Elected Member Briefing – 17 May 2021 Committee Room 1

Time	Topic	HCC Presenter(s)	Open / Closed	Time Req'd (mins)
1.00pm	Rate Payer Financing Scheme (Council)	Stafford Hodgson	Open	45 mins
1.45pm	Aquatics Strategic Plan (Community Committee)	Liz Cann, Helen Paki	Open	60 mins



Briefing purpose

- Inform Elected Member about the Ratepayer
 Financing Scheme (RFS)
- Seek direction on the whether to fund the development of the RFS



What is the RFS

- A work in progress opportunity (national initiative/LGNZ involved)
- An 'off-balance sheet' funding tool for councils
- Addressing ratepayer affordability concerns and incentivising ratepayers to take advantage of and/or comply with councils policies through providing ratepayers with:
- Flexibility to decide when to pay local government charges; and/or
- Very competitive finance terms (below standard mortgage rates).



How would the RFS work

- The RFS would impose a 'rate-like' charge (much like a Special Purpose Vehicle under the IFF)
- The RFS could raise very low-cost financing from the capital markets (and pass this on to ratepayers)
- Council dictates what it can be used for
- Generate a return for Council after operating costs have been paid



How could the RFS be used

- Rates postponement (reverse equity mortgage)
 - Demographic change
 - Short term employment shocks
- Property improvement loans
- Deferred development contributions (DCs)
- IFF funding



What stage is the RFS at

 Preliminary development and scoping study Stage 1 Confirm support Stage 2 Detailed development Stage3 Final development Stage 4 Establishment Stage 5



Estimated Cost

- Costs split between councils
- Stage gate approach
- To date \$100k (HCC contributed \$20k)
- Stage three funding estimated at \$700k
- Total development cost estimated at \$6m
- This cost turns into an investment if the RFS becomes successful



Next steps

- 1. Decide if this is a tool Council wants
- 2. Confirm support in principle (or not)
- Confirm how many councils are supporting the RFS development
- 4. Seek funding decision from a Council meeting



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Presenters

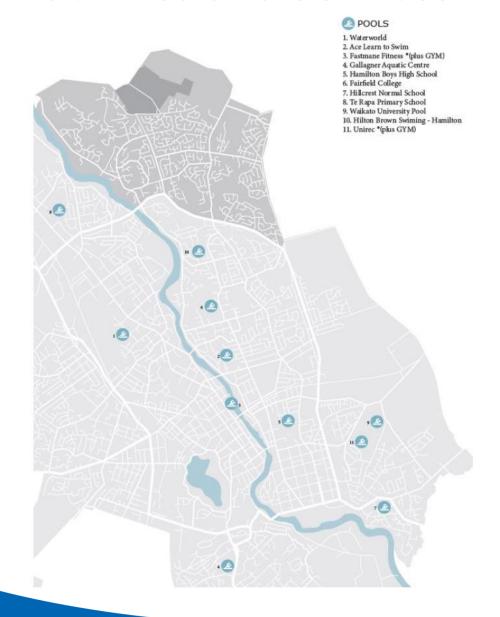
- Helen Paki Unit Director Community Services
- Liz Cann Aquatics Director
- Nick Chester Team Leader, Planning and Policy



Purpose of Briefing

- Overview why do an Aquatics Strategy?
- Share intended scope and timeframe
- Elected Members feedback on draft vision and other aspects of the strategy

Our Facilities and Services – what we do now



Facilities

- Council owns and operates 2 aquatic facilities
- Waterworld central to aquatic services in Hamilton
- Partner pools provide additional capacity in Summer
- There are several privately owned facilities in the city



Our Facilities and Services – what we do now

Services

- Organised sports swim meets, school swimming days, water polo, diving
- Recreation and play:
 - Rec. pools
 - Hydroslides
 - inflatables
- Learn to Swim classes
- Water safety
- Hydrotherapy (rehabilitation, disability and older people)
- Fitness:
 - Lane swimming
 - Gym
- Onsite cafe













Why an Aquatics Strategy

- Direction for the current and future provision of aquatic facilities and services in Hamilton.
- Articulate Council's role in the provision of aquatic facilities and services.
- A targeted strategy aligning with Council Priorities and relevant strategic documents (e.g. Play Strategy).
- Increased opportunities for ongoing discussion about aquatics through regular committee updates.

Scope for the Strategy

In Scope

- Strategy that outlines the role for Council in the provision of aquatic spaces and services in Hamilton.
- An understanding of the needs of our communities, evolving recreation trends and wellbeing priorities.
- A "plan on a page" that captures the vision, purpose and key outcomes of the strategy.
- Engagement with stakeholders during the development of the strategy.



Out of Scope

- Any facilities not owned by council, or receiving council funding.
- A detailed action plan this will follow on an annual basis





Draft Vision for Aquatics Strategy

" Hamilton City Council provides quality aquatic spaces and services that enhance the wellbeing of Hamiltonians"

What feedback do you have on this vision? What should be added or removed?



Next Steps and feedback

- Staff will take feedback from briefing and begin discussions with stakeholders
- A draft strategy will be developed from July-September 2021
- The draft strategy will be presented to the Community Committee on 12 October 2021 for adoption.

Feedback from Elected Members:

- Is the purpose of the strategy clear to you?
- Is the scope for the strategy and links to existing Council strategies clear?
- Are timeframes reasonable?
- Are there any other issues or concerns that should be considered as part of the strategy?

