

Submission on Long Term Council Community Plan by St Albans School

St Albans School's submission relates to Leisure and Recreation section of the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) and in particular the provision of swimming pools.

While supporting the retention of a swimming pool in St Albans the school understands there are problems associated with the existing Edgware Pool.

The Council will be aware that swimming is part of the school curriculum and St Albans School is committed to providing swimming as part of the school programme. While the school has its own swimming pool which is used to teach swimming as part of the school curriculum it also uses Edgware Pool for swimming sports and the teaching of senior pupils due to the shallow nature and size of the school pool and the substantial increase in pupil numbers in recent years which has put pressure on its pool facility. The closure of Edgware Pool will create difficulties for the school in continuing to provide swimming at current levels as part of the curriculum. These include securing alternatives to Edgware, increased costs in travelling to other pools and added time away from the classroom due to travel.

The school's existing pool is well used by the school community throughout the summer period. We note that the Council's draft Aquatic Facilities Plan refers to support for school pools especially outside a 2km catchment radii of indoor aquatic facilities. St Albans School is outside that 2km catchment and would welcome any Council support to maintain its existing pool.

The St Albans community continues to grow with increases in housing density. This has seen the schools role increase to a level of over 500 pupils at the end of 2005, placing major pressures on the use of the school pool. The school would therefore support the development of a new pool facility for the community in the St Albans. Options may be possible in the area of the school and English Park where it would be more visible and there is adequate parking available. The St Albans School is interested to discussing all alternative options with the Council which could help in providing a swimming facility for the school and the St Albans community.

Recommendation

That the City Council give consideration to the provision of a community swimming pool in St Albans area in conjunction with St Albans School.

We do wish to speak to our submission



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Signed on behalf of St Albans School

Address for Service

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