

Officer responsible Leisure Unit Manager	Author Peter Walls
Corporate Plan Output: Suburban Pools	

The purpose of this report is to advise the Council and seek direction in respect to some unbudgeted expenditure that is required if the Templeton Pool is to open for this summer season.

This report has been referred to the Community Board for information and it will also go forward to the Parks and Recreation Committee’s September meeting for a decision.

Background

As with other suburban pools the Templeton Pool is supported by the Council with the provision of operating costs and also for the ongoing maintenance of the pool. In this financial year we have budgeted \$12,000 towards the operational costs and nothing for the asset maintenance of the Templeton Pool. The Council also provides ongoing training for the lifeguards with the local Pool Committee being responsible for the day to day overseeing and management of the pool.

Over the last two seasons some concern has been expressed by the local Committee in respect to the amount of water that is being lost from the pool over the summer season. This has been investigated and it was found that there is a major leak problem in the top part of the pool. It appears that when the filter system was first put into the Templeton Pool they added a section to the top of the pool and this new concrete section was not effectively reinforced or tied into the existing concrete and has now begun to crack away creating a major leak problem in the top part of the pool. This irregular cracking ranges from approximately 150-300mm from the top of the pool all the way around the pool and has resulted in several sections breaking away.

An indication of the cost to repair this problem is \$20,839.00 to fix the lip of the pool in respect to re-concreting and linking the new concrete into the old concrete with re-enforcing and an additional \$5,200.00 to repair and replace pipes for the filter system. In addition the old sand filter at Templeton is due for replacement and this was to be budgeted in the 2000/2001 financial year at a cost of approximately \$6,500.00.

Templeton Centre Indoor Pool

There is a small indoor pool (15 meters long) based at the Templeton Centre which has been used by the Templeton Swimming club over the winter time for several years. With the relocation of most of the residents from the Centre Healthlink South closed this pool in June 1999.

Currently the pool and other buildings on the Templeton Centre site along with the land are on offer to Ngai Tahu, with future proposed developments being subject to some planning issues.

The cost to operate this pool is approximately \$7,000 per Month (\$84,000 pa) and does not include the cost of staff wages. Healthlink South also advised that there is about \$30,000 of deferred maintenance required on the pool and building.

Healthlink South have a new development planned for the Maddisons Rd, Kirk Rd corner but the proposed pool for this development is to be a small theraputic pool for residents only.

As can be seen from the above information this pool, which is located a considerable distance from the Templeton township, would be a very expensive option to maintain and operate.

Future of the Templeton Pool and other Suburban Pools

The Templeton pool is very old and will continue to cost the Council to maintain an operational standard. As for other suburban pools, the life expectancy of this facility must be considered as limited with the probability that the new 12 month operation leisure pools will very quickly make the suburban pools across the city redundant, other than on very hot summer days.

The future of Templeton Pool and the other suburban pools must be carefully evaluated as they have limited patronage and will continue to cost the Council a significant amount of money to maintain and operate in future years. In the long term the proposal from the Pool Review was that the pool at Sockburn be upgraded/re-located and that the Papanui facility also be upgraded. In view of recent planning decisions it would seem that the provision of 12 month swimming facilities in the Hornby/Sockburn and Papanui areas should be considered in the next five to ten year plan. Should this occur then the future for the Templeton Pool (if a replacement for Sockburn was located in Hornby) would be limited and also if a facility was built in the Papanui area then the future of both the Belfast Pool and the Edgeware Pools should also be evaluated.

It is proposed that following twelve months operation of the new Centennial Leisure Centre the impact on both the Woolston and Edgeware Pools will be reported back to the Council.

Bearing in mind the probable time frame for any proposed future developments and the operational and maintenance costs associated with the Templeton Centre Pool, it would seem appropriate that the work should be carried out on the Templeton Pool to allow it to open for the forthcoming and future (5-10 years) summer seasons to service the Templeton and surrounding population.

The problem is that this work has not been budgeted for and there are no other avenues of funding from within the Leisure Unit budget to carry out this work ie there are no other capital budgets that could be delayed for 12 months. If the Council supports this expenditure then it would appear that the only avenue of funding would be from the contingency fund.

The recommendation to the Parks and Recreation Committee is that \$26,000 be provided from the contingency fund to carry out the repair work to the Templeton Pool to allow it to open for the summer season

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the information be received.