

# WINCHELSEA Pool

## reVAMP

### **The much loved Winchelsea swimming pool is ready for a revamp, after bringing 60 years of summer fun to generations of locals and visitors.**

The Winchelsea swimming pool opened in February 1963 following 28 years of advocacy and fundraising from the local Swimming Pool Committee. The Committee initially ran the pool which was built by contractor Mr E. Budge at a cost of £16,500 (\$488,000 in 2020 dollars). Like many of the pools built in Victoria around the same time, the Winchelsea pool is getting old. We want your input as we start planning for a revamp of the facility, to meet community needs into the future.

#### **The current facility**

We want to understand how you currently use the pool, and what changes you might like to see for the future. Or if you don't use the pool now, we're interested in what might encourage you to.

The facility currently has:

- 3 pools catering for all ages
- Kiosk/office
- Change rooms
- Relaxing outdoor areas with seating and shade
- Plant room/equipment storage

The activities offered include:

- School intensive swimming lessons
- School carnivals
- Community group bookings
- Vicswim summer program
- Children's birthday parties
- Fundraising events

#### **What's possible?**

There's a variety of opportunities for the community to consider for what's needed both now and into the future, and we want to hear from you. We also need to be mindful of:

- The existing footprint – a revamped facility must fit within the existing site.
- Council funds are available to replace the facilities to current day standards. Additional funding may be required for any proposed alterations that arise during the community engagement and design phases.
- The operational costs – the facility has been provided to the community at an average cost of \$131,000 per year for the past 5 years. Visits have averaged 7,150 per year over this time, therefore the average 'cost per visit' has been \$14.88 per visit. A revamped facility must provide a better operational performance.

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## A community space

Revamping the facility presents an opportunity to revitalise community use of this great space. The Winchelsea pool is a community facility and community space that needs ongoing community involvement. The future of the Winchelsea pool could involve pool parties or exercise programs; using the space as a venue for outdoor movies or community celebrations; or the formation of a volunteer group involved in operations or working bees. The sky is the limit!

## We want to hear from you!

Community input will be central to the development of plans for revamping the Winchelsea pool. We want everyone to have an opportunity to have their say – whether you use the pool and what you love about it, or why you don't use the pool. All your ideas and comments will help us plan for a facility that meets your future needs. Some things to think about:

- How/why do you currently use the pool, or if not, why not?
- Do you like the current arrangement of pools, or would you like these to be different in type or number?
- Would you support the inclusion of a water play area or splash park?
- What type of activities would you like to see available within the facility?



## Have your say online

Complete the survey online at [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/winchpool](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/winchpool) by 31 January 2022.

For assistance, or to obtain a hard copy survey, please contact us at [info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au) or 5261 0600.

## Put your hand up for a reference group

We are looking for expressions of interest from people to be on a reference group – you can sign up for this via the survey (link above).

## Have your say in person

We'll also be talking to people at the pool during December and January – come and have a chat to our (off duty) lifeguards!

## Questions or more information

### When would works start?

With the engagement process, then reporting and decisions, construction won't be able to start and finish prior to the 2022/23 pool season. We'll be in a better position to determine when works would start once we know the preferred design and components and whether we need to seek external funding or consider staging works over several years.

For more information, including frequently asked questions and project updates, visit: [www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/winchpool](http://www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au/winchpool)

For other questions or information, contact the Recreation Planning Team at: [info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au), or 5261 0600