

13. SWIMMING LESSONS AT THE NEW PIONEER AND CENTENNIAL POOLS

RR 9679

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Corporate Plan Output: Pools	

The purpose of this report is in response to an issue raised by Councillor Baker at the Council meeting held on Thursday 25 March 1999 requesting information on what provision has been made for swimming lessons at both Pioneer and Centennial Pools

Teach To Swim has always been seen as a key function in terms of the operation of these two new facilities and while there is no specific designated Teach To Swim Pool, it has always been the intention to use the shallow end of the lap pool for the older children and to use the leisure pool, middle section, for the younger children to carry out Teach To Swim lessons.

This concept was supported by our consultants in the planning stages when they pointed out that many of the overseas pools now make no provision for Teach To Swim as a separate facility but carry out the activity in their leisure pools. This concept leads from shallow water to deeper water.

The issue of providing for Teach To Swim in the leisure pools will be one of programming time when the middle sections of the pool are specifically set aside for Learn To Swim lessons and this from an operational point of view is not seen as an insurmountable issue, but more as a compromise to maximise water use.

Councillor Baker also raised the issue of Invercargill now looking to provide a separate Teach To Swim pool, which I understand is currently being planned. This should be taken in context as Invercargill's Splash Palace is the only pool in the city and serves a population of 50,000 people. The Teach To Swim has been very successful in their leisure pool, as documented in a report from their Teach To Swim instructor.

Taking into account the above factors, the provision of Teach To Swim classes in the leisure pool is seen as both feasible and practical and will be programmed to commence the term following the opening of these new facilities.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.