



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

Level 12 South
1 King William Street
Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 2832
Adelaide SA 5001
DX 115
Tel 08 8463 6560
Fax 08 8463 4480

Our ref: 19MCOR/0003
Your ref: 7248066

Ms Dana Wortley
Member for Torrens
8/511 North East Road
GILLES PLAINS SA 5086

Sent by email: torrens@parliament.sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Wortley

Freedom of information application

I refer to your application under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act), received by the Office of the Minister for Human Services on 25 January 2019 seeking access to:

Any and all documents, reports and correspondence (including but not limited to physical, electronic, or written advice and briefs, minutes, emails, meeting requests and any other correspondence) regarding Strathmont Pool in Oakden since March 2018.

Fourty four documents have been identified as falling within the scope of your application and I have determined to release twenty nine documents in part, thirteen documents in full and refuse two documents in full.

Documents 1 and 2 are briefing notes prepared specifically for use in Parliament, the disclosure of which would infringe the privilege of Parliament. I have therefore determined to exempt the documents in full pursuant to clause 17(c) of Schedule 1 to the Act.

Documents 7, 10-17, 20, 22-24, 26-31, 33-35, 37 and 40-43 contain the personal details of a third party and I consider that the release of this information would be an unreasonable disclosure of information related to the persons' personal affairs, and have determined it to be exempt pursuant to clause 6(1) of Schedule 1 of the Act.

Information has been removed from documents 32 and 37 that is not relevant to your request.

Please find enclosed a copy of the documents, and a document schedule containing a brief description of the documents.

If you are dissatisfied with my determination, you can seek an internal review by writing to the Minister for Human Services as the Principal Officer of the agency. Your request should be sent within 30 days of your receipt of this letter.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, may/will be published on the agency's disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at <http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Amanda Hockings, Office Manager, on telephone 8463 3388 or by email at amanda.hockings2@sa.gov.au. If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your FOI application, you have the right to complain to the Ombudsman SA. Please contact the Ombudsman directly on (08) 8226 8699.

Yours sincerely



Amanda Hockings
ACCREDITED FOI OFFICER

10 / 4 / 2019

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS – 19MCOR/003

Freedom of information application from the Dana Wortley MP seeking access to *Any and all document, reports and correspondence (including but not limited to physical, electronic, or written advice and briefs, minutes, emails, meeting requests and any other correspondence) regarding Strathmont Pool in Oakden since March 2018.*

No	Author	Addressee	Date	Description of document	Determination	Reason	Notes
1.	Department of Human Services			PBN	Refused in Full	Exempt – Clause 17(c) - Parliamentary Privilege	
2.	Department of Human Services			PBN	Refused in Full	Exempt – Clause 17(c) - Parliamentary Privilege	
3.	Catherine Renna	Steve Vicino	25 Jan 2018	Email – Referral from Mr Tarzia	Released in Part	Out of Scope information redacted	
4.	Katrina Stokes	Minister for Human Services	17 Jan 2018	Email – 5aa today re Strathmont	Released in Full		
5.	Jarryd Thiel	Minister for Human Services	22 Aug 2018	Email – Constituent queries	Released in Full		
6.	Minister for Human Services	Janette Hancock	25 Jul 2018	Email – Strathmont Centre Pool on ABC this morning	Released in Full		
7.	Zoe Darling	Steve Vicino	24 Aug 2018	Email – Talking Points	Released in Part	Exempt - Clause 6(1) – Personal Affairs	
8.				Mail Merge template letter	Released in Full		
9.	Minister for Human Services	Brendon Ward CEO ASCTA		Draft Response	Released in Full		
10.	Minister for Human Services	Tania Dodd		Draft Response	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
11.	Minister for Human Services	Bob Dodd		Draft Response	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
12.	Department of Human Services	Minister for Human Services		Briefing – Correspondence to the Premier from Alex Hodges Regarding Strathmont Pool	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
13.	Department of Human Services			Draft Response	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS – 19MCOR/003

No	Author	Addressee	Date	Description of document	Determination	Reason	Notes
14.	Minister for Human Services	Premier		Minute – Email from regarding Strathmont Pool	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
15.	Nat Cook MP	Minister for Human Services	25 Jan 2018	Letter re Constituent and closure of Strathmont Pool	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
16.	Minister for Human Services		20 Dec 2018	Response Letter re Closure of Strathmont Pool	Released in Part	Clause 6(1) – Personal Affairs	
17.	Minister for Human Services		29 Jan 2018	Interim Response re Strathmont pool closure	Released in Part	Clause 6(1) – Personal Affairs	
18.	Nat Cook	Minister for Human Services	29 Jan 2019	Letter – Closure of Strathmont Pool	Released in Full		
19.	Mayor Claire Boan	Minister for Human Services	20 Dec 2018	Letter – State Government owned Asset	Released in Full		
20.	Department of Human Services	Minister for Human Services	30 Jan 2019	Briefing – Correspondence from Claire Boan, Mayor of Port Adelaide	Released in Part	Clause 6(1) – Personal Affairs	
21.	Mayor Claire Boan	Minister for Human Services	30 Jan 2019	Response letter to Clair Boan Mayor of Port Adelaide	Released in Full		
22.	Lois Boswell	Janette Hancock	24 July 2018	Email – Strathmont Pool Statement	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
23.	Lois Boswell	Janette Hancock	25 July 2018	Email – Strathmont Pool URGENT Correspondence	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
24.	Nicole Thomas	Janette Hancock	2 Aug 2018	Lines 2.8.2018 Strathmont Pool	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
25.				Attachment to 49 – Talking Points	Released in Full		
26.	Department of Human Services	Minister for Human Services		Briefing – Correspondence from Constituents	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
27.	Department of Human Services			Response letter to constituents	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
28.	Department of Human Services	Minister for Human Services		Briefing – Correspondence to the Premier and Minister	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) personal affairs	

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS – 19MCOR/003

No	Author	Addressee	Date	Description of document	Determination	Reason	Notes
29.	Department of Human Services			Response letter – regarding closure of Strathmont Pool	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
30.	Department of Human Services	Minister for Human Services		Briefing – Correspondence from constituent	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
31.	Department of Human Services			Response Letter - regarding closure of Strathmont Pool	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
32.	Minister for Human Services		23 Jan 2019	Agenda – CE, Department of Human Services	Released in Part	Out of Scope information removed	
33.	Department of Human Services	Minister for Human Services	10 Sep 2018	Briefing – Correspondence from Constituents	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
34.	Minister for Human Services			Response Letter	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
35.	Minister for Human Services			Response Letter – regarding closure of Strathmont Pool	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) – personal affairs	
36.	Fiona Braendler	Amanda Hockings		Email -FOI Applications	Released in Full		
37.	Department of Human Services	Minister for Human Services	21 Nov 2018	Agenda – CE, Department of Human Services	Released in Part	Out of Scope information removed	
38.	Katrina Stokes	Janette Hancock	2 Aug 2018	Email – Regarding closure of Strathmont Centre	Released in Full		
39.	Minister for Human Services	Janette Hancock	26 Jun 2018	Email – CE's meeting	Released in Full		
40.	Minister for Human Services	Janette Hancock	17 Jan 2019	Email – 5aa re Strathmont	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) personal affairs	
41.	Lois Boswell	Janette Hancock	25 Jul 2018	Email – Strathmont Pool Consolidated Information	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) personal affairs	
42.	Nancy Rogers	Janette Hancock	24 July 2018	Email – Alternative Pools	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) personal affairs	
43.	Lois Boswell	Janette Hancock	25 Jul 2018	Email - Strathmont Pool Statement	Released in Part	Exempt – Clause 6(1) personal affairs	

SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS – 19MCOR/003

No	Author	Addressee	Date	Description of document	Determination	Reason	Notes
44.	Department of Human Services		1 March 2018	Media Release – Strathmont Swimming Pool	Released in Full		

From: [Vicino, Steve \(DHS\)](#)
To: Catherine.Renna@parliament.sa.gov.au
Cc: [DHS:Minister Lensink Correspondence Unit; Pratt, James \(DHS\)](#)
Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool Closure
Date: Friday, 25 January 2019 11:27:44 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Hi Catherine,

As discussed with James Pratt (Disability Adviser) earlier, we will take this matter as a referral and will provide some interim informal advice to the constituent regarding available alternative options for swimming lessons.

We will also prepare a formal response from the Minister acknowledging [REDACTED] email to Mr Tarzia.

If Mr Tarzia wishes to personally respond, I suggest you talk to our Adviser James about that.

We can cc your office into both the informal and formal responses.

Kind Regards,

Steve Vicino

Senior Ministerial Liaison Officer, Disabilities

Minister for Human Services

Department of Human Services

☐ 820 71848

Email: steve.vicino@sa.gov.au

cid:image003.png@01D3C28B.7E417CA0



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From: Renna, Catherine Marie [<mailto:Catherine.Renna@parliament.sa.gov.au>]

Sent: Friday, 25 January 2019 10:46 AM

To: DHS:Minister for Human Services <DHSMinisterforHumanServices@sa.gov.au>

Subject: Strathmont Pool Closure

Good Morning

Please see below an email from a constituent regarding the closure of the Strathmont pool.

Just wondering if there is any standard words that could be sent to respond to the constituent?

Kind Regards,

Catherine Renna

Trainee

HON VINCENT TARZIA MP

MEMBER FOR HARTLEY | SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

P: (08) 8365 1341

E: catherine.renna@parliament.sa.gov.au



Out of Scope

[Redacted text block]

[Redacted text block]

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[Redacted text block]

Out of Scope

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Stokes, Katrina (DPC)
To: Lensink, Michelle (DHS)
Cc: Hancock, Janette (DHS); Pratt, James (DHS)
Subject: FYI 5aa today re Strathmont
Date: Thursday, 17 January 2019 10:20:12 AM
Attachments: image001.png

FYI this caller claims his son's swim school doesn't have a place to go after the Strathmont closes
Caller Brad; Dana Wortley, Member for Torrens (SAA 9.21-9.25) Protests organised to stop the closure of the Strathmont pool

Caller Brad: I wanted to chat about the Strathmont pool and the protest that's getting organised today ... Dana Wortley's organised it to try and keep the thing open and it's about moving all the people to different pools that were going there, my son's nearly 10 and severely autistic non-verbal and he attends with the Adelaide North Special School for about two years he's been going there and in that time they've managed to teach him to swim, to dog paddle, to float, to jump in off the edge, lots of things ... his progress he's made is just amazing there and it's not the fact that they want to move them all, it's the fact that these kids don't handle changes to routines and different environments ... there's no guarantee if he gets moved to a bigger pool he could just stand there with his hands on his ears and not do anything. *(Pilkington: We've actually got Dana Wortley on the line ... what do you say to Brad's concerns ...)* **Wortley:** The closure of Strathmont Pool is absolutely devastating to a number of sectors to our community, one of those like Brad has explained is children with special needs, there are a number of schools who have classes there and what's happened is with the closure they're trying to, the Department is trying to arrange for these people to go elsewhere, Brad is absolutely right and as a former primary school teacher I can tell you that these children do not deal well with change but it's not just that ... it's about the fact that the, first of all I understand that Brad doesn't even know where his son will be going. **Caller Brad:** I've asked, three times I asked the teachers do they know where they're going next year and they've got absolutely no idea and that was as late as November so ... **Wortley:** We know that some school students with special needs miss out on lessons all together but because the initial cost of travelling to other pools, the cost for accessing the other pools is going to put a stop to it, we know of schools where what they've done is change the number of lessons that they will be having, one school at least we understand has cut the number of lessons by half that the students will be having so that is a real issue. The other issue is that we've got a lot of new migrant children, families that attend those schools, we know by recent drownings in SA and around Australia that the new migrant community, people that come from land locked states are also very much at risk of drownings and so the families that attend there, it's a beautiful pool, it's very embracing, a pool where people can feel secure and it's also heated. *(Pilkington: What are the reasons given for closing of the pool?)* **Wortley:** We FOI'd documentation and it's basically budgetary, it's based on the budget. *(Pilkington: Are they saying that it doesn't get enough patronage?)* **Wortley:** No, no, there are 1500 people that use that pool each week so it's got nothing to do with patronage, in fact an additional pool is needed in the area and ... we made an election, Labor made an election ... commitment ... about a new pool in Oakden or in that surrounding area ... because so many people have moved in there so this is a real problem, community groups, different sectors of the community that use that pool, children with a disability, new migrant families, people that just want their children to learn to swim, this is Australia. *(Pilkington: Who's the Minister responsible for this, who's the bloke or the lady that we ought to be approaching and getting an answer?)* **Wortley:** ... It comes under Human Services so ... Michelle Lensink. **Caller Brad:** I'm pretty sure Leon had asked her for a copy of some report

she was supposed to have had that it was unsafe or something but, and then Leon found out there was no report actually done, did you hear any more about that or? **Wortley:** There was ... a document we FOI'd and there was \$30,000 spent on some safety upgrades to the pool last year but the issue is definitely budgetary, the bottom line is that it will be an ongoing saving to close that pool. *(Pilkington: Ah right, how often do you hear that ... if we don't follow that up Leon certainly will do I imagine the beginning of next week.)*

Katrina Stokes

Media Adviser

Office of the Premier of South Australia

Email Sig Horizontal



Level 15, State Administration Centre, 200 Victoria Square Adelaide

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From: [DHS:Minister for Human Services](#)
To: "Thiel, Jarryd"
Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool
Date: Wednesday, 22 August 2018 1:05:00 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image001.png](#)

Hello Jarryd,

Thank you for the email to the office of the Minister for Human Services regarding constituent queries your office is receiving about the Strathmont pool closure.

As you would be aware, this topic has received media attention recently and the Minister was on the radio, ABC 891 AM, this morning responding to concerns raised by a constituent. The below talking points are based on the information the Minister provided to the ABC this morning.

- *Why is the Strathmont Pool going to close?*
 - The pool is on a site in an area with highly reactive soils.
 - This has been evidenced recently by the need to the adjacent gym building to be physically propped up due to significant cracking.
 - Due to this, the pool is at risk of failure, so there has been a plan in place since 2013 with all organisations that access the pool to ensure that they know the pool was at risk of failure. Part of this plan includes the provision of six monthly contracts at a time with these organisations.
 - SafeWork SA recently assessed the site, which resulted in the pool being closed for some urgent repair work.
 - It is anticipated that the need for ongoing and urgent repair work will continue to be an issue due to the age and condition of the pool and the site, and the pool's increasing risk of failure.
 - The State Government has assessed that the pool is at the end of its life.
- *Where are organisations and constituents that use the pool going to go once the pool is closed?*
 - The Department of Human Services (DHS) has been working through the issues related to the pool with all organisations that access it.
 - It is the Minister's understanding that two organisations have already found suitable alternative locations.
 - DHS is continuing to support the other organisations to source alternative locations.
 - If constituents or their families / carers have concerns, it is suggested that they consult directly with the organisations they are accessing the Strathmont Pool through.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other queries.

Kind Regards,

Steve Vicino
Ministerial Liaison Officer, Disabilities
Minister for Human Services
Department of Human Services
☐ 8463 6560

Email: DHSMinisterforHumanServices@sa.gov.au

cid:image003.png@01D3C28B.7E417CA0



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From: Thiel, Jarryd [mailto:Jarryd.Thiel@parliament.sa.gov.au]

Sent: Wednesday, 22 August 2018 9:14 AM

To: DHS:Minister for Human Services <DHSMinisterforHumanServices@sa.gov.au>

Subject: Strathmont Pool

Good morning,

As you might imagine due to Matt Cowdrey's background, our office has received a number of enquiries from constituents concerned about the Strathmont Pool.

I understand it is probably a bit of a moving feast at the moment but I was wondering if your office had any advice/talking points that we might be able to use in advising our constituents? If nothing is available at this stage, I would be very appreciative if you could pass along any information that does arise.

Please feel free to call me on 8353 1111 if that is easier.

Thanks and kind regards,

Jarryd Thiel

Electorate Officer

Colton_E-Sig



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From: [Lensink, Michelle \(DHS\)](#)
To: [Stokes, Katrina \(DPC\)](#); [Hancock, Janette \(DHS\)](#); [Maddeford, Selena \(DHS\)](#)
Subject: RE: RE: Strathmont Centre pool on ABC this morning
Date: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 10:50:31 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

It's not a "community pool" because it's not open to the public.

From: Stokes, Katrina (DPC)

Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 8:59 AM

To: Hancock, Janette (DHS) ; Maddeford, Selena (DHS) ; Lensink, Michelle (DHS)

Subject: RE: Strathmont Centre pool on ABC this morning

Hi everyone,

This was on ABC this morn, the guy from Rec SA had his figures completely wrong (see highlighted in yellow). He claimed that 700 people with disabilities use the pool – that figure is one resident (I think) – not 700.

At the end of the interview, Ali Clarke says "we'll certainly keep trying to catch the Minister".

Will keep you posted if there's any further media interest in this and see you all later today!

Kat

Drew Radford, Roving Reporter (ABC RADIO ADELAIDE 7.21-7.23) Planned closure of the Strathmont Centre's pool

(Clarke: Community pools, we've been speaking a lot about them of late and the closure of them ... it appears that another one might be slated and this one is at the Strathmont Centre out at Oakden there ...) ... it's on Grand Junction Road; it's actually not too far from the prison ... it's a large centre and there's really nobody around ... (Clarke: It seems that as of yesterday the questioning from Frank Pangallo in Parliament and from us, it looks like the pool is scheduled to be closed in January of next year ... this is the official line from the Office of the Premier of South Australia is that the pool requires significant capital investment to extend its life.)

Alistair Beard, Chairman, Recreation SA (ABC RADIO ADELAIDE 7.23-7.31) Planned closure of the Strathmont Centre's pool

(Clarke: Alistair Beard ... this pool closing, has it caught many by surprise?) Absolutely it's caught a lot of people by surprise and especially the poor people who are running the Swim Safe Swim School out there, Jo Dalton and her 25 staff. (Clarke: Who else is using the pool?) The pool's also used by the Tea Tree Gully Swimming Club ... they swim in the summer months out at Waterworld and then in the winter months they come into that really great little facility that's down at Oakden. (Clarke: And I understand that it's also used for people with disabilities?) Yeah, that's right ... about 700 people with disabilities use that facility and as we all know swimming and aquatic wellbeing helps a lot of people with those disabilities. So you just kind of wonder where are these 700 people going to go? (Clarke: Okay, so obviously it must be an inclusive pool and temperature is also important when it comes to people with disabilities and also the elderly using these types of facilities. So when did you as the head of Rec SA come to understand that this pool would be closing?) Well, I found out yesterday by a few sources which took us by surprise because this pool has been in operation for quite a number of years and Jo puts on a really great swim school. So where are not only the 700 people who have disabilities, but it would be thousands of children who go and learn to swim with their parents there on a Monday to Thursday and also on a Saturday and Sunday morning ... we're just wondering where these children are going to go as well. (Clarke: What does the Government currently do for Learn to Swim?) Well, the Government does a very good job. So obviously VacSwim has been around since 1950 and

that caters for the five to 13 year olds. The DECS Department run a range of excellent aquatic programs for kids in year six through to nine. Surf Lifesaving SA are also funded by a number of programs on the same wave which looks after ... Surf Sisters, the Surf Babies and there's lots of indigenous programs, but we really think that the Government could do a lot more. *(Clarke: In what way? I mean what's happening in other states or what are you comparing it to?)* Well, what we're looking at is recently in Victoria they had a horror summer where over 23 people drowned and the Government got right onto the front foot and they invested \$8.3m over two years towards water safety initiatives. It's called the Victorian Water Safety Strategy. They're looking at making primary school children have compulsory swimming lessons ... we know for a fact that here in South Australia even though DECS run a fantastic program not every school in South Australia is getting into that program. *(Clarke: ... the programs that are run here are for a week ... you just a week intensive and then that's it ... it's not a long, continuous revisit of your swimming skills.)* Well, that's right ... and unfortunately statistics have been quite horrible over the last couple of years. In Australia there were 291 people drowned and ... 15 were from South Australia. We had 10 coastal drownings and ... of those 291 people that drowned, 29 were children from the ages of zero to four and that was actually an increase of 32% on the previous year's. So out of that we can see that ... people have to access their learn to swim lessons from a very early age because it is a lifelong lesson. *(Clarke: Further to the statement from the Minister for Human Services, Michelle Lensink ... it says 'The organisations have been advised that the pool would remain' – since 2013 in fact – 'the pool would remain open as long as possible until major repair works were required.' And it seems from their take that this is now the time. 'And the pool closure is part of the decommissioning of the site to enable Renewal SA to commence master planning for the site ... the disability services are vacating the site and the organisations that use the pool have recently been given six months' notice of the pool's closure.' If you're talking about 700 people with disabilities using this facility weekly, where else can they go? ... these are questions I'd love to be able to put to the Minister ... does that mean that there are other pools just sitting idle that are ready to take 700 people?)* Unfortunately other pools aren't sitting idle. The Arc at Campbelltown, which was a fantastic initiative by the Federal Government, State and the council ... they can't fit any more children into their Learn to Swim program. The Thebarton Swim Centre, they're doing about 200 children a day and there's also the SASS Rapid Disability Swim that happens there. So there are a lot of centres that are currently just overflowing. I had an email from a centre yesterday saying that if the pool's closed all the multicultural programs will close ... where will these people go? So there are a lot of swimming centres at the moment at bursting point and ... just a comment in relation to swimming pools that need upgrading – we've seen over the years that the Unley pool has been upgraded, Payneham swimming pool are looking at putting a lot of money into upgrading ... a lot of these aquatic centres are now 30 to 50 years old and when they were built they probably weren't built to last that long. So we really do need the State Government and maybe the Federal Government to look at a lot of our aquatic centres to see what needs to be done so that they can continue for another 20 to 30 years. *(Clarke: On the text line it says 'Well now we know, more housing development'. In fact that was a supplementary question put to the Minister yesterday - given that there is just one resident now at the Strathmont Centre does the Government intend to sell off the property to developers? So we'll certainly keep following that up. Another person says 'This is typical. They wouldn't shut a footy oval.' Do we have a cultural problem here in South Australia when it comes to where we place the importance of swim safety?)* I think we do ... 83% of 12 year old children can't tread water for two minutes, 40% couldn't swim 50 metres and also 30%

don't attend regular swimming lessons. We live on a fantastic island, we're surrounded by water ... by beaches and unfortunately there are children who are going to grow up who won't be able to learn to swim ... it's also putting a lot of pressure on our volunteer surf lifesavers ... all of these lessons should be learned from a primary school age so that when they do finally get to going down to the beach ... they're not going to get themselves into trouble and it's not going to put extra stress on our volunteer surf lifesavers. *(Clarke: ... growing up in Queensland you wouldn't have to go and get extra swimming lessons because the school would do it all ... swimming lessons are really expensive, unaffordable for most people.)* ... Recreation SA, we've got an application to a grant for a Water Safety for All program ... what we want to do is some research and try to identify why children of a primary school age aren't accessing learn to swim lessons ... we do know that it is quite expensive but there's also some other reasons and it could be cultural reasons as well. So we would like the Government to help us to help these children to learn to swim. *(Clarke: ... we'll certainly keep cashing up the Minister. I'd love to sit down with her and bring some of the answers to the questions ... so we'll keep you updated and see when we can possibly sit down with Minister for Human Services Michelle Lensink.)*

Topics of discussion include:

- News headlines, traffic & weather
- David Bevan program preview
- SMS: "When I was in Perth ... everyone did free swimming classes during school time ..."
- SMS: "It's the parents' role to teach children to swim."
- SMS: "As the pool is closing ... when is the hall next door to the swimming pool that's currently used by local clubs and the local judo club three times a week, when is that closing?"

Katrina Stokes

Media Adviser

Office of the Premier of South Australia

Email Sig Horizontal



Level 15, State Administration Centre, 200 Victoria Square Adelaide

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From: [Darling, Zoe \(DHS\)](#)
To: [Vicino, Steve \(DHS\)](#)
Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool
Date: Friday, 24 August 2018 8:41:27 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image001.png](#)

Thanks Steve.

Here are the approved talking points for you to send to Matt Cowdrey's office. Please add to file and close.

- *Why is the Strathmont Pool going to close?*
 - The pool is on a site in an area with highly reactive soils. This has been evidenced recently by the need for the adjacent gym building to be physically propped up due to significant cracking.
 - Due to the age and condition of the pool and site, the equipment is at risk of failure. There is no imminent safety risk.
 - There has been a plan in place since 2013 to continue operating the pool, alongside regular assessments, until the pool was deemed to be at imminent risk of failure.
 - All organisations that access the pool have been consulted with since 2013, and provided six monthly contracts at a time in recognition of the pool's limited lifespan.
 - SafeWork SA recently assessed the site, which resulted in the pool being closed for some urgent repair work.
 - It is anticipated that the need for ongoing and urgent repair work will continue, and the pool's risk of failure will continue to increase.
 - As a result, the State Government has assessed that the pool is at the end of its life.
- *Where are organisations and constituents that use the pool going to go once the pool is closed?*
 - The Department of Human Services (DHS) has been working through the issues related to the pool with all organisations that access it.
 - It is the Minister's understanding that two organisations have already found suitable alternative locations.
 - DHS is continuing to support the other organisations to source alternative locations.
 - If constituents or their families / carers have concerns, it is suggested that they consult directly with the organisations they are accessing the Strathmont Pool through.

Thanks,
Zoe

Zoe Darling
Ministerial Adviser

Office of the Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
Minister for Human Services
Department of Human Services
Tel: 08 8463 6560
Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

cid:image003.png@01D3C28B.7E417CA0

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From: Vicino, Steve (DHS)
Sent: Thursday, 23 August 2018 12:03 PM
To: Darling, Zoe (DHS) <Zoe.Darling@sa.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Strathmont Pool

Hi Zoe,

As requested, please see below with your most recent edits marked in red. This related to file 18MDIS/0695.

Cheers,

Steve Vicino
Ministerial Liaison Officer, Disabilities
Minister for Human Services
Department of Human Services
☐ 820 71848

Email: steve.vicino@sa.gov.au

cid:image003.png@01D3C28B.7E417CA0



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From: DHS:Minister for Human Services
Sent: Wednesday, 22 August 2018 1:06 PM
To: 'Thiel, Jarryd' <Jarryd.Thiel@parliament.sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool

Hello Jarryd,

Thank you for the email to the office of the Minister for Human Services regarding constituent queries your office is receiving about the Strathmont pool closure.

As you would be aware, this topic has received media attention recently and the Minister was on the radio, ABC 891 AM, this morning responding to concerns raised by a constituent. The below talking

points are based on the information the Minister provided to the ABC this morning.

- *Why is the Strathmont Pool going to close?*
 - The pool is on a site in an area with highly reactive soils.
 - This has been evidenced recently by the need for the adjacent gym building to be physically propped up due to significant cracking.
 - Due to this and the age of the pool, it is at risk of failure. As such, there has been a plan in place since 2013 with all organisations that access the pool to ensure that they know the pool was at risk of failure. Part of this plan includes the provision of six monthly contracts at a time with these organisations.
 - SafeWork SA recently assessed the site, which resulted in the pool being closed for some urgent repair work.
 - It is anticipated that the need for ongoing and urgent repair work will continue to be an issue due to the age and condition of the pool and the site, and the pool's increasing risk of failure.
 - The State Government has assessed that the pool is at the end of its life.
- *Where are organisations and constituents that use the pool going to go once the pool is closed?*
 - The Department of Human Services (DHS) has been working through the issues related to the pool with all organisations that access it.
 - It is the Minister's understanding that two organisations have already found suitable alternative locations.
 - DHS is continuing to support the other organisations to source alternative locations.
 - If constituents or their families / carers have concerns, it is suggested that they consult directly with the organisations they are accessing the Strathmont Pool through.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other queries.

Kind Regards,

Steve Vicino
Ministerial Liaison Officer, Disabilities
Minister for Human Services
Department of Human Services
☐ 8463 6560

Email: DHSMinisterforHumanServices@sa.gov.au



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From: Thiel, Jarryd [<mailto:Jarryd.Thiel@parliament.sa.gov.au>]

Sent: Wednesday, 22 August 2018 9:14 AM

To: DHS:Minister for Human Services <DHSMinisterforHumanServices@sa.gov.au>

Subject: Strathmont Pool

Good morning,

As you might imagine due to Matt Cowdrey's background, our office has received a number of enquiries from constituents concerned about the Strathmont Pool.

I understand it is probably a bit of a moving feast at the moment but I was wondering if your office had any advice/talking points that we might be able to use in advising our constituents? If nothing is available at this stage, I would be very appreciative if you could pass along any information that does arise.

Please feel free to call me on 8353 1111 if that is easier.

Thanks and kind regards,

Jarryd Thiel

Electorate Officer

Colton_E-Sig



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**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

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GPO Box 2832
Adelaide SA 5001
DX 115
Tel 08 8463 6560
Fax 08 8463 4480

18MDIS/0878-0898

«Title_» «First_Name» «Surname»

«Address1»

«Address2» «State» «Postcode»

«Email_address»

Dear «Salutation»

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool. I am responding on behalf of the government and the Premier as I am the custodian of the site.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of the Strathmont Centre. The site is mostly vacant with many demolished buildings.

Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

Due to the pending closure of the pool, six monthly licences were issued to the four organisations using the pool in 2014. I am informed that all organisations were made aware the pool would be closing when the licences were issued.

The Department of Human Services has been working closely with each licensee to assist them to find alternative facilities that suit their particular needs.

I am pleased to advise that the Department for Education has confirmed that new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

The Swim Safe Swim School has reached agreement with SA Health to use a pool at Modbury Hospital.

All other user groups have made alternative arrangements. I would encourage you to contact your respective user group to find out more about these arrangements.

Thank you for writing and I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2018



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

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Tel 08 8463 6560
Fax 08 8463 4480

18MDIS/891

Brendon Ward
Chief Executive Officer
Australian Swimming Coaches and Teachers Association
PO Box 158
BEERWAH QLD 4519

brendon@ascta.com

Dear Mr Ward

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool. I am responding on behalf of the government and the Premier as I am the custodian of the site.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of the Strathmont Centre. The site is mostly vacant with many demolished buildings. Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

Due to the pending closure of the pool, six monthly licences were issued to the four organisations using the pool in 2014. I am informed that all organisations were made aware the pool would be closing when the licences were issued.

The Department of Human Services has been working closely with each licensee to assist them to find alternative facilities that suit their particular needs.

I am pleased to advise that the Department for Education has confirmed that new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

The Swim Safe Swim School has reached agreement with SA Health to use a pool at Modbury Hospital.

All other user groups have made alternative arrangements. I would encourage you to contact your respective user group to find out more about these arrangements.

Thank you for writing and I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2018



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

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Tel 08 8463 6560
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18MDIS/0878

Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs

Dear Clause 6(1) -
personal

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool. I am responding on behalf of the government and the Premier as I am the custodian of the site.

I have been advised that the Department of Education is responding directly to you with information specific to your son's arrangements with their Department.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of the Strathmont Centre. The site is mostly vacant with many demolished buildings. Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

Due to the pending closure of the pool, six monthly licences were issued to the four organisations using the pool in 2014. I am informed that all organisations were made aware the pool would be closing when the licences were issued.

The Department of Human Services has been working closely with each licensee to assist them to find alternative facilities that suit their particular needs.

I am pleased to advise that the Department for Education has confirmed that new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

The Swim Safe Swim School has reached agreement with SA Health to use a pool at Modbury Hospital.

All other user groups have made alternative arrangements.

Thank you for writing and I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2018



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Minister for Human Services

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18MDIS/0893

Clause 6(1) -
personal
affairs

Dear Clause 6(1) -
personal

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool. I am responding on behalf of the government and the Premier as I am the custodian of the site.

I have been advised that the Department of Education is responding directly to your daughter with information specific to your son's arrangements with their Department.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of the Strathmont Centre. The site is mostly vacant with many demolished buildings. Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

Due to the pending closure of the pool, six monthly licences were issued to the four organisations using the pool in 2014. I am informed that all organisations were made aware the pool would be closing when the licences were issued.

The Department of Human Services has been working closely with each licensee to assist them to find alternative facilities that suit their particular needs.

I am pleased to advise that the Department for Education has confirmed that new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

The Swim Safe Swim School has reached agreement with SA Health to use a pool at Modbury Hospital.

All other user groups have made alternative arrangements.

Thank you for writing and I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2018



TO: MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

RE: CORRESPONDENCE TO THE PREMIER FROM
STRATHMONT POOL

Clause 6(1) - personal affairs

REGARDING

Recommendations	Response
1. It is recommended that you approve and sign the attached minute and letter for the Premier's consideration OR combine with the Housing response at your office for forwarding to the Premier.	Approved / Not Approved / Noted
Comments:	<div style="text-align: center;"> ----- Hon Michelle Lensink MLC / / 2019 </div>

To provide the Minister with a suggested response to email correspondence from [REDACTED] to the Premier about the closure of the Strathmont Swimming pool.


- The office of the Premier has requested draft responses from several Minister's Offices to address different aspects of the email, for collation into one response.
- The draft response attached addresses the Strathmont Pool comments.

Yes. The closure of the swimming pool has received significant media attention.

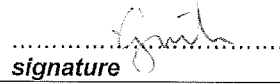
Are there financial implications	No
Is there a budget impact	No
Is there an FTE impact	No

**Finance & Business
Services Division****Director**

Julie J Gunn


signature 23/1/19**Acting Deputy Chief
Executive**

Gerrie Mitra


signature 23/1/19**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Email from Clause 6(1)
2. Draft minute to the Premier
3. Draft response to Clause 6(1) from the Premier

Contact Officers:Julie J Gunn Director Infrastructure Affairs
Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.auClause 6(1) Personal
Affairs

Julie Oliver Principal Project Officer 70401

B 288261

Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email on 16 January about the Strathmont pool.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of the Strathmont Centre. The site is mostly vacant with many demolished buildings. Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

I am informed that in 2014, all the organisations were made aware the pool would be closing and encouraged to commence planning for the closure. Six monthly licences have since been issued to licensees, due to the unreliability of the pool.

The Department of Human Services has been working closely with each licensee to assist them to find alternative facilities that suit their particular needs and I am pleased to advise that all user groups have made alternative arrangements.

Yours sincerely,

Hon Steven Marshall MP
PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Date (date/month/2018 format)

HON MICHELLE LENSINK MLC



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

MINUTES forming ENCLOSURE

19MDIS/0022

TO PREMIER

RE EMAIL FROM Clause 6(1) REGARDING STRATHMONT POOL

Please find attached a draft response to an email from Clause 6(1) dated 16 January 2019 regarding the closure of the Strathmont Pool. I understand that this will be incorporated into a response from your office covering several issues in the email.

The Strathmont Pool was originally built in the 1970's as part of the Strathmont Centre's recreational facilities catering for hundreds of institutionalised residents.

The 34 hectare site is part of the Oakden and Gilles Plains land precinct scheduled for redevelopment. The site continues to provide office accommodation for 80 Disability and DHS staff and is still a base for day programs and training.

As successive State Governments supported integrating people with disability into the broader community, resident numbers declined and other groups were allocated access to the pool.

During July 2018, the four organisations using the pool were given the six month final notice period that they had previously requested. Discussions about the pool closure commenced in 2014.

Department of Human Services staff have supported user groups to relocate to alternative facilities that suit their needs.

All organisations using the pool have secured alternative arrangements in time for the first school term in 2019.

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2019

Encl Draft response to Clause 6(1)



Nat Cook MP

*A strong voice for
our Community*



Dear Minister, *Michelle*

I write on behalf of [REDACTED] of Paradise.

[REDACTED] is vehemently opposed to the impending closure of the Strathmont Pool and the consequence this will have on the hundreds of children who currently access the pool for therapy and socialisation.

I have attached a copy of [REDACTED] correspondence for your reference.

I request that you yet again revisit your Government's decision to close the Strathmont Pool before hundreds of families living with disability are left stranded without the infrastructure they desperately need.

In the interim, if you would like to further discuss this or any other issue please do not hesitate to contact my office on 8299 0395.

Kind regards

Nat Cook

Nat Cook MP

Member for Hurtle Vale

Shadow Minister for Human Services

25 January 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

It is with enormous concern that I read about the proposed closure of the Strathmont Swimming Pool. I am deeply sceptical about some of the government claims that "excessive cost" is the reason for the closure. It has been claimed that the pool at Strathmont needs \$300,000 to repair it. Let's fact it, given Strathmont is closed except for the pool and a hall, it is clear the buildings will be in time be demolished and the land sold off. There should be a tidy sum go to help the budget bottom line and I am sure developers are eyeing off the prospect of more land being available (and the profit to be made) with eagerness.

The Marshall Liberal Coalition Government is starting to show it's hand as one which wants to cut services to ordinary people – to my mind it is the ordinary citizen and especially the vulnerable who we the voters of South Australia elect parliamentarians to provide services for at reasonable cost. Let's not forget the Marshall team when in opposition made much of the cost of power and how this was unacceptable as the impost of families was causing financial stress. Thus reducing services is something that I note with alarm.

I am sure the cost of keeping the Strathmont pool going are inflated but let's look at the costs. Until last year DECD students used the pool. I presume the pool they will use if Strathmont is closed will not be government owned and so there will be a cost to DECD (aka as you and me the taxpayer). Children with a disability have been users of the pool too and I read they can now go to Daw Park or to Angle Vale, both significant distances from Strathmont. I am confident they are some people living with a disability who will miss out under the proposed changes. The Swim Safe Swim School will no doubt continue to operate but I predict if it does move costs to ordinary and sometimes struggling families will increase and the number of participants will decrease with a change of venue and restricted. Federal Coalition politicians have made much of the horror of people trying to illegally enter Australia by boat and drowning on the way. What of the migrants who we as a country have accepted? It is ok for migrants and young children to drown because they cannot access swimming lessons?

This aspect of drowning has a personal dimension for me as I was five one when one of my younger sisters drowned. This is something that had a profound effect on me as well as my parents and siblings. Some time ago now I was having a conversation with a sister of mine who has a large family. Therese said she could not afford swimming lessons. It was one of those instinctive moments when I replied from my gut and put to Therese, "funerals are not cheap". It was a remark which spoke of the value of children being able to learn to swim so they can be water safe. It is with regret that I have read of many recent drownings both this summer and before. A number of the recent drownings in South Australia have involved migrants or visitors who did not know how to swim.

My background is one of the reasons why family of 3 children have attended Swim Safe swimming lessons at Strathmont over the last ten years. This is a location which is convenient for my family and where the price of tuition is not a barrier to ordinary families —this includes discount for multiple children. In fact, my sense of the range of other families who utilize this service is that there are many varied backgrounds and a number of families who make sacrifices or choices about the value of their child being able to become confident swimmers. Contrary to government claims there is not enough space at current facilities to cater for all of the current users of the Strathmont pool.

I heard the Minister for Emergency Services and Sport on radio this week. When answering questions about the fact that VacSwim now is more costly than it used to be, he noted the Government has a sports vouchers system for primary school aged children. It is ironic that this voucher funding has no relevance to swimming lessons.

Given the South Australian government (and thus taxpayers) have been able to save money from the move of the responsibility for number of people living with a Disability from it's care to the federally funded NDIS, let's consider the issue of cost. I am aware of some NDIS packages for participants topping \$300,000 for one person but somehow the government claims a cost of \$300,000 (which I believe is inflated) is too much for the taxpayers of South Australia to invest in the local community, Yet this pool has supported 1500 per week in offering water therapy to people with a disability and swimming lessons to families and migrants. This supposed "excessive cost" in keeping Strathmont open is a mere drop in the ocean which may save lives and lead to healthier lifestyles. Let's not forget the amount of money being given to sporting organisations by the Government which pay their players significant amount of money. This is about investing in ordinary families struggling to do their best. I call on the Marshall government to reinvest in the North East by keeping Strathmont pool open and planning for a new facility to replace the Strathmont pool. If resources are being closed down, surely it is important that the government plan to replace rather than close down and pocket the profit from selling off resources?

Kind regards

Clause 6(1)



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of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

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18MDIS/0878-0898



Dear **Out of Scope**

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool. I am responding on behalf of the government and the Premier as I am the custodian of the site.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of the Strathmont Centre. The site is mostly vacant with many demolished buildings.

Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

Due to the pending closure of the pool, six monthly licences were issued to the four organisations using the pool in 2014. I am informed that all organisations were made aware the pool would be closing when the licences were issued.

The Department of Human Services has been working closely with each licensee to assist them to find alternative facilities that suit their particular needs.

I am pleased to advise that the Department for Education has confirmed that new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

The Swim Safe Swim School has reached agreement with SA Health to use a pool at Modbury Hospital.

All other user groups have made alternative arrangements. I would encourage you to contact your respective user group to find out more about these arrangements.

Thank you for writing and I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Lensink".

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

20 / 12 / 2018

From: DHS:Minister for Human Services
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: "hartley@parliament.sa.gov.au"
Subject: Interim response from the office of the Minister for Human Services regarding Strathmont Centre swimming pool closure
Date: Tuesday, 29 January 2019 11:11:00 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email to the Member for Hartley, Hon Vincent Tarzia MP, regarding your concerns about the closure of the Strathmont Centre pool. As the Minister for Human Services, Hon Michelle Lensink MLC, is the custodian of the this site, Mr Tarzia has forwarded your email to our office to respond.

The Minister is preparing a formal response to your email, but in the meantime I am emailing you to provide some details of other potential options for swimming lessons.

Please refer to details below, including advice the Department of Human Services (DHS) has received regarding availability of swimming lessons, as at 24 January 2019. I am conscious of the likelihood that you may already have the details of these providers, and I advise you to contact them directly should you have any queries about booking your children in:

Pool	Contact details	Lesson vacancies as at 24 January 2019
YMCA – The Parks 46 Cowan Street Angle Park SA 5010	Website: https://www.parksrsc.ymca.org.au/aquatics/swimming-lessons/classes Phone: 8406 2900 Email: parksrsc@ymca.org.au	Roughly half of their classes are full, with many vacancies on all days of week.
Norwood Swim School 273 The Parade Beulah Park SA 5067	Website: http://www.norwoodswimschool.com.au/ Phone: 8332 1136	Vacancies available
The ARC – Campbelltown 531 Lower North East Road Campbeltown SA 5074	Website: http://www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/learntoswim Phone: 8366 9350 Email: learntoswim@campbelltown.sa.gov.au	New enrolments to the program are currently closed until further notice, as classes are currently at

StateSwim – Clovercrest 438 Montague Road Modbury North SA 5092	Website: https://www.stateswim.com.au/our-locations/south-australia/clovercrest/	capacity
	Phone: 8264 1268	Vacancies
	Email: clovercrest@stateswim.com.au	available
FunLife Fitness Centre 11 Roopena Street Ingle Farm SA 5098	Website: http://funlifefitness.com.au/	Limited
	Phone: 8264 3918	vacancies
	Email: info@funlifefitness.com.au	available
Kent Town Swim - Prince Alfred College Cnr Capper Street & Parade West Kent Town SA 5067	Website: http://www.kenttownswim.com.au/	Vacancies
	Phone: 8334 1285	available
	Email: enquiries@kenttownswim.com.au	
Elite Swim Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre 207-235 Hampstead Road Northfield SA 5085	Website: http://www.eliteswim.com.au/	Call for
	Phone: 0411 634 754	vacancies
	Email: enquiries@eliteswim.com.au	availability
Paragon Swim Centre 97-99 Smart Road Modbury SA 5092	Website: https://www.paragonswim.com.au/	Limited
	Phone: 8396 6978	vacancies
	Email: paragonswim@gmail.com	available
Tea Tree Gully Swimming Club - Learners Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre 207-235 Hampstead Road Northfield SA 5085	Website: http://www.ttgsc.org.au/html/learners.html	Vacancies
	Phone: 0411 323 127	available
	Email: learners@ttgsc.org.au	
Adelaide Aquatic	Website: https://adelaideaquaticcentre.com.au/	Vacancies
	Phone: 8203 7665	available

Centre Email: aac@cityofadelaide.com.au
Jeffcott Road
North
Adelaide SA
5006

Waterworld	Website:	Vacancies
Aquatic	https://www.teatreegully.sa.gov.au/Events_and_places/Places_-_Council_parks_facilities_and_venues/Waterworld_Aquatic_Centre	available
Centre		
Cnr Jack High	Phone: 8397 7439	
Lane &	Email: waterworld@cttg.sa.gov.au	
Golden Grove		
Road		
Ridgehaven		
SA 5097		

I trust this information is useful. Please contact me if you have any queries and thank you again for bringing this matter to the Minister's attention.

Kind Regards,

Steve Vicino
Senior Ministerial Liaison Officer, Disabilities
Minister for Human Services
Department of Human Services
☐ 8463 6560

Email: DHSMinisterforHumanServices@sa.gov.au

cid:image003.png@01D3C28B.7E417CA0



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Nat Cook MP

*A strong voice for
our Community*



Hon. Michelle Lensink MLC
Minister for Human Services
Minister.Lensink@sa.gov.au

TR

/ Michelle
Dear Minister

I write to call upon you to intervene in the impending closure of the Strathmont Pool.

As you know, the Strathmont Pool services over 1500 swimmers on a weekly basis for swimming classes and water therapy, the majority of whom are living with a disability or who are new Australians interacting with pools and beaches for the first time.

The Strathmont Pool is critically important to the North-Eastern community, with its closure to drastically effect hundreds of South Australians living with disability and their families who will be forced to travel great distances, reduce their swimming class frequency or discontinue classes altogether due to the dual burden of additional costs and distance.

In a summer that has seen multiple high-profile deaths along Adelaide's beaches and the hottest day in South Australian history, it is incumbent upon government now more than ever to ensure our communities have ease of access to quality pools with affordable class options for socialisation and therapies.

As a Member of Parliament with an electorate office out in the community, I meet and speak with concerned South Australians daily who are appalled at the Marshall Government's decision to shut the Strathmont Pool, and fear for their own swimming and community facilities in the summers ahead.

This sentiment has been echoed by the dozens of pool users I have spoken with on my many visits to the Strathmont Pool.

I call upon you to reconsider your decision to close the Strathmont Pool.

Users of the pool, particularly those living with a disability need greater certainty and confidence that their water therapy arrangements can continue as normal following the closure of Strathmont.

This is not currently the case.

PO Box 158
Woodcroft
South Australia 5162

(08) 8299 0395
 hurtlevale@parliament.sa.gov.au
 @NatCookMP

Nat Cook MP

*A strong voice for
our Community*



Until this has been resolved the Strathmont Pool must remain open.

Citing the mechanical difficulties of the pool as you have touched upon in previous correspondence to me, now would be the ideal time to announce the construction of a new public pool in the Northern-Eastern suburbs.

This would deliver to locals a new and improved facility in the same general area as Strathmont that would allow them to continue their existing swimming arrangements upon completion of the pool's construction.

I note that Labor took to the 2018 election a commitment to build a new public pool in the North-Eastern suburbs to replace the Strathmont Pool.

At this eleventh hour I call upon you to act in the interests of the hundreds of pool users who will be worse off because of this decision.

It is not too late to stand up for everyday South Australians who frequent the Strathmont Pool every week, many of whom have done so for years.

I look forward to your considered and urgent response.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'N Cook', written in a cursive style.

Nat Cook MP

Member for Hurtle Vale

Shadow Minister for Human Services

2nd January 2019

PO Box 158

Woodcroft

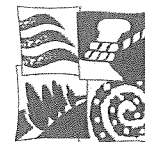
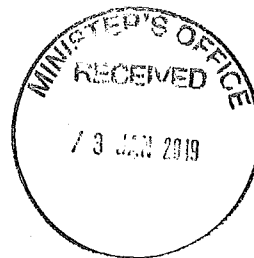
South Australia 5162

(08) 8299 0395

hurtlevale@parliament.sa.gov.au

@NatCookMP

20 December 2018

CITY OF
Port Adelaide Enfield

The Honourable Michelle Lensink MLC
Minister for Human Services
Level 12, 1 King William Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Attention: The Honourable Michelle Lensink MLC

Dear Minister

Strathmont Swimming Pool, Oakden

I write to you in relation to the above State Government owned asset located within the City of Port Adelaide Enfield.

At its meeting held on 11 December, 2018, Council resolved as follows:

"...that Council resolves to write to the Minister for Human Services, Michelle Lensink, to ask for a report on the decision to close the Strathmont Swimming Pool in Oakden."

It is my understanding that the licenses for the use of the pool, held by various organisations and groups, expired on 31 May 2018 and that those licenses have not been renewed. Long term correspondence from your department indicates that the facility has been earmarked for decommissioning and the future of the site is likely to be for residential housing.

The closure of this facility has been the subject of much media attention and no doubt, you are familiar with the multitude of disadvantaged user groups that are left without an inclusive recreation space that caters to their diverse and complex needs. Council believes that the closure of this facility will have an enormous impact on not just the immediate community, but also to the users that travel beyond the boundaries of councils to access the use of this facility.

I have no doubt an in depth analysis that would have had to occur to inform such a critical decision. To this end, Council seeks copies of any reports that satisfied the needs analysis versus community impact and the risk assessments undertaken to date by your department. This information is very valuable for our greater elected council body to consider and draw on, when addressing the palpable and emotional community response to the loss of this essential disability service facility in our City.

If you require further information or would like to discuss this matter, please contact Sarah Philpott, Director Corporate Services on telephone 08 8405 6778. Otherwise we look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully

Claire Boan
Mayor

CIVIC CENTRE
163 St Vincent Street,
Port Adelaide SA 5015
PO Box 110,
Port Adelaide SA 5015

COUNCIL OFFICES
Enfield Library
1 Kensington Crescent, Enfield
Greenacres Library
2 Fosters Road, Greenacres

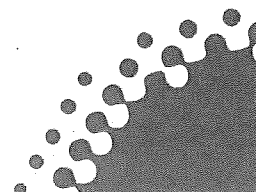
CONTACT
P (08) 8405 6600
E service@cityofpae.sa.gov.au
www.cityofpae.sa.gov.au

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Office of the Mayor



19MDIS/0001




Government of South Australia
Department of Human Services

TO: MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

**RE: CORRESPONDENCE FROM CLAIRE BOAN, MAYOR OF PORT ADELAIDE
ENFIELD ABOUT THE CLOSURE OF THE STRATHMONT POOL**

Recommendations	Response
1. It is recommended that you approve and sign the attached letter.	Approved / Not Approved / <u>Noted</u>

Comments:	 Hon Michelle Lensink MLC 31 / 2019
--	--

PURPOSE

To provide the Minister with a suggested response to email correspondence from the Mayor, City of Port Adelaide Enfield about the closure of the Strathmont Swimming pool.

KEY POINTS

- Strathmont Swimming pool will close 31 January 2019.
- The Mayor has requested copies of reports regarding community impact of the pool closure.
- The pool is a private facility and not open to general community use, reports on community impact were not commissioned by the Department.
- The closure was managed through liaison with each organisation using the pool to manage expectations and encourage forward planning for the closure.
- Master planning for the Oakden Gilles Plains precinct is being led by Renewal SA. The tender for a Structure Plan closes on 5 February 2019.

RISKS/SENSITIVITIES

Yes. The closure of the swimming pool has received significant media attention.

DISCUSSION

The South Australian Government funded a new pool in the Parks Community Centre within the Port Adelaide Enfield (PAE) local government area.

Closer to Strathmont, the Lightsview Indoor Recreation Hub is being constructed approximately five kilometres away on Hampstead Road. The City of PAE website advises that the need for a pool at this site was considered during the design of the hub, which will have multi-use indoor courts and no swimming pool. Several councils commissioned the Western Adelaide Sporting Facility & Demand Study and this report along with community consultation informed the design for the Hub.

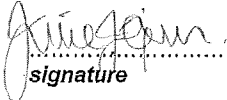
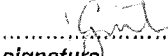
The council advises that 'The need for further aquatic facilities in the area is an ongoing conversation which will be informed by the completion of the 'Statewide Swimming Pool Audit and Master Plan' which will in turn inform our approach as a Council to understanding this issue in more detail and ensuring we meet the needs of the community in the most appropriate and effective way.'

A printout from the website is attached to this briefing. The Recreation SA Swimming Pool Audit referred to by the Council was released in September 2018.

The letter from the Mayor also refers to long term correspondence from the Department about the future of the site. This may refer to correspondence around 2009 when a portion of the site was declared surplus and proposed for sale. The Council requested a plan of the entire area proposed for sale rather than a piecemeal approach to disposal. Renewal SA is leading the master planning process for the site and surrounding land, a tender for the Structure Plan closes on 5 February.

BUDGET

Are there financial implications	No
Is there a budget impact	No
Is there an FTE impact	No

Finance & Business Services Division			
Director	Julie J Gunn	 signature	22/1/19
Acting Deputy Chief Executive	Gerrie Mitra	 signature	23/1/19

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter from Claire Boan, Mayor of Port Adelaide Enfield
2. Letter to Claire Boan, Mayor of Port Adelaide Enfield
3. Information from Port Adelaide Enfield Council website

Contact Officers:	Julie J Gunn Director Infrastructure Clause 6(1)
	Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au
	Julie Oliver Principal Project Officer 70401



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

Level 12 South
1 King William Street
Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 2832
Adelaide SA 5001
DX 115
Tel 08 8463 6560
Fax 08 8463 4480

19MDIS/0001

Mayor Claire Boan
City of Port Adelaide Enfield
PO Box 110
PORT ADELAIDE SA 5015

Dear Mayor Boan, *Claire*

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool in January 2019.

The Strathmont Centre is a private facility and the pool is not considered a community pool; therefore, reports of the type you requested are not available.

The Strathmont Centre was an institution for people with a disability. In line with modern understanding of human rights for people with a disability, the South Australian Government has been working for many years to have the former residents of the Strathmont Centre move into supported accommodation in the community.

The Department for Human Services plans to vacate the whole site eventually, in line with transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Renewal SA is leading the planning for this precinct on behalf of the South Australian Government.

For the past few years, legacy facilities including the pool, hall and chapel, originally built in 1971 for hundreds of residents have continued to be made available to private groups while they are functional.

However, recognising that the pool needed to close due to the failure of surrounding infrastructure including retaining walls, paths, switchboards and pipelines being at the end of their life and affected by the soil movement, the former Department for Communities and Social Inclusion met with all organisations to establish six monthly licences in 2014.

It was made clear at the time that short term licences were being issued to encourage all groups to commence forward planning to avoid client disappointment. The decision to close the pool has not been taken lightly; the facility has been kept open for as long as possible while buildings around it have been demolished or decommissioned. As the licence fees were either nil or very low, the organisations have chosen to stay as long as the pool is open.



On receiving the final licence, the groups have worked with support of government staff to find alternative arrangements. The last group to finalise a new location was Swim Safe Enterprises Pty Ltd, with a licence now in place for the Modbury Hospital hydrotherapy pool. The Department for Education has confirmed that new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

It is worth noting that the Strathmont pool is not a hydrotherapy pool, although it has been heated to a high temperature and there is hoist access via a portable hoist. Zero depth entry via a ramp at newer pools such as The Parks is the modern best practice.

It is also worth noting that new facilities have been built in recent years in the surrounding suburbs: The Parks, funded by the State Government, the ARC at Campbelltown and the new hydrotherapy pool at Modbury Hospital.

Again, I thank you for your letter and hope my response has provided you with assurance that the Department has taken the closure of the site seriously.

Yours sincerely



Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

30 / 1 / 2019

From: Boswell, Lois (DHS)
To: Hancock, Janette (DHS)
Subject: Fwd: Strathmont Pool statement
Date: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 4:19:59 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Hi Janette

Given the time I'm sending this through. Although it really needs edit/explanation. Please call when you can. And Sorry for the lack of planning and clarity with this one.

Lois

Lois Boswell

Deputy Chief Executive

Department of Human Services

Riverside Centre, North Tce, Adelaide

Ph: (08) 841 54306 Mob : Clause 6(1) - personal affairs lois.boswell@sa.gov.au

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Littleton, Richard (DHS)" <Richard.Littleton@sa.gov.au>
Date: 25 July 2018 at 3:59:33 pm ACST
To: "Boswell, Lois (DHS)" <Lois.Boswell@sa.gov.au>, "Heath, David (DHS)" <David.Heath2@sa.gov.au>
Cc: "Young, Joe (DHS)" <Joe.Young@sa.gov.au>, "Bull, Peter (DHS)" <Peter.Bull@sa.gov.au>, "Gunn, Julie (DHS)" <Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au>, "Di Fava, Natalie (DHS)" <Natalie.DiFava@sa.gov.au>, "Schutz, Matthew (DHS)" <Matthew.Schutz3@sa.gov.au>, "Hancock, Janette (DHS)" <Janette.Hancock@sa.gov.au>, "Harrison, Tony (DHS)" <Tony.Harrison@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool statement

Hi Lois

Following a discussion with Julie, we can add the following information regarding statements made on ABC 891 this morning.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->DHS has advised users the pool will be closed once it needs major repairs over the last few years. This was formalised in their agreements with six months notice added at the request of the users.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->With the mix of disability and non-disability organisations using the pool, it's likely both people with or without disability would be reflected in user numbers. Given the number of organisations using it for both therapy and swimming lessons, the pool is unlikely to have the capacity to cater for thousands of children in a single week. The actual numbers are held by the organisations that use the pool because they deal with the swimmers each day and it's a requirement they so safely.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->More work is required to determine alternative arrangements for current users and the department will work with the users on this in coming months.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]-->No date has been set for closure or masterplanning of the site, however the previous government made a decision that Renewal SA would masterplan and sell the site once last resident leaves.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Regards

Richard

From: Boswell, Lois (DHS)

Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 3:09 PM

To: Heath, David (DHS)

Cc: Littleton, Richard (DHS); Young, Joe (DHS); Bull, Peter (DHS); Gunn, Julie (DHS); Di Fava, Natalie (DHS); Schutz, Matthew (DHS); Hancock, Janette (DHS); Harrison, Tony (DHS)

Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool statement

Hello all

Thanks for this I have sent it through to Janette because the deadline was 3pm, however, the Minister also asked for information about statements in the transcript from this morning that were wrong

e.g. that there are 700 children with disabilities are using the pool.

Can I please get this information urgently

Thanks

Lois

Ms Lois Boswell LLB MAppSci GAICD

Deputy Chief Executive

Department of Human Services | Government of South Australia

Level 8 Riverside Centre, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000 | GPO Box 292, Adelaide SA 5001

Ph: (08) 841 54306 Mob Clause 6(1) lois.boswell@sa.gov.au



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From: Heath, David (DHS)

Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 2:54 PM

To: Boswell, Lois (DHS) <Lois.Boswell@sa.gov.au>

Cc: Littleton, Richard (DHS) <Richard.Littleton@sa.gov.au>; Young, Joe (DHS) <Joe.Young@sa.gov.au>; Bull, Peter (DHS) <Peter.Bull@sa.gov.au>; Gunn, Julie (DHS) <Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au>; Di Fava, Natalie (DHS) <Natalie.DiFava@sa.gov.au>; Schutz, Matthew (DHS) <Matthew.Schutz3@sa.gov.au>

Subject: Strathmont Pool statement

Hi Lois,

Here is the information Julie provided to us, as requested by the Minister's Chief of Staff, explaining the sequence of events.

Also attached is a proposed media statement for the Minister, based on Julie's information.

Regards,
David.

The Strathmont Swimming Pool – part of the Strathmont Centre site – is used by the Department for Education, Autism SA, the Tea Tree Gully Swimming Club, and the Swim Safe Swimming School.

The pool, which is not open to the public, has been used on a sessional basis by these organisations, as well as some former Strathmont residents prior to attending a community pool.

Prompted by a 2013 Cabinet decision to close and sell Strathmont after all residents had moved into the community, and given the pool's location in an increasingly isolated site surrounded by decommissioned buildings, as well as the pool coming to the end of its useful life, a decision was made to draft formal licence agreements with the organisations using the pool.

In October 2014, discussions began with the pool users about its medium and long-term viability. All organisations were advised the pool would remain open as long as possible, until and unless major repair works were required.

The Crown Solicitor's Office drafted licence agreements with the users, and the department sought feedback from the users before the agreements were finalised. A minimum six-month notice period was included in the agreements, as requested by the users.

At around the same time, the gym building, which adjoins the swimming pool and was made safe with the use of props, was closed after cracks appeared in the walls.

Unfortunately the swimming pool, change rooms and surrounding areas now require significant capital expenditure in plant and infrastructure. All the organisations using the pool were provided with more than six months' notice of its closure, as required by the licence agreements.

Each organisation and the small number of former residents with a disability who visit the site to use the pool have been contacted by DHS, and the department will work with them to provide information and assistance in looking for alternatives.

The 35-hectare Strathmont Centre site is a former institution for people with disability. DHS Disability Services has been moving Strathmont residents to community accommodation for many years, and only one resident remains.

The Strathmont Centre site is part of 56 hectares of government land that will be redeveloped. It is known as the Oakden Development Precinct.

Renewal SA has not commenced master planning the site. Consideration was given to including a state-run swimming pool as part of the redevelopment, but this did not progress beyond the discussion stage.

Alternative pools for swimming lessons

Cost between \$18-21 for each session.

Swimming lessons can be booked out at this time as they are half way through the term but the following alternative modern pools may be worth

investigating and have a few vacancies for some sessions:

State Government Pool Operated by YMCA Parks Recreation and Sports

Centre Cowan Street <https://www.parksrsc.ymca.org.au>

Online booking system

The ARC <http://www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=4630>

New enrolments open 30 July 2018.

Kent Town Swim <http://www.kenttownswim.com.au/>

Modbury <https://www.paragonswim.com.au/public-swimming.html>

David Heath

Senior Media Adviser

Strategy & Reform - NDIS Reform

Department of Human Services

P: 8207 0881 (ext 70881)

M: Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs

E: David.Heath2@sa.gov.au



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Subject: Fwd: Strathmont Pool URGENT Correspondence

Lois Boswell

Deputy Chief Executive

Department of Human Services

Riverside Centre, North Tce, Adelaide

Ph: (08) 841 54306 / Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs

Email: lois.boswell@sa.gov.au

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hancock, Janette (DHS)" <Janette.Hancock@sa.gov.au>
Date: 21 December 2018 at 9:09:40 am ACDT
To: "Boswell, Lois (DHS)" <Lois.Boswell@sa.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Strathmont Pool URGENT Correspondence

Dr Janette Hancock
Chief of Staff
Minister for Human Services
Department of Human Services
Tel: 08 8204 1958
Mob: Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs
Email: Janette.Hancock@sa.gov.au

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-----Original Message-----

From: DHS:Minister for Human Services
Sent: Friday, 21 December 2018 8:40 AM
To: Hancock, Janette (DHS) <Janette.Hancock@sa.gov.au>
Subject: FW: Strathmont Pool URGENT Correspondence

Hey Janette,

Do we need to action this urgently?

Many Thanks,

Jo Mets
Briefings Coordinator
Office of the Minister for Human Services Department of Human

From: Boswell, Lois (DHS)
To: Hancock, Janette (DHS)
Subject: Fwd: Strathmont Pool URGENT Correspondence
Date: Friday, 21 December 2018 10:12:56 AM

FYI

Lois Boswell
Deputy Chief Executive
Department of Human Services
Riverside Centre, North Tce, Adelaide
Ph: (08) 841 54306 / Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs
Email: lois.boswell@sa.gov.au
Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Gunn, Julie (DHS)" <Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au>
Date: 21 December 2018 at 9:53:23 am ACDT
To: "Boswell, Lois (DHS)" <Lois.Boswell@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool URGENT Correspondence

Cabinet: Sensitive

Spoke to [REDACTED]

She said she has been confused by mixed messages from different staff at NAHLN – last week she was told she can advise customers once forms signed by [REDACTED] – then says she was told contract needed to be signed by another person – I am not sure of the veracity of this I think she is struggling to listen process and retain what she has been told. I reassured her and we had a long chat and I once again offered help with her website and communicating in any way we can to assist her with advising her customers and said that is a top priority and she should do this and we can assist in any way. She said she is an administrator of her site so will add all the new information. I offered help with emails etc. to customers but she says she will do that.

Her main concern today is not being able to speak to her lawyer and the contract not being clear about her not paying for times she does not use it (currently pays for what she uses even if hours less than agreed or none in school holidays) This was included the form signed by [REDACTED]. I stuck my neck out here and said if it was in the form she and her lawyer agreed to Health would not have changed that without coming back to her. I think what she is referring to as a form is a schedule and it will be attached to the back of the contract (what am I typing – you're the legal brain!). Anyway I said if she has trouble on that score I would be surprised but will advocate for her.

She knows she continues to have an open invitation to call or text me at any time

J

Julie J Gunn
Director, Infrastructure
Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au

From: Boswell, Lois (DHS)
Sent: Friday, 21 December 2018 09:12
To: Gunn, Julie (DHS) <Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au>

Services

Email: joanne.mets@sa.gov.au

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-----Original Message-----

From: Joanne Dalton Clause 6(1)

Sent: Friday, 21 December 2018 7:41 AM

To: DPC:Premier <premier@sa.gov.au>; DTF:Treasurer
<treasurer.dtf@sa.gov.au>; DHS:Minister for Human Services
<DHSMinisterforHumanServices@sa.gov.au>;

Education:Minister Gardner <minister.gardner@sa.gov.au>

Subject: Strathmont Pool URGENT Correspondence

Dear Premier and Ministers please see attached letter regarding the impact of the closure of the Strathmont Pool at the end of January 2019.

Yours Sincerely Joanne Dalton

From: Thomas, Nicole (DHS)
To: Stokes, Katrina (DPC); Hancock, Janette (DHS)
Cc: Fletcher, Sam (DHS); Mitra, Gerrie (DHS); Boswell, Lois (DHS); Gunn, Julie (DHS); Young, Joe (DHS); Heath, David (DHS); Di Fava, Natalie (DHS); Cox, Lisa (DHS); Littleton, Richard (DHS)
Subject: Lines 02.08.18 - Strathmont pool
Date: Thursday, 2 August 2018 2:01:34 PM
Attachments: Strathmont Pool 2.8.18.docx
Importance: High

Hi Katrina and Janette,

As per ph message I just left Janette, please find attached some lines following this morning's mention of Strathmont Pool.

These have been past Lois, Gerrie and Julie.

Regards,

Nicole Thomas
NDIS Communications and Engagement
NDIS Reform Division
Department of Human Services
Level 4, Riverside Centre, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000
Telephone: (08) 8415 4322
Email: nicole.thomas@sa.gov.au

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From: Potter, Kate (DHS)
Sent: Thursday, 2 August 2018 11:45 AM
To: Harrison, Tony (DHS); Boswell, Lois (DHS); Mitra, Gerrie (DHS)
Cc: Littleton, Richard (DHS); Cox, Lisa (DHS); Di Fava, Natalie (DHS); Heath, David (DHS); Thomas, Nicole (DHS)
Subject: FW: RADIO PRECIS 1 (6am-9am) 02.08.18 - Strathmont pool

- SA Government Media Monitoring Service -

RADIO TALKBACK SUMMARY

10-11am

Thursday, 2 August 2018

FIVEAA

- Caller Donna: "... I thought I'd give you a call about the closure of Strathmont Centre, I've actually worked there for 10 years ... we have known for a while that this day was probably going to come ... we were hoping that of course it didn't and we were

advised ... first day back from the school term last week that final letter last six months contract had been signed and that the pool will be closing but ... a lot of disappointment from within ... I guess we were hoping that perhaps they could, I think my understanding is it's going to be locked down I think and housing put through there and I guess we were hoping that maybe ... they may be able to build around the pool and do it up, in our program we have over 400 students in a week that attend ... the students with disabilities and then when we finish with the school children we have ... I guess you'd call them Strathmont clients so they were ... a lot of the people that used to live in Strathmont which of course now ... I understand, I mean the schools have been advised obviously staff have been advised ... and they're going to try to I guess integrate them to other centres but that in itself ... I just can't see how you can have over 400 students fitting into ... these big swimming centres are there for the public ... you have aqua aerobics and ... at our centre it is purely our children and us, that's it, so ... to try and get this to work ... our swimming pool is a hydrotherapy so it's a little bit warmer than other centres which a lot of children need ... there's obviously just all the other problems with a lot of the children just can't cope with too much else going on around them ... you need the wheelchair access there's so many factors to it."

- SA Government Media Monitoring Service -

RADIO TALKBACK SUMMARY

9-10am

Thursday, 2 August 2018

FIVEAA

Dana Wortley, Member for Torrens (5AA 9.35-9.39) Closure of Strathmont Centre

(Byner: Dana Wortley ... in the last couple of days we've talked about the issue of the massively increasing cost of kids with special needs access hydrotherapy, now there's the issue of the Strathmont Centre, explain what's happening?) ... it's only going to put more pressure ... on the services that are required in the local area ... what's happened is that the schools ... that use the Strathmont Swimming Centre and disability service clients, Autism SA, the Swim Safe program ... they've all been notified that the pool will be closing as of the 31st of January ... this appears to be without consultation ... this appears to be without consultation ... the people ... the residents I've spoken with who access that swim centre have not been advised prior to this, there hasn't been consultation. They're saying the wording that talks about that further extensions can not be accommodated and it's going to be decommissioned ... we have a number of pools in our electorate and outside that access the hydrotherapy pool with their special needs classes and we also have Autism SA and Strathmont client program, disability services ... we're talking about some of the most vulnerable people in our community, people that ... need to access this hydrotherapy pool to ensure that they get the exercise, the rehabilitation that they require ... (Byner: what have you done already?) ... spoken to a number of the

community groups that are using the swimming centre ... we have a petition that we are getting people to fill in and that's an easy thing to do ... people are angry about it, there is a real need for hydrotherapy swimming pools in our area. *(Byner: Who made the ultimate decision to close this?)* Well it appears as though it's the Department ... of Human Services, so it's the Marshall Liberal Government. *(Byner: This didn't happen before they were in office?)* The whole issue of the Strathmont Swimming Centre, it was not ... one that was questioned as to it remaining open. We know that it requires money, investment going into it on an ongoing basis ... a decision has not been made to close the pool ... *(Byner: leave it with us, Dana, and we'll see what we can find out ... if you've got an endless pool of money – which we have not – there are many things you would love to do ... there are some things which are a priority ... protecting the most vulnerable ... we need to give careful consideration to these matters.)*

- SA Government Media Monitoring Service -

RADIO NEWS & TALKBACK PRECIS

U

Breakfast Period (6am–9am)

Thursday 2 August, 2018

RADIO TALKBACK ITEMS OF INTEREST

Nat Cook, Shadow Minister for Human Services (ABC RADIO ADELAIDE 7.38-7.44) Closure of the Strathmont Centre Pool (DO) / State of public pools in South Australia

(Denny: ... Ali first raised the issue of the closure of the Strathmont Centre last week ... the pool there ... with Alistair Baird the Chair of Recreation SA, he had concerns about the current pool uses, here's part of what he had to say.) **[Alistair Baird excerpt:** Unfortunately other pools aren't sitting idle ... the arc at Campbelltown which was a fantastic initiative by the Federal Government, State and the Council, they're chock a block, they can't fit anymore children into their learn to swim program ... the Thebarton Swimming Centre they're doing about 200 children a day and there's also the SAS Rapid ... disability swim that happens there so there are a lot of centres that are currently just ... overflowing, I had an email from a centre yesterday saying that if the pool is closed and all the multicultural programs will close ... as we said before where will these people go so there are a lot of swimming centres at the moment at bursting point ... we've seen over the years that the Unley pool has been upgraded, Payneham Swimming Pool are looking at putting a lot of money into upgrading, so a lot of these aquatic centres are now 30 to 50 years old and when they were built they probably weren't built to last that long so we really do need State Government and maybe the Federal Government to look at a lot of our

aquatic centres to see what needs to be done so that they can continue for another 20 to 30 years. **End excerpt]** *(Denny: ... Nat Cook ... Alistair Baird made the comment ... that a lot of pools are in a pretty poor state and we saw the closure a couple of years ago of Belliana (phonetic) because of the cost associated with that, is this something that the previous State Government took their eye off the ball, they should have been doing more to keep pools in good condition?) ... In regards to pools there has been a lot of investment made as we heard the [unclear] millions of dollars put into it, there was a new pool built up at ... Flinders Medical Centre, new pool at Modbury ... so there has been a lot of work put into building additional facilities for people because the evidence shows if you get people in the pool doing hydrotherapy which is ... movement and exercise in water around 32 degrees temperature ... it will maintain mobility ... reduce complications, keep people out of hospital so the issue we've got now is we've got Strathmont Centre which has been over a long period of time, I'm talking ... the last couple of decades ... gradually winding down with the evidence that people are ... get better quality life in independent units with support so we understand that that's happening but we never made any ... commitments to close Strathmont Pool ever ... (Denny: Was there a commitment there to repair it?) There has been repairs ... I couldn't get the dollar figure Spence I'm sorry but to empty a pool, fix valves, repair tiles, this is a significant piece of work and that's been done recently ... I believe it was earlier this year that the pool was actually fully emptied, tiles repaired and a valve fixed, I'm sorry I don't know the technical stuff, it's a thingymagig (phonetic) on a ... underneath the pool, but look honestly that has been done, the pool's been refilled, there's 1500 users ... I would say approximately third by the numbers that we can get, people with disabilities that includes kids from local schools, the local Member Dana Wortley ... is crazily running around trying to get contact with all the users, she has a petition going ... the issue is local plus broader ... we need the Minister to really stand up and shout and back this pool in ... we'd be happy to be involved in a conversation about what the local area needs of course ... and how that sits in with the rest but mapping it out, you've heard the details, everywhere's busy and everywhere's full. (Denny: ... The statement indicates that the State Government isn't planning to back down, they're saying it's going to be too expensive to bring it up ... to standard, they've earmarked it for closure 2019 ... the pool requires significant capital expenditure ... so where do you go from here ... if in Opposition you are saying you want to try and represent the interests of those people who use it as much as possible, what do you do now?) Well ... you learn in life nothings a fate of comple ... the fact is 1500 people are using it, that's them and their extended family, we're going to get those people involved in talking to the Minister as quickly as we can ... being in Government as we all know is about decision making and priorities, if they're prepared to spend up to a quarter of a billion dollars moving year 7's into high school well what is too much money when you're talking about a few hundred thousand dollars on a pool? (Denny: Is the bottom line here that the Government is shutting it down for a potential housing development?) You ask that question to the Minister Spence ... I have no issue as well with renewal of land ... but what we've got here within that allotment is a service being provided that's essential to 1500 people in our community that are vulnerable and need the pool so why can't we look at the master planning around that site that has that pool there while they establish another one? (Denny: Was there any discussion in the previous State Government about selling the land?) Not privy to it Spence I'm sorry I, mere humble backbencher [laughter].*

E & OE

this précis is sent un-edited and may contain minor spelling or grammatical errors.

The précis is designed as a summary guide only to the news and talk topics running on radio.

It concentrates on the political and government management issues that relate to South Australia.

It is not a complete word for word transcription of items covered and should not be treated as such.

Stations covered include: ABC Radio Adelaide, ABC North & West, 5AA, CRUISE, MIX, HIT, MMM, NOVA, RADIO ADELAIDE.

The précis is distributed three times a day to all Members of Parliament and their selected staff.

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MediaMonitoring3@sa.gov.au



Please consider the environment before printing this summary

Strathmont Pool - New Talking Points updated 2.8.18

- The pool is old and costs taxpayers more than \$200,000 a year to keep open.
- Another \$30,000 was spent in April to make it safe and hygienic, but it would require significant investment to keep it running beyond January.
- As less Strathmont residents have used the pool (because of their transition to community living, where they have naturally used pools closer to where they live) since 2011 more sessions at the private facilities have been made available to external user groups. The adjacent gym was closed in 2014 following an engineering report.
- This was in a climate of public announcements by the previous government that the site would eventually be closed and masterplanning commence for a sale.
- 6 month user agreements have been in place consecutively for four years because of the plans for the site to be developed and to avoid leaving operators in the lurch should the pool breakdown. This was to encourage users future planning.
- I'm told some of the users have passed on their thanks to Department representatives for keeping it available for as long as they've managed to.
- The Department has liaised with users and advise that: Austism SA has a new venue for its group sessions; another swim club began planning some time ago and are hopeful of an agreement with a new venue.
- The Department has met with the commercial swim centre operator to offer assistance. It's progressing plans with an alternative site and the Department is assisting those efforts where possible. They're meeting again on Monday.
- I'm told Strathmont isn't actually a hydrotherapy pool, but just one that some users have asked to be run at a warmer temperature, which makes it suitable for baby water classes.
- In short, it's an old pool with extensive running costs that would need a big outlay to keep it available solely for external users. There are no Strathmont residents on site using the pool.
- No date has been set for closure or masterplanning of the site, however the previous government made a decision that Renewal SA would masterplan and sell the site once last residents leave.

Please note: the swim centre operator claims she hasn't been forewarned during contract renewals that the pool was heading toward closure.

This is despite:

- the declining use of residents;
- all other users acknowledging they'd been made aware over some years; and,
- a contract clause outlining the Minister's discretion to decide if an agreement can continue, based on sound and reasonable advice.

If thousands of users at the swim school are mentioned, please note the school has suggested its more like 700 a week.



Government of South Australia

Department of Human Services

TO: MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES
RE: CORRESPONDENCE FROM Clause 6(1) **AND** Clause 6(1)
REGARDING STRATHMONT POOL

Recommendations	Response
1. It is recommended that you approve and sign the attached letter.	Approved / Not Approved / Noted

Comments:	----- Hon Michelle Lensink MLC / / 2019
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PURPOSE

To provide the Minister with a suggested response to email correspondence from Clause 6(1) and Clause 6(1) about the closure of the Strathmont Swimming pool.

KEY POINTS

- Clause 6(1) and Clause 6(1) emailed the Premier, Minister for Education, Treasurer and Minister for Human Services on 11 January 2019, the Premier's office requested a single response from your office.
- A draft letter to Clause 6(1) and Clause 6(1) is attached for consideration.

RISKS/SENSITIVITIES

Yes. The closure of the swimming pool has received significant media attention.

BUDGET

Are there financial implications	No
Is there a budget impact	No
Is there an FTE impact	No

Finance & Business Services Division			
Director	Julie J Gunn/...../.....
		<i>signature</i>	
Acting Deputy Chief Executive	Gerrie Mitra	30/1/19
		<i>signature</i>	

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft letter

Contact Officers:	Julie J Gunn Director Infrastructure	Clause 6(1)
	Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au	
	Julie Oliver Principal Project Officer 70401	



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

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19MDIS/0014

Clause 6(1)

Clause 6(1)

Dear Clause 6(1)

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool. I am responding on behalf of the government and the Premier as I am the custodian of the site.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of the centre. As you would be aware as a regular visitor, the site is mostly vacant with many demolished and boarded up buildings.

Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

Organisations using the pool were informed about the planned closure in 2014 and were given 6 months notice of the final closure date.

I am pleased to advise that the Department for Education has confirmed new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

Alternative arrangements are in place for all other licencees, I understand Swim Safe were not able to secure identical hours and some clients may have to change providers or attendance hours. My office has been distributing a list of providers, if you have not already received this please contact my office.

Thank you for writing and I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES
/ / 2019



Government of South Australia
Department of Human Services

TO: MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

RE: CORRESPONDENCE TO THE PREMIER AND MINISTER FROM Clause 6(1)
REGARDING STRATHMONT POOL

Recommendations	Response
1. It is recommended that you approve and sign the attached letter.	Approved / Not Approved / Noted

Comments:	<p style="text-align: center;">----- Hon Michelle Lensink MLC / / 2019</p>
--	---

PURPOSE

To provide the Minister with a suggested response to email correspondence from Clause 6(1) Clause 6(1) about the closure of the Strathmont Swimming pool.

KEY POINTS

- Clause 6(1) sent identical emails to the Premier and Minister for Human Services on Sunday 29 January 2019, the Premier's office requested a single response from your office.
- A draft letter to Clause 6(1) is attached for consideration.

RISKS/SENSITIVITIES

Yes. The closure of the swimming pool has received significant media attention.

BUDGET

Are there financial implications	No
Is there a budget impact	No
Is there an FTE impact	No

**Finance & Business
Services Division**

Director

Julie J Gunn

.....
signature

**Acting Deputy Chief
Executive**

Gerrie Mitra

.....
signature

30/1/19

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft letter to Clause 6(1)
2. Emails from Clause 6(1)

Contact Officers:

Julie J Gunn Director Infrastructure Clause 6(1)

Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au

Julie Oliver Principal Project Officer 70401



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of South Australia**

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19MDIS/0026

Ms [redacted]
Email: [redacted]
[redacted] Clause 6(1) - personal
[redacted] Clause 6(1) - personal affairs

Dear [redacted]
[redacted] Clause 6(1) -
[redacted] personal affairs

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool. I am responding on behalf of the government and the Premier as I am the custodian of the site.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of the centre. As you would be aware as a regular visitor, the site is mostly vacant with many demolished and boarded up buildings.

Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

Organisations using the pool were informed about the planned closure in 2014 and were given 6 months notice of the final closure date.

I am pleased to advise that the Department for Education has confirmed that new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

Alternative arrangements are in place for all other licences and I encourage you to contact the group you were swimming with to find out about the new location.

Thank you for writing and I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2019





Government of South Australia

Department of Human Services

TO: MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES**RE: CORRESPONDENCE FROM JO DALTON ABOUT THE CLOSURE OF THE STRATHMONT POOL****Decision/action required by: 17/01/2019****Reason:**urgent response discussed with Minister

Recommendations	Response
1. It is recommended that you approve and sign the attached letter.	Approved / Not Approved / Noted

Comments:	<p style="text-align: center;">----- Hon Michelle Lensink MLC / / 2019</p>
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PURPOSE

To provide the Minister with a suggested response to email correspondence from the Director, Swim Safe Enterprises Pty Ltd about the closure of the Strathmont Swimming pool.

KEY POINTS

- Responses have been sent to approximately 20 of emails from members of the public sent on and around 11 December 2018 regarding the closure of the pool.
- It was decided that the response for Jo Dalton, the Director of the Swim Safe Swim School would be held over until the agreement with SA Health was in place.
- The letter from Ms Dalton dated 11 November was received on 12 December.
- Additional letters from Ms Dalton were received on 20 July and 21 December 2018; the attached draft response is for all letters.
- Ms Dalton has been in frequent contact with Department of Human Services and SA Health staff during this time regarding the terms and conditions of the licence to use Modbury Pool.
- Ms Dalton returned a signed licence agreement to SA Health on 10 January 2019.

RISKS/SENSITIVITIES

Yes. The closure of the swimming pool has received significant media attention.

DISCUSSION

Strathmont Swimming pool will close 31 January 2019.

Negotiations between Jo Dalton and Northern Adelaide Local Health Network have been ongoing throughout December and January. The pool set up is very different and there have been many discussions about storage, lane ropes and other details leading up to the finalisation of the licence.

An orientation meeting occurred at the pool on 10 January and is working through security access, equipment storage and other issues to set her business up at the site.

On 8 January Surf Lifesaving SA launched an annual program for free swimming and water safety program for new migrants and refugees. This was developed in response to the number of drownings in the migrant and refugee communities.

BUDGET

Are there financial implications	No
Is there a budget impact	No
Is there an FTE impact	No

Finance & Business Services Division

Director

Julie J Gunn

Julie J Gunn 16/1/19
signature 1325

Acting Deputy Chief
Executive

Gerrie Mitra

Gerrie Mitra 16/1/19
signature

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter to Jo Dalton, Director Swim Safe Enterprises Pty Ltd
2. Copies of letters from Jo Dalton received December 2018
3. Copy of letter received July 2018 and letter from Swim Safe to clients sent August 2018

Contact Officers:

Julie J Gunn Director Infrastructure Clause 6(1)
Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au

Julie Oliver Principal Project Officer 70401



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

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18MDIS/0624/0895

Clause 6(1)

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool. I am responding on behalf of the government and the Premier as I am the custodian of the site.

I have received regular updates from the Department of Human Services (DHS) and understand you have been in constant contact with DHS since you were informed in July 2018 that the pool would close.

DHS has consistently explained the reasons for the pool's closure, including:

- the closure of the site has been scheduled since 2012 when it was announced that the last Strathmont Centre residents would move into the community;
- critical components of the pool's ageing infrastructure are subject to soil movement (including pipelines, switchboards, walls and pathways), which is why the former Department for Communities and Social Inclusion established six monthly licences with Swim Safe in 2014;
- it was made clear at the time that short term licences were being issued to encourage all groups to commence forward planning; and
- the pool could fail at any time as it is at the end of its life

I am also informed that you were made aware of the potential schedule regarding the use of the hydrotherapy pool at the Modbury Hospital in mid-October and that DHS encouraged you to inform your customers at this time to ensure adequate forward planning. This included an offer from DHS to assist you to communicate with your customers.

I am advised that DHS has continued to make this offer of assistance available to you but my understanding is that you have not taken this offer up. I am also advised that DHS encouraged you to inform your customers of new arrangements in

December last year when you signed an agreement with the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network for the use of the Modbury Hospital pool.

I am pleased that DHS was able to assist you to work with the Department of Health to ensure that the contract you have signed includes an "exit clause" that allows you flexibility in pursuing any future potential business opportunity.

The one month extension you have requested will not be provided. The Strathmont Centre swimming pool will close as planned on 31 January 2019.

I thank you for working closely with us and I wish you and your customers well in the new location.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2019



Government of South Australia

Department of Human Services

**Meeting with Minister Lensink
Level 12, 1 King William Street, Adelaide**

Chief Executive, Department of Human Services

Meeting Date: Wednesday 23 January 2019 – 11am – 12pm

Location: Level 12 South, 1 King William Street, Adelaide

Attendees: Tony Harrison, Chief Executive
Gerrie Mitra, A/g Deputy Chief Executive
Andrew Thompson, Chief Financial Officer
Lynn Young, Executive Director, Accommodation Services
Fiona Mort, A/g Director EIRD
Annie Francis, A/g Director, Office for Women
Karen Chee, A/g Director, Office of the Chief Executive
Julie Gunn, Director Infrastructure, Finance and Business Services

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Out of scope

2.	*** Strathmont Pool	Julie Gunn/Gerrie Mitra	Verbal
Out of scope			

*** Item requested by Minister's Office

18MDIS/0679



Government of South Australia

Department of Human Services

TO: MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

RE: CORRESPONDENCE FROM MR ^{Clause 6(1)} REGARDING THE CLOSURE
OF THE STRATHMONT CENTRE SWIMMING POOL

Decision/action required by: 3 / 9 / 2018

Reason: Timely response to correspondence

Recommendation	Response
1. It is recommended that you send the attached draft response to Mr ^{Clause 6(1)} personal affairs	Approved / Not Approved / Noted
Comments:	
<p style="text-align: right;">----- Hon Michelle Lensink MLC / / 2018</p>	

PURPOSE

To respond to the letter sent by Mr ^{Clause 6(1)} personal affairs regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool.

KEY POINTS

- Mr ^{Clause 6(1)} personal affairs grandfather of two children that currently use the Strathmont Swimming Pool has written to you to express his concern over the closure of the pool by the end of January 2019.
- The Department of Human Services has been assisting user's efforts to relocate to alternative facilities that suit their needs, including the commercial Swim Safe operation.
- The Department for Education has advised their plan to relocate swimming classes will be finalised before the closure of the pool, ready for implementation in the new school year.

RISKS/SENSITIVITIES

The closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool has received some media attention, including some interest from parents and supporters of children and adults with a disability.

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DISCUSSION

Mr Clause 6(1) - personal affairs grandfather of two children that currently use the Strathmont Centre Swimming Pool has written to you to express his concern over the closure of the pool by the end of January 2019. One of his grandchildren attends the swimming classes run by Swim Safe, the commercially run business. Another grandchild attends the swimming classes run by the Department for Education.

The Department of Human Services has been assisting user's efforts to relocate to alternative facilities that suit their needs. The commercial Swim Safe operator is awaiting confirmation of an offer to host its swim school in the north east suburbs and the department continues to liaise with the company's director on this matter. The learn to swim school caters for all children, including babies, and is not specific to special needs. It has 700 registrations per year.

The Department for Education advises it has 452 students from 15 different schools, accessing the pool on a weekly basis. It is continuing discussions with alternative venues and liaising with the schools involved. The Department for Education has advised their plan to relocate swimming classes will be finalised before the closure of the pool, ready for implementation in the new school year. All regular instructors will continue to be offered work through re-assignment to other venues.

The Department for Education provided input into the draft letter responding to Mr Dodd's concerns.

BUDGET

Are there financial implications No

Is there a budget impact No

Is there an FTE impact No

Chief Financial Officer noted: *Julie* *10/9/18*

Division			
Director, Infrastructure	Julie J Gunn	<i>Julie J Gunn</i> signature	7.9.18
Chief Financial Officer	Andrew Thompson	<i>Andrew Thompson</i> signature	10.9.18
Acting Chief Executive	Lois Boswell	<i>Lois Boswell</i> signature	10.9.18 date

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Letter from Minister to Clause 6(1)
2. Original correspondence from Clause 6(1)

Contact Officer: Julie J Gunn, Director Infrastructure
70290 / Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au



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of South Australia**

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18MDIS/0679

Mr. Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs
Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs
Clause 6(1) - personal affairs

Via email: Clause 6(1) - personal affairs

Dear Clause 6(1)

Thank you for your letter regarding the closure of the Strathmont Centre swimming pool in January 2019.

The Strathmont Centre was an institution for people with disability. In line with modern understanding of human rights for people with disability, the South Australian Government has been working for many years to have the former residents of the Strathmont Centre move into supported accommodation in the community. I am pleased to say the last resident of the Strathmont Centre recently moved to his new house which has meant that the Strathmont Centre is no longer required as a residence for people with disability.

The pool was originally built in 1971 as a facility to be used by the residents. As residents have moved to community living, the swimming pool has been used by a small number of organisations for swimming lessons, including the Department for Education.

The decision to close the pool at the Strathmont Centre has not been taken lightly. The Department has kept this facility open for as long as possible, but unfortunately the pool is at the end of its life, and the building and its surroundings require significant capital investment. Many of the buildings at the site have already been demolished or decommissioned.

In response to your specific concerns, the Department of Human Services is working with Swim Safe to assist in their efforts to relocate to alternative facilities that suit their needs and is confident that a successful outcome will be reached.

In addition, the Department for Education has commenced discussions with all schools involved in the water safety program at the Strathmont Centre to facilitate their relocation to alternate centres. All regular instructors will continue to be offered work through re-assignment to other venues where the Department conducts its Water Safety program.

Further updates on the relocation of the Swim Safe operations can be sought from the organisation directly. Updates on the water safety program for students attending Surrey Downs Primary School can be sought from the School Principal, Mr Russell Barwell.

Again, I thank you for your letter and hope my response has provided you with comfort that the Department is taking the continuation of services seriously.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2018



**Government
of South Australia**

Minister for Human Services

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19MDIS/0032

Clause 6(1)

Email: Clause 6(1) - personal affairs

Dear Clause 6(1)

Thank you for your email regarding the closure of Strathmont Centre swimming pool. The Premier, Hon Steven Marshall, has informed me that you have sent him the same email. As such, as I am custodian of the site, the Premier has asked me to respond on his behalf.

The Strathmont Centre site has been scheduled to close since 2012 when it was announced that the last residents would move out of Strathmont Centre. The site is mostly vacant with many demolished buildings.

Areas surrounding the pool have been closed off for safety reasons with the very real possibility that vital components of the pool could fail at any time. The pool has been kept open for as long as possible.

Due to the pending closure of the pool, six monthly licences were issued to the four organisations using the pool in 2014. I am informed that all organisations were made aware the pool would be closing when the licences were issued.

The Department of Human Services has been working closely with each licensee to assist them to find alternative facilities that suit their particular needs.

I am pleased to advise that the Department for Education has confirmed that new locations have been secured for all affected students, in readiness for the new school term in 2019.

As you are aware, the Swim Safe Swim School has reached agreement with SA Health to use a pool at Modbury Hospital.

All other user groups have made alternative arrangements. I would encourage you to contact your respective user group to find out more about these arrangements.

I am aware that my office emailed you on 29 January 2019 to provide details of alternative options for swimming lessons, and I acknowledge that not all of these venues may be suitable for your son as a squad swimmer.

Thank you for writing and I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

/ / 2019

From: Braendler, Fiona (DHS)
To: Ashley, Nick (DHS); Bennett, Rohan (DHS-YouthJustice); Boswell, Lois (DHS); Bowman, Matthew (DHS); Broderick, Kate (DHS); Chee, Karen (DHS); Cox, Lisa (DHS); DHS-Legal Unit; Harrison, Tony (DHS); Hockings, Amanda (DHS); Hornden, Michael (DHS-YouthJustice); Littleton, Richard (DHS); Mitra, Gerrie (DHS); Myers, Greg (DHS); Rogers, Nancy (DHS); Schutz, Matthew (DHS); Summers, Kim-Sherie (DHS); Thompson, Andrew (DHS); Tsoungarou, Paul (DHS); Young, Lynn (DHS)
Subject: FOI applications - week ending 23/11/2018
Date: Monday, 26 November 2018 11:37:11 AM

Good morning

Please find below details of the last week's incoming and outgoing FOI's (week ending 23rd November 2018).

NEW FOI APPLICATIONS RECEIVED *

No new applications received.

FOI APPLICATIONS DETERMINED (COMPLETED AND RESPONSE SENT TO APPLICANT) *

Reference	Applicant	Documents requested (exact wording of request)	Notes
DHS/18/11249	Nat Cook MP	Since 17 March 2018, copies of all minutes, briefings, and any other correspondence, hard-copy or electronic, relating to the process of review and subsequent decision regarding the closure of the Strathmont pool between/to the Chief Executive and/or the office of the Minister for Human Services and/or the Minister's office.	

*Only FOI applications from MPs, solicitors and the media, or applications from members of the public that are sensitive in nature.

Regards

Fiona

Fiona Braendler

Senior FOI Officer, Executive Services

Office of the Chief Executive

Department of Human Services

t 841 39094

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Government of South Australia

Department of Human Services

**Meeting with Minister Lensink
Level 12, 1 King William Street, Adelaide
Chief Executive, Department of Human Services**

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 21 November 2018, 10am - 11am

Location: Level 12 South, 1 King William Street, Adelaide

Attendees: Tony Harrison, Chief Executive
Gerrie Mitra, A/g Deputy Chief Executive
Michael Homden, Executive Director, Youth Justice
Karen Chee, A/g Director, Office of the Chief Executive
Fiona Curnow, Director Community Services
Chris Karvountzis, Chief Innovation Officer – Policy and Innovation, Community Services
Joe Young, Director Strategy and Partnerships
Julie Gunn, Director Infrastructure

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Out of scope

3.	Strathmont Pool update	Gerrie Mitra	Verbal
----	------------------------	--------------	--------

Clause 6(1)

From: Stokes, Katrina (DPC)
To: Hancock, Janette (DHS); Maddeford, Selena (DHS); Lensink, Michelle (DHS)
Subject: Saa re Strathmont Pool this morning
Date: Thursday, 2 August 2018 10:34:12 AM
Attachments: image001.png

This morning on Saa...

What Dana failed to say was the pool was earmarked for closure from as early as 2013 – when Labor were in Government. Had no call from Byner as yet.

Dana Wortley, Member for Torrens (SAA 9.35-9.39) Closure of Strathmont Centre

(Byner: Dana Wortley ... in the last couple of days we've talked about the issue of the massively increasing cost of kids with special needs access hydrotherapy, now there's the issue of the Strathmont Centre, explain what's happening?) ... it's only going to put more pressure ... on the services that are required in the local area ... what's happened is that the schools ... that use the Strathmont Swimming Centre and disability service clients, Autism SA, the Swim Safe program ... they've all been notified that the pool will be closing as of the 31st of January ... this appears to be without consultation ... this appears to be without consultation ... the people ... the residents I've spoken with who access that swim centre have not been advised prior to this, there hasn't been consultation. They're saying the wording that talks about that further extensions can not be accommodated and it's going to be decommissioned ... we have a number of pools in our electorate and outside that access the hydrotherapy pool with their special needs classes and we also have Autism SA and Strathmont client program, disability services ... we're talking about some of the most vulnerable people in our community, people that ... need to access this hydrotherapy pool to ensure that they get the exercise, the rehabilitation that they require ... (Byner: what have you done already?) ... spoken to a number of the community groups that are using the swimming centre ... we have a petition that we are getting people to fill in and that's an easy thing to do ... people are angry about it, there is a real need for hydrotherapy swimming pools in our area. (Byner: Who made the ultimate decision to close this?) Well it appears as though it's the Department ... of Human Services, so it's the Marshall Liberal Government. (Byner: This didn't happen before they were in office?) The whole issue of the Strathmont Swimming Centre, it was not ... one that was questioned as to it remaining open. We know that it requires money, investment going into it on an ongoing basis ... a decision has not been made to close the pool ... (Byner: leave it with us, Dana, and we'll see what we can find out ... if you've got an endless pool of money – which we have not – there are many things you would love to do ... there are some things which are a priority ... protecting the most vulnerable ... we need to give careful consideration to these matters.)

Katrina Stokes

Media Adviser

Office of the Premier of South Australia

Email Sig Horizontal



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From: [Lensink, Michelle \(DHS\)](#)
To: [Rogers, Nancy \(DHS\)](#)
Cc: [Hancock, Janette \(DHS\)](#)
Subject: for tomorrow's CE mtg
Date: Tuesday, 26 June 2018 2:58:52 PM

Hi Nancy,

I have the brief re Strathmont Pool. I'd just like to ask a few questions tomorrow please if the relevant people are available?

Many thanks,

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC

Minister for Human Services

L 12 South, 1 King William Street, Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 2832, Adelaide SA 5000

Tel +61 8 8463 6560

Michelle.Lensink@sa.gov.au

From: [Lensink, Michelle \(DHS\)](#)
To: [Hancock, Janette \(DHS\)](#)
Subject: FW: FYI 5aa today re Strathmont
Date: Thursday, 17 January 2019 3:41:35 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[18TDHS 557 - Signed Briefing by Minister.pdf](#)

ICYMI

From: Pratt, James (DHS)
Sent: Thursday, 17 January 2019 1:12 PM
To: Lensink, Michelle (DHS)
Subject: FW: FYI 5aa today re Strathmont

Hi,

This is the response from Julie, please let me know if there is any other material relating to these reports that you'd like to see.

Thanks

James

From: Gunn, Julie (DHS)
Sent: Thursday, 17 January 2019 1:09 PM
To: Pratt, James (DHS) <James.Pratt@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Mitra, Gerrie (DHS) <Gerrie.Mitra@sa.gov.au>; Oliver, Julie (DHS) <Julie.Oliver@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: FYI 5aa today re Strathmont

Hi James

I think it's the report by SafeWork SA in May that is being referred to - immediate works were done by government.

This is in the briefing attached FYI.

We don't have one report that led to the decision to close - there were many factors and reports and advice from contractors about the pool plant and equipment and surrounding buildings and infrastructure - and more since the pool was scheduled for closure - there's been a major gas leak in the last few months and recently an electrician advised the whole electrical plant and system needs to be replaced. The cost of works (\$300,000) quoted in the attached briefing was in fact the tip of the iceberg.

We had the foresight to anticipate problems and take a planned approach to relocate the few organisations using the old pool rather than there be a sudden failure and lots of disappointed children.

Julie

Julie J Gunn

Director, Infrastructure

Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au

From: Pratt, James (DHS) <James.Pratt@sa.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 17 January 2019 12:07
To: Gunn, Julie (DHS) <Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au>
Subject: FW: FYI 5aa today re Strathmont

Hi Julie,

The Minister has asked me to request the more recent safety/condition reports, as referred to in the latter part of this transcript.

Thank you

James

Caller Brad; Dana Wortley, Member for Torrens (5AA 9.21-9.25) Protests organised to stop the closure of the Strathmont pool

Caller Brad: I wanted to chat about the Strathmont pool and the protest that's getting

organised today ... Dana Wortley's organised it to try and keep the thing open and it's about moving all the people to different pools that were going there, my son's nearly 10 and severely autistic non-verbal and he attends with the Adelaide North Special School for about two years he's been going there and in that time they've managed to teach him to swim, to dog paddle, to float, to jump in off the edge, lots of things ... his progress he's made is just amazing there and it's not the fact that they want to move them all, it's the fact that these kids don't handle changes to routines and different environments ... there's no guarantee if he gets moved to a bigger pool he could just stand there with his hands on his ears and not do anything. *(Pilkington: We've actually got Dana Wortley on the line ... what do you say to Brad's concerns ...)* **Wortley:** The closure of Strathmont Pool is absolutely devastating to a number of sectors to our community, one of those like Brad has explained is children with special needs, there are a number of schools who have classes there and what's happened is with the closure they're trying to, the Department is trying to arrange for these people to go elsewhere, Brad is absolutely right and as a former primary school teacher I can tell you that these children do not deal well with change but it's not just that ... it's about the fact that the, first of all I understand that Brad doesn't even know where his son will be going. **Caller Brad:** I've asked, three times I asked the teachers do they know where they're going next year and they've got absolutely no idea and that was as late as November so ... **Wortley:** We know that some school students with special needs miss out on lessons all together but because the initial cost of travelling to other pools, the cost for accessing the other pools is going to put a stop to it, we know of schools where what they've done is change the number of lessons that they will be having, one school at least we understand has cut the number of lessons by half that the students will be having so that is a real issue. The other issue is that we've got a lot of new migrant children, families that attend those schools, we know by recent drownings in SA and around Australia that the new migrant community, people that come from land locked states are also very much at risk of drownings and so the families that attend there, it's a beautiful pool, it's very embracing, a pool where people can feel secure and it's also heated. *(Pilkington: What are the reasons given for closing of the pool?)* **Wortley:** We FOI'd documentation and it's basically budgetary, it's based on the budget. *(Pilkington: Are they saying that it doesn't get enough patronage?)* **Wortley:** No, no, there are 1500 people that use that pool each week so it's got nothing to do with patronage, in fact an additional pool is needed in the area and ... we made an election, Labor made an election ... commitment ... about a new pool in Oakden or in that surrounding area ... because so many people have moved in there so this is a real problem, community groups, different sectors of the community that use that pool, children with a disability, new migrant families, people that just want their children to learn to swim, this is Australia. *(Pilkington: Who's the Minister responsible for this, who's the bloke or the lady that we ought to be approaching and getting an answer?)* **Wortley:** ... It comes under Human Services so ... Michelle Lensink. **Caller Brad:** I'm pretty sure Leon had asked her for a copy of some report she was supposed to have had that it was unsafe or something but, and then Leon found out there was no report actually done, did you hear any more about that or? **Wortley:** There was ... a document we FOI'd and there was \$30,000 spent on some safety upgrades to the pool last year but the issue is definitely budgetary, the bottom line is that it will be an ongoing saving to close that pool. *(Pilkington: Ah right, how often do you hear that ... if we don't follow that up Leon certainly will do I imagine the beginning of next week.)*

James Pratt

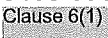
Ministerial Adviser

Office of the Hon Michelle Lensink MLC

Minister for Human Services

Department of Human Services

Tel: 08 8463 6560

Mobile: 

Email: james.pratt@sa.gov.au

cid:image003.png@01D3C28B.7E417CA0



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From: Boswell, Lois (DHS)
To: Hancock, Janette (DHS)
Subject: FW: Strathmont Pool Consolidated Information
Date: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 2:15:52 PM
Attachments: Strathmont Pool .msg
image001.jpg

Ms Lois Boswell LLB MAppSci GAICD

Deputy Chief Executive

Department of Human Services | Government of South Australia
Level 8 Riverside Centre, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000 | GPO Box 292, Adelaide SA 5001
Ph: (08) 841 54306 Mob: Clause 6(1) - personal affairs | lois.boswell@sa.gov.au



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From: Gunn, Julie (DHS)
Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 1:47 PM
To: Heath, David (DHS) ; Littleton, Richard (DHS)
Cc: Young, Joe (DHS) ; Boswell, Lois (DHS)
Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool Consolidated Information
email from Joanne Dalton SwimSafe see attached
Julie

From: Heath, David (DHS)
Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 13:45
To: Gunn, Julie (DHS) <Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au>; Littleton, Richard (DHS) <Richard.Littleton@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Young, Joe (DHS) <Joe.Young@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Strathmont Pool Consolidated Information
Thanks Julie. Working on it now...

From: Gunn, Julie (DHS)
Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 1:42 PM
To: Heath, David (DHS) <David.Heath2@sa.gov.au>; Littleton, Richard (DHS) <Richard.Littleton@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Young, Joe (DHS) <Joe.Young@sa.gov.au>
Subject: Strathmont Pool Consolidated Information
Please come back to me with any further questions
Julie J Gunn

Director, Infrastructure

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

8207 0290 - Clause 6(1) - personal affairs
Plaza Level Riverside Centre PO Box 292 Adelaide SA 5001

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From: Rogers, Nancy (DHS)
To: Hancock, Janette (DHS)
Subject: Fwd: Strathmont pool - alternative pools?
Date: Tuesday, 24 July 2018 2:08:44 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Littleton, Richard (DHS)" <Richard.Littleton@sa.gov.au>
Date: 24 July 2018 at 2:07:51 pm ACST
To: "Rogers, Nancy (DHS)" <Nancy.Rogers@sa.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Strathmont pool - alternative pools?

Richard Littleton
Department of Human Services (SA)
Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Heath, David (DHS)" <David.Heath2@sa.gov.au>
Date: 24 July 2018 at 1:58:37 pm ACST
To: "Gunn, Julie (DHS)" <Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au>
Cc: "Bull, Peter (DHS)" <Peter.Bull@sa.gov.au>, "Littleton, Richard (DHS)" <Richard.Littleton@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Strathmont pool - alternative pools?

Thanks Julie.

Are these pools being, or will they be, investigated?

David.

From: Gunn, Julie (DHS)
Sent: Tuesday, 24 July 2018 1:57 PM
To: Heath, David (DHS) <David.Heath2@sa.gov.au>
Cc: Bull, Peter (DHS) <Peter.Bull@sa.gov.au>; Littleton, Richard (DHS) <Richard.Littleton@sa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Strathmont pool - alternative pools?
The following alternative venues may be worth investigating:
State Government Pool Operated by YMCA Parks Recreation and Sports Centre Cowan Street <https://www.parksrc.ymca.org.au/>
The ARC <http://www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=4630>
Kent Town Swim <http://www.kenttownswim.com.au/>
Modbury <https://www.paragonswim.com.au/public-swimming.html>
From: Heath, David (DHS)

Sent: Tuesday, 24 July 2018 12:38

To: Gunn, Julie (DHS) <Julie.Gunn@sa.gov.au>

Cc: Bull, Peter (DHS) <Peter.Bull@sa.gov.au>; Littleton, Richard (DHS) <Richard.Littleton@sa.gov.au>

Subject: Strathmont pool - alternative pools?

Hi again Julie.

As well as the statement about the Strathmont Pool requested by the Minister's office, they have also asked whether there are any alternative pools that could be used by the organisations and individuals who've been using Strathmont?

Could you provide me with a couple of dot points along these lines?

Are we looking for alternatives for the people/programs who've been using the Strathmont pool? Are there any likely alternatives? Have we been looking for alternatives, but there don't appear to be any?

I'll need a response that I can send with the statement.

Thanks!

David.

David Heath

Senior Media Adviser

Strategy & Reform - NDIS Reform

Department of Human Services

P: 8207 0881 (ext 70881)

M: Clause 6(1) -
personal affairs

E: David.Heath2@sa.gov.au



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From: [Boswell, Lois \(DHS\)](#)
To: [Hancock, Janette \(DHS\)](#)
Cc: [Gunn, Julie \(DHS\)](#)
Subject: FW: Strathmont Pool statement
Date: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 3:06:30 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[Lensink Media Statement - Strathmont Pool V2.docx](#)
[image004.jpg](#)

Hi Janette

Sorry it's late – please advise if there is anything else you would like.

I am now asking for the info about errors in the transcript

Lois

Ms Lois Boswell *LLB MAppSci GAICD*

Deputy Chief Executive

Department of Human Services | Government of South Australia

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From: Heath, David (DHS)

Sent: Wednesday, 25 July 2018 2:54 PM

To: Boswell, Lois (DHS)

Cc: Littleton, Richard (DHS) ; Young, Joe (DHS) ; Bull, Peter (DHS) ; Gunn, Julie (DHS) ; Di Fava, Natalie (DHS) ; Schutz, Matthew (DHS)

Subject: Strathmont Pool statement

Hi Lois,

Here is the information Julie provided to us, as requested by the Minister's Chief of Staff, explaining the sequence of events.

Also attached is a proposed media statement for the Minister, based on Julie's information.

Regards,

David.

The Strathmont Swimming Pool – part of the Strathmont Centre site – is used by the Department for Education, Autism SA, the Tea Tree Gully Swimming Club, and the Swim Safe Swimming School.

The pool, which is not open to the public, has been used on a sessional basis by these organisations, as well as some former Strathmont residents prior to attending a community pool.

Prompted by a 2013 Cabinet decision to close and sell Strathmont after all residents had moved into the community, and given the pool's location in an increasingly isolated site surrounded by decommissioned buildings, as well as the pool coming to the end of its useful life, a decision was made to draft formal licence agreements with the organisations using the pool.

In October 2014, discussions began with the pool users about its medium and

long-term viability. All organisations were advised the pool would remain open as long as possible, until and unless major repair works were required.

The Crown Solicitor's Office drafted licence agreements with the users, and the department sought feedback from the users before the agreements were finalised. A minimum six-month notice period was included in the agreements, as requested by the users.

At around the same time, the gym building, which adjoins the swimming pool and was made safe with the use of props, was closed after cracks appeared in the walls.

Unfortunately the swimming pool, change rooms and surrounding areas now require significant capital expenditure in plant and infrastructure. All the organisations using the pool were provided with more than six months' notice of its closure, as required by the licence agreements.

Each organisation and the small number of former residents with a disability who visit the site to use the pool have been contacted by DHS, and the department will work with them to provide information and assistance in looking for alternatives.

The 35-hectare Strathmont Centre site is a former institution for people with disability. DHS Disability Services has been moving Strathmont residents to community accommodation for many years, and only one resident remains.

The Strathmont Centre site is part of 56 hectares of government land that will be redeveloped. It is known as the Oakden Development Precinct.

Renewal SA has not commenced master planning the site. Consideration was given to including a state-run swimming pool as part of the redevelopment, but this did not progress beyond the discussion stage.

Alternative pools for swimming lessons

Cost between \$18-21 for each session.

Swimming lessons can be booked out at this time as they are half way through the term but the following alternative modern pools may be worth investigating and have a few vacancies for some sessions:

State Government Pool Operated by YMCA Parks Recreation and Sports Centre
Cowan Street <https://www.parksrsc.ymca.org.au>

Online booking system

The ARC <http://www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=4630>

New enrolments open 30 July 2018.

Kent Town Swim <http://www.kenttownswim.com.au/>

Modbury <https://www.paragonswim.com.au/public-swimming.html>

David Heath

Senior Media Adviser

Strategy & Reform - NDIS Reform

Department of Human Services

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Hon Michelle Lensink MLC

Minister for Human Services

Friday, 1 March 2019

Media Statement – Strathmont Swimming Pool

The Strathmont Swimming Pool – part of the Strathmont Centre site – is used by the Department for Education, Autism SA, the Tea Tree Gully Swimming Club, and the Swim Safe Swimming School.

The pool, which is not open to the public, has been used on a sessional basis by these organisations, as well as some former Strathmont residents prior to attending a community pool.

In October 2014, discussions began with the pool users about its medium and long-term viability. All organisations were advised the pool would remain open as long as possible, until and unless major repair works were required. The department drafted licence agreements with the users, and following feedback from the users, a minimum six-month notice period was included in the agreements.

Unfortunately the swimming pool, change rooms and surrounding areas now require significant capital expenditure in plant and infrastructure. All the organisations using the pool were provided with more than six months' notice of its closure, as required by the licence agreements.

The pool is situated in an increasingly isolated site of decommissioned buildings coming to the end of their life. For example, the gym building, which adjoins the swimming pool, was made safe with the use of props and was closed after cracks appeared in the walls.

Each organisation and the small number of former residents with a disability who visit the site to use the pool have been contacted by DHS.

The department will work with each organisation to provide information and assistance in looking for alternative arrangements.

Strathmont Centre background:

The 35-hectare Strathmont Centre site is a former institution for people with disability. DHS Disability Services has been moving Strathmont residents to community accommodation for many years, and only one resident remains.

The Strathmont Centre site is part of 56 hectares of government land that will be redeveloped following a decision by the State Government. It is known as the Oakden Development Precinct. Renewal SA has not commenced master planning the site.