

7. SHIRLEY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL POOL

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Corporate Plan Output: public accountability	

The purpose of this report is to advise the Board of a proposal to keep the Shirley Intermediate School swimming pool open over the December/January school holiday period, and to seek funding.

Background

The Shirley Intermediate school last summer emptied and closed the swimming pool during the holiday period. The reason being that supervision of children and vandalism had raised safety concerns, particularly children attending the pool on their own.

Proposal for this Holiday Period

During discussion with the Principal earlier this year, it was suggested that the school would support the pool being opened if funding was available to provide the necessary supervision, maintenance and lifeguards.

There would also be additional costs involved in operating the pool, for example - chlorine, electricity, testing chemicals, cleaning materials and filtration plant maintenance. As well as the operational costs, upgrading of the toilet and changing rooms adjacent to the pool would be required. The school does not use this block during school time.

A draft breakdown of costs is shown on the attached schedule. However these cannot be finalised until further details are known regarding staffing hours, opening hours, security and other safety issues.

Opening hours will need to be considered including, who has access, responsibility for opening and closing the pool.

Safety Issues

Members will be aware that OSH have recently introduced additional obligations which will have considerable impact on school pools.

A meeting is being held with the Principal on Monday, 10 December 2001, to discuss this proposal and further information should be available at the meeting.

Responsibility for the pool, its operation, staffing, safety, and security should remain with the school. The Board would be involved only as a funder.

Recommendation: Depending on the outcome of the above discussion, the Board could give delegated authority to the Recess Committee to approve funding up to a certain amount, which should be more accurately known by the date of the Board meeting.

For discussion.