

OPERATIONS OF OUTDOOR POOLS	Date Adopted:	11 September 2024
	Adopted By:	Council
	Review Due:	September 2026
	Responsible Officer:	Manager Community Wellbeing
	Directorate:	Community, Planning and Regulation

PURPOSE

This policy outlines the service levels for the operations of Southern Grampians Outdoor Pools.

DEFINITIONS

Council means Southern Grampians Shire Council.

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This Policy applies to the Southern Grampians Shire Council's five outdoor pools.

Council is legally responsible for the management of Council five outdoor pools.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SERVICE LEVELS

Heated Pools are in Hamilton, Balmoral, Coleraine, and Dunkeld, with Penshurst being an unheated pool.

1. Hamilton Olympic Swimming Pool will open the first weekend in November and all other Southern Grampians pools will open the first Saturday in December.
2. All pools will close on the long weekend in March, with discretion to extend beyond the long weekend dependant on temperature (where temperature is above 35 degrees Celsius) and lifeguard availability.
3. Pools will be opened from 3:00pm to 7:00pm seven days a week, with the following exceptions:
 - Pools will be closed when the air temperature forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology at 4:00pm for the next day is less than 23 degrees Celsius.
 - During January when the air temperature forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology at 4:00pm for the next day is more than 35 degrees Celsius all pools will open 12:00pm to 7:00pm.
 - On weekends during February through to the March Long weekend when the air temperature forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology at 4:00pm for the next day is more than 35 degrees Celsius all pools will open 12:00pm to 7:00pm.

Note: The air temperature forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology will be specific to the location of the swimming pool.

4. Supervised early morning swimming will be offered regardless of temperature at Hamilton and Coleraine two mornings a week.
5. Community or Sporting groups can request special use of the pools outside these dedicated service levels during the nominated season, but a fully accredited lifeguard must be on site at all times.
6. All outdoor pools will be closed on days determined to be Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating.

LIFEGUARD AVAILABILITY - EXEMPTION

The implementation of this policy is dependent on the availability of qualified Lifeguards in accordance with the Royal Life Saving Guidelines for Safe Pool Operations.

IMPLEMENTATION

This Policy came into operation on 25 October 2017 and was subsequently reviewed:

- 14 November 2018 Council Meeting
- 14 December 2022 Council Meeting
- 11 September 2024 Council Meeting

CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant human rights identified in the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*.

GENDER EQUALITY COMPLIANCE

It is considered that this policy is compatible with the relevant gender equality principles identified in the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

Is a Gender Impact Assessment required?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No

REVIEW

This Policy must be reviewed a minimum of every four years or in-line with legislative changes

AUTHORISED

Adopted at Council Meeting on 11 September 2024.

END