

6. ASSISTING SUBURBAN SWIMMING POOL USER GROUPS

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BACKGROUND

5. Following a decision not to increase funding, the City's suburban swimming pools will end their 2004/2005 Council funded public operating season on 30 January as opposed to mid February, as provided by LTCCP levels of funding and levels of service.
6. It is Council policy to encourage specific user groups such as schools and swim clubs to hire the pools after the close of the public season. The additional cost to the Council of keeping the pools open for the hire groups is paid by the groups as user charges.
7. As the 2004/2005 public season ends two weeks earlier than the previous season groups wishing to hire the pool are faced with additional costs as their user charge reflects the entire cost of keeping the pool open.
8. Three suburban pools fall in the jurisdiction of the Shirley/Papanui Community Board, namely Belfast Pool, Papanui Pool and Edgware Pool. User groups comprising Schools and Swim Clubs wish to hire each pool for youth related swim education activities. They have asked for assistance from the Community Board.
9. As pool hire negotiations are still in progress the exact costs to each user group are not yet fixed. The following table lists the groups along with the maximum cost, it is expected that most costs will reduce.

Suburban Pool User Group Hire Costs February to March 2005		
Pool	User Group	Maximum Hire Cost (ex GST)
Edgware	St Albans Swim Club	\$2,375
	St Albans School	\$2,875
Papanui	Papanui Swim Club	\$2,266
	Papanui School	\$4,016
Belfast	Belfast School	\$4,125

OPTIONS

10. The following table details the options for funding along with a brief analysis.

Options for Funding Suburban Pool User Groups February to March 2005 (GST exclusive)		
Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1. Fully Funded Grant covers all hire fees at a maximum cost of \$15,657	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services more accessible to community groups. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contravenes the principle of user pays. • No expectation for this level of support. • May create a negative precedent.
2. Partially Funded Grant partially covers fees: \$1,500 St Albans Swim Club \$1,500 St Albans School \$1,500 Papanui Swim Club \$2,000 Papanui School \$2,000 Belfast School Total cost \$8,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services more accessible to community groups. • Meets the shortfall not budgeted for by community groups. • Allows enough pool use to deliver benefits. • Supports the principle of user pays. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May create negative precedent. • May limit the Boards ability to use the discretionary fund in other areas.
3. No Funding No cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less demand on discretionary funds. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distinct probability that groups will reduce or cancel swim programmes.
NOTE: All funding is contingent on the user group making all reasonable attempts to use the services covered by the agreement.		

PREFERRED OPTION

11. The preferred option is Option 2 at a total cost of \$8,500.

The balance currently in the Shirley/Papanui Discretionary Funds 2004/05 is \$31,623.73.