much Council has invested in the pools (see Tables 4 to Table 8).

Currently, new change rooms, toilets, kiosk and office are being built at Inglewood swimming pool and this pool will be the fourth of the five pools to be solar heated. Boort swimming pool will also be solar heated before the beginning of the 2018/2019 swimming season.

As expected in the results of the swimming pool consultations there were recommendations for major works at the swimming pools. However this falls outside of the scope of this swimming pools improvement plan.

8.5 Increasing usage by schools of lifeguard hours

Under Council's fees and charges, Council provides a subsidy to schools in relation the costs of hiring lifeguards. For one lifeguard in attendance during a school swimming session, Council subsidises the cost of the lifeguard of \$18.50 per hour. In the last season 463 lifeguard hours were subsidised to schools.

Recently the Victoria Government introduced the Swimming in Schools initiative to increase opportunities for students to learn how to swim, and ensure they develop lifelong swimming and water safety skills, to reduce their risk of drowning and injury. The Swimming in Schools program is in line with the requirements of the Victorian Curriculum for years 5 and 6 primary school students. Funding has been made available to all Victorian government and Catholic Schools towards the costs of delivering swimming and water safety programs.

All primary schools in the Shire will be implementing this program in the upcoming 2018/2019 season. This will result in a significant increase in the amount of lifeguard hours provided in contract with Unified Community Sport and Leisure by Loddon Shire Council. This will directly impact the amount of discretionary hours available for other activities at the pools.

It is recommended that Council works with the relevant schools to develop a shared understanding and policy around the support given to the schools in the implementation of this program.

8.6 Tracking of data for greater informed future decision making

Currently, there are no means of accurately capturing attendance data and consequently the data Council receives on the patrons using the pools is of limited use.

Examples of this include:

Attendance data used in the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework to ascertain and benchmark the cost of the pool usage per patron but the manual capture of data may not be as accurate as it could be.

It is hard to gauge what categories of patrons (adults, children, season pass holders) frequent the pools at the various times of the day or week and for how long. This would assist in identification of peak periods and if there are particular times of the day/s where the pools have no one in attendance.

In order for Council to be able to make better informed decisions based on the collection and analysis of data, it is recommended that new technologies be explored to identify better ways of capturing this information. This will assist Council in the future to make more informed decisions on the pool operations and services.

9 SWIMMING POOLS IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2018-2022

9.1 Minor and major works

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner	Budget	Funding Source
<u>Minor and major works</u>					
Goal: To entice more people to access the swimming pools. This list includes a range of items that were identified through a community consultation process. The list has been classified into either minor or major building works.					
Minor works at swimming pools					
<u>Lawn areas</u>					
Mow the lawns more often, inspect and remove evidence of prickles and bees at all pools	Fortnightly during opening season – Year 1 - 4	Recreation Handyman		Staff time	Within swimming pools maintenance budget
<u>Trees</u>					
Plant trees on the perimeter of pool fence lines for Boort, Inglewood, Pyramid Hill and Wedderburn pools	Year 1	Recreation Handyman		\$2000	Within swimming pools maintenance budget
Trim back existing trees					
<u>Pools</u>					
Seek to repaint steps into Pyramid Hill pool a different colour for visibility	Year 1	Recreation Handyman		Staff time	Within current maintenance budget
Paint inside pool edge as paint is flaking around the top of Wedderburn Pool	Year 2	Recreation Handyman		Staff time	Within current maintenance budget
<u>Change rooms</u>					
Install hooks on back of shower doors and around the wall of all change rooms (all pools)	Year 1	Recreation Handyman		\$1000	All actions funded within swimming pools maintenance budget
Install new rubbish bins in change rooms (all pools)	Year 1	Recreation Handyman		\$100	

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner	Budget	Funding Source
Install mirrors in change rooms (all pools)	Year 1	Recreation Handyman		\$1000	
Conduct an assessment of Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool change room floor.	Year 1	Recreation and Youth Officer		Staff time	
Ensure change rooms are cleaned everyday	Year 1- 4	UCSL and Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool COM		As part of contract	
<u>Bins</u>					
Install bins in prominent places around the grounds all of swimming pools	Year 1	Recreation Handyman		\$200	Within swimming pools maintenance budget
<u>Bollards</u>					
Repaint the existing bollards at Wedderburn Swimming Pool	Year 1	Recreation Handyman		\$100	Within swimming pools maintenance budget
<u>Concrete and paved areas</u>					
Investigate if concrete paving needs repainting (Inglewood)	Year 2	Recreation and Youth Officer		Staff time	Within operational budget
Every day during opening hours sweep and hose down concrete areas (all pools)	Year 1 – 4	UCSL Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool COM		As part of contract	Within swimming pools maintenance budget
Investigate feasibility and viability of rubber mats or alternative options on concrete areas on hot days	Year 3	Manager Community Support	UCSL Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool COM	Staff time	Within swimming pools maintenance budget
Paint four squares within one large square area for a tennis ball game (Wedderburn)	Year 1	Recreation Handyman	Recreation and Youth Officer	\$200	Within swimming pools maintenance budget
Conduct regular assessments to	Year 1 – 4	UCSL Pyramid Hill	Manager Community	As part of contract	Within swimming

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner	Budget	Funding Source
ensure surrounds of pool concrete are not slippery.		Swimming Pool COM	Support Recreation and Youth Officer		pools maintenance budget
<u>Portable shade</u>					
Investigate feasibility and funding of portable shade umbrellas being provided at all pools	Year 2	Community Development Officer	Recreation and Youth Officer	Staff time	If required external funding to be sought
<u>Toilets</u>					
Toilets to be cleaned every day at Mitiamo Swimming Pool	Year 1 - 4	Town Services	Building Maintenance Officer	As part of existing contract with cleaning contractors	Not applicable
<u>Seating</u>					
Seek funding to install more seating particularly for parents to supervise and some on grass areas and under shade.	Year 1 - 2	Recreation and Youth Officer	Community Development Officer	Staff time	If required external funding to be sought
<u>Tables</u>					
Seek funding to install several tables at each of the pools	Year 1 - 2	Recreation and Youth Officer	Community Development Officer	Staff time	If required external funding to be sought
<u>Drinking fountains</u>					
Seek funding to provide drinking fountains at each of the swimming pools	Year 1 - 2	Recreation and Youth Officer	Community Development Officer	Staff time	If required external funding to be sought
<u>Bike racks</u>					
Seek funding to provide bike racks within the swimming pool facility to encourage adults and children to ride to swimming pools	Year 1 - 2	Recreation and Youth Officer	Community Development Officer	Staff time	If required external funding to be sought

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner	Budget	Funding Source
Major Works at swimming pools					
<u>Permanent shade structures</u>					
Consult with pool patrons and swimming pool staff to determine where shade structures are preferred	Year 1	Community Development Officer	Recreation and Youth Officer	Staff time	Not applicable
Seek external funding for the installation of permanent shade structures	Year 2	Community Development Officer	Recreation and Youth Officer	Staff time	If required external sources to be sought
<u>Change room upgrades</u>					
Conduct an audit to identify recommendations on upgrading change room, toilets and showers facilities at all pools (except Inglewood)	Year 2	Manager Community Support	Recreation and Youth Officer	Staff time	Internal budget bid to support audit completion
Include any recommendations in future swimming pool capital works plan.	Year 3	Manager Community Support	Director Community Wellbeing	To be determined in future plan	To be included in future plan
<u>Pools</u>					
Investigate feasibility to install extra rails on steps at the Pyramid Hill pool for greater access	Year 2	Recreation and Youth Officer		Staff time	If required external funding to be sought
Investigate installation of gates around the baby pool at Wedderburn Swimming pool	Year 2	Manager Community Support		Staff time	If required external funding to be sought
<u>Kiosks</u>					
Investigate the feasibility of upgrading the	Year 3	Manager Community Support	Director Community Wellbeing	Staff time	To be included in future plan if feasible

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner	Budget	Funding Source
kiosks at the Boort, Pyramid Hill and Wedderburn pools					
<u>Barbeques</u>					
Investigate feasibility of installing picnic tables and chairs near BBQs at all swimming pools	Year 3 - 4	Manager Community Support	Director Community Wellbeing	Staff time	To be included in future plan if feasible

9.2 Programming and partnerships

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner Organisation/s	Budget	Funding Source
<u>Programming and partnerships</u>					
Goal: To have the community access the pools more frequently and to increase physical activity levels. It is acknowledged that Council is unable to do this alone hence it needs to work with partner organisations and community members					
Investigate the development of a <u>volunteer lifeguard program</u> , with regard to the regulatory, legislative and insurance requirements	Year 1	Manager Community Support	UCSL Royal Lifesaving Society Victoria	Staff time	Within operational budget
<u>Recruit and train volunteer lifeguards</u> to supervise adult only morning swimming sessions.	Year 1 - 4	Manager Community Support	UCSL	\$2000 annually	Within operational budget, but source external funding if available
Promote and open the pools where there is interest and qualified volunteer lifeguards for <u>regular early morning lap swimming</u> during opening season	Year 1 - 4	Manager Community Support	Inglewood District Health Service Northern District Health Service Local Community Neighbourhood houses	\$0	If required within existing swimming pool budget allocation

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner Organisation/s	Budget	Funding Source
Investigate possibility of local community health services coordinating <u>water based strength activities</u> for older adults in morning	Year 1 - 4	Manager Community Support	Inglewood District Health Service Northern District Health Service Local Community Neighbourhood houses	\$0	If required within existing swimming pool budget allocation
Continue to support <u>Vic Swim and Learn to swim</u> programs	Year 1 - 4	Manager Community Support	Vic Swim Learn to swim program Swimming clubs Recreation and Youth Officer	Staff time	Within operational budget
Host two to three <u>inflatable days</u> at each swimming pool over the summer period	Year 1 - 4	Recreation and Youth Officer	UCSL Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool COM		Within existing swimming pool budget allocation
Identify the impact of the roll out of the <u>Swimming in Schools program</u> and review the current model where Council funds lifeguard costs.	Year 1	Manager Community Support	All Loddon schools Recreation and Youth Officer		Report to Council when cost of new program known.
Where there is an interest, support the <u>development of a swim club</u>	Year 1 - 4	Community Development Officer	Recreation and Youth Officer	\$0	Should be no cost to Council
<u>Promote free entry for adult and child non-swimmers</u> and a reduced price for seniors tickets	Year 1 - 4	Community Development Officer	Media Officer	Staff time	Within operational budget

9.3 Communications and promotions

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner Organisation/s	Budget	Funding Source
<u>Communications and promotions</u>					
Goal: To increase awareness within the community the opening hours and events being held at the swimming pools over the opening season.					
Investigate the use of Message	Year 1	Community Development	Recreation and	Staff	Within operational

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner Organisation/s	Budget	Funding Source
Media to text patrons of changes to opening hours or events being held		Officer	Youth Officer UCSL	time	budget
Implementation of Message Media if investigation concurs	Year 2	Community Development Officer	Recreation and Youth Officer UCSL		Internal budget bid to support implementation
Investigate opportunity to develop a service specific App	Year 1	Community Development	Recreation and Youth Officer UCSL	Staff time	Within operational budget
Development and implementation of App if investigation concurs	Year 2	Community Development Officer	Recreation and Youth Officer UCSL		Internal budget bid to support implementation, but source external funding if available
Regularly update the opening hours and any events being held at pools on Council's website	Year 1 - 4	Community Development Officer	UCSL Media Officer	Staff time	Within operational budget
Regularly feed into and update Council's Facebook page on what is happening at the pools	Year 1 - 4	Community Development Officer	UCSL Media Officer	Staff time	Within operational budget
Investigate the possibility of purchasing flags for entry areas of pools to indicate when the pools are open	Year 1	Community Development Officer		\$1000	Within existing swimming pool budget allocation
Update entry signage at all pools	Year 1 - 4	Community Development Officer	Recreation Handyman	\$1000	Within existing swimming pool budget allocation

9.4 Records management

Action	Timing	Responsibility	Partner Organisation/s	Budget	Funding Source
<u>Records management:</u>					
Goal: To seek greater detailed information on patron attendance at Loddon swimming pools to enable the analysed statistics to be used for future planning.					
Investigate systems that record accurate data to capture the details needed.	Year 2	Community Development Officer	UCSL	To be determined	To be included in future plan

APPENDIX 1: KEY SWIMMING POOL DATA

10 KEY SWIMMING POOL DATA

10.1 Combined swimming pools data from 2017/2018 season

Table 11: Loddon swimming pools financial performance 2017/2018

Loddon Shire swimming pools financial performance 2017/2018	
Total annual visits 2017/2018	22,994 people
Gross income	\$34,293
Gross expenditure	\$495,642
Operating deficit	\$461,349
Net cost per visit to Council	\$20.06 per person per visit

Table 12: Breakdown of entry type for 2017/2018 season

Breakdown of entry for each visit across the five pools	Total
Adults	959
Child	1952
Family	2813
Lap	127
Spectator	332
Toddler	103
Swim lessons	283
Adult season	417
Child season	508
Family season	9430
Lap season	573
School hire	5155
other hire	342
Total season attendance	22,994

Table 13: Combined swimming pool life guard hours

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Total contract lifeguard hours	125	962	2175	988	562	4812
Total school lifeguard hours	0	104	80	246	35	465
Hire of life guards hours	0	0	0	5	0	5
Inflatable days lifeguard hours	0	32	102	12	4	150
Lap swim lifeguard hours	0	33	158	120	0	311
Swim lessons lifeguard hours	0	0	70	0	0	70
Maintenance hours	75	19	26	25	13	155
Total combined hours	197	1150	2611	1396	614	5968

10.2 Boort swimming pool

Table 14: Attendance for Boort swimming pool 2017/2018 season

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Adults	44	57	122	27	19	269
Child	115	105	129	56	13	418
Family	17	237	445	50	57	806
Lap	0	6	12	9	0	27
Spectator	28	37	55	11	2	133
Toddler	19	21	26	14	0	80
Swim lessons	0	0	196	0	0	196
Adult season	18	26	47	13	7	111
Child season	11	13	148	8	0	180
Family season	688	960	1018	946	471	4083
Lap season	0	23	58	28	0	109
School hire	0	78	0	700	255	1033
Other hire	100	95	49	13	0	257
Total Attendance	1040	1658	2305	1875	824	7702

Table 15: Boort swimming pool contracted lifeguard hours for 2017/2018

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Total contract lifeguard hours	33	238	465	240	146	1122
Total school lifeguard hours	0	30	18	43	5	96
Hire of life guard hours	0	0	0	5	0	5
Inflatable days lifeguard hours	0	16	0	12	4	32
Lap swim lifeguard hours	0	9	51	33	0	93
Swim lessons lifeguard hours	0	0	20	0	0	20
Maintenance hours	44	7	10	8	6	75
Total combined hours	77	300	564	341	161	1443

10.3 Inglewood swimming pool

Table 16: Attendance for Inglewood swimming pool 2017/2018 season

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Adults	34	56	109	21	4	224
Child	125	114	313	60	4	616
Family	56	114	240	48	30	488
Lap	0	3	34	4	0	41
Spectator	5	7	72	0	0	84
Toddler	4	2	1	0	0	7
Swim lessons	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult season	23	14	25	16	8	86
Child season	7	10	6	6	3	32
Family season	250	385	468	261	59	1423
Lap season	0	21	64	47	0	132
School hire	0	0	0	0	40	40
Other hire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total attendance	504	726	1332	463	148	3173

Table 17: Inglewood swimming pool contracted lifeguard hours for 2017/2018

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Total contract lifeguard hours	24	208	426	179	75	912
Total school lifeguard hours	0	0	18	13	2	33
Hire of lifeguard hours	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inflatable days lifeguard hours	0	0	26	0	0	26
Lap swim lifeguard hours	0	4	28	27	0	59
Swim lessons lifeguard hours	0	0	24	0	0	24
Maintenance hours	4	6	9	5	2	26
Total combined hours	28	218	531	224	79	1080

10.4 Mitiamo Swimming Pool

Table 18: Attendance for Mitiamo swimming pool 2017/2018 season

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Adults	15	12	35	8	1	71
Child	19	27	54	18	6	124
Family	51	80	182	25	20	358
Lap	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spectator	5	2	3	1	2	13
Toddler	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swim lessons	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adult season	0	1	8	0	0	9
Child season	0	4	11	13	8	36
Family season	42	160	235	59	38	534
Lap season	0	0	0	0	0	0
School hire	0	150	0	885	0	1035
Other hire	0	50	0	0	0	50
Total attendance	132	486	528	1009	75	2230

Table 19: Mitiamo Swimming Pool contracted lifeguard hours for 2017/2018

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Total contract lifeguard hours	14	98	381	130	83	706
Total school lifeguard hours	0	0	19	89	0	108
Hire of lifeguard hours	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inflatable days lifeguard hours	0	0	29	0	0	29
Lap swim lifeguard hours	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swim lessons lifeguard hours	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maintenance hours	5	0	3	6	5	19
Total combined hours	19	98	432	225	88	862

10.5 Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool

Table 20: Attendance for Pyramid Hill swimming pool 2017/2018 season

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Adults	31	46	76	30	7	190
Child	62	21	115	49	10	257
Family	62	118	291	44	29	544
Lap	0	6	2	0	0	8
Spectator	11	4	34	4	3	56
Toddler	3	3	1	0	1	8
Swim lessons	0	0	22	15	0	37
Adult season	21	17	42	33	14	127
Child season	30	0	0	3	0	33
Family Season	283	560	793	706	141	2483
Lap Season	0	24	14	8	0	46
School hire	59	185	11	837	210	1302
Other hire	0	0	0	35	0	35
Total attendance	562	984	1401	1764	415	5126

Table 21: Pyramid Hill Swimming Pool contracted lifeguard hours for 2017/2018

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Total contract lifeguard hours	21	203	433	218	112	987
Total school lifeguard hours	0	9	25	44	28	106
Hire of lifeguard hours	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inflatable days lifeguard hours	0	0	31	0	0	31
Lap swim lifeguard hours	0	8	37	30	0	75
Swim lessons lifeguard hours	0	0	6	0	0	7
Maintenance hours	5	0	0	5	0	10
Total combined hours	26	220	532	298	140	1216

10.6 Wedderburn Swimming Pool

Table 22: Attendance for Wedderburn Swimming Pool 2017/2018 season

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Adults	21	66	76	16	26	205
Child	122	128	190	66	31	537
Family	51	232	247	38	49	617
Lap	0	11	31	9	0	51
Spectator	7	13	15	9	2	46
Toddler	0	5	3	0	0	8
Swim lessons	0	0	50	0	0	50
Adult season	12	16	24	21	11	84
Child season	8	48	82	68	21	227
Family season	140	210	302	200	55	907
Lap season	0	73	116	97	0	286
School hire	226	632	0	887	0	1745
Other hire	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total attendance	587	1434	1136	1411	195	4763

Table 23: Wedderburn Swimming Pool contracted lifeguard hours for 2017/2018

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Season total
Total contract lifeguard hours	33	215	470	221	146	1085
Total school lifeguard hours	0	65	0	57	0	122
Hire of lifeguard hours	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inflatable days lifeguard hours	0	16	16	0	0	32
Lap swim lifeguard hours	0	12	42	30	0	84
Swim lessons lifeguard hours	0	0	20	0	0	20
Maintenance hours	14	6	4	1	0	25
Total combined hours	47	314	552	309	146	1368

10.7 Entrance fees

Entrance fees for the pools are set annually by Council. The following table 24 outlines the entry fees for the various tickets as listed in Council's Fees and Charges schedule for the Year 1 July 2017 to June 30 2018.

Table 24: Season and casual entrance fees 2017/2018

Season Tickets	
Family	\$130
Adult	\$75
Child	\$50
Casual Entrance Fees	
Family (1-2 adults and children)	\$10
Adult	\$5
Child	\$2.50
Adult non-swimmer	Nil
Child non-swimmer	Nil