

**We  
consulted  
on...**

# MOVING FORWARD FOR MILTON COMMUNITY FACILITIES.



Artist's impression of a combined pool & service centre complex in Milton

**After doing more investigative work about Milton's community facilities, Council asked for feedback as part of the consultation for the Annual Plan 2019/20 on which was the best option to move forward with.**

One of Council's key goals is to promote living and working in the Clutha District. Part of that strategy involves backing key projects intended to promote living and working in and around Milton. Community consultation in 2016 and 2017 for the Our Place Milton Community Plan identified ensuring future swimming pool services as a priority. Initial Our Place feedback indicated a preference to future-proof the existing pool at its current site, and that the facility continue to be Council-owned and operated. However, it was noted that to ensure the sustainability of pool operations, increased community input may be required.

Possible options to look into initially included lining the existing pool, a new pool structure using the existing roof and changing rooms, or a completely new pool complex. Council also highlighted this project would also run

in conjunction with future-proofing the Milton Service Centre and Library facility, including a budget of \$930,000, initially in the 2021/22 financial year for a new facility.

Following further information Council agreed to update the Our Place Milton Plan to include an option for a combined new service centre, library and swimming pool. As part of the Annual Plan 2019/20 consultation process, we took the opportunity to bring all of the options together, so that Council could receive views on them before deciding what direction to take.

Council consulted on three options as outlined below. Further information including rates impacts for all options are included in the Annual Plan 2019/20 Consultation Document.

## **OPTION 1 Patch up the existing pool + a new service centre/library facility**

**Estimated cost:** \$1.2-\$1.5M

### **This involved:**

(1) Keeping the current pool going, doing the minimum required by patching up cracks or by relining it with a fibre glass or stainless steel liner, and (2) building a new service centre/library facility at the existing site.

## **OPTION 2 Build a new pool + a new service centre/library facility**

**Estimated cost:** \$4.9-5.9M

### **This involved:**

1) Building a new pool, and (2) building a new service centre/library facility at the existing site.

## **OPTION 3 A combined pool & service centre**

**Estimated cost:** \$5.8M

### **This involved:**

Building a new combined service centre and pool facility on the site of the existing Service Centre/Library between Union and Ajax streets.

**After considering feedback Council resolved to include a budget of \$290,000 in the Annual Plan 2019/20 for further planning and development work for Option 3 (build a combined pool, service centre library facility).**

## **BUDGET & RATES IMPACT Option 3: a combined service centre/library and pool facility**

A combined service centre and pool facility is estimated to cost \$5.8M. Council has indicated that they would consider funding half of these costs, with the remainder to come from external funding.

The best case scenario is for construction in 2020/21, but there would be a number of aspects including securing non-rates funding before this could take place. Budgets in 2020/21 and 2021/22 have been updated to include Council's share of the proposed project. This would be funded via a loan, repaid over a 25 year term via rates.

The rates impact for Council's 50% share of the cost of this option is shown below:

Option 3 - Combined pool & service centre	2020/21	2021/22 onwards
All properties*	\$1.04	\$14.72
Properties in the Bruce area**	\$4.45	\$48.78

\* Via the uniform annual general charge (UAGC).

\*\* Includes both the UAGC and Bruce area community facilities rate.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

A new facility could only be achieved through rates funding and other funding such as external grants, sponsorship and community fundraising. To do this, and achieve external funding, it is expected that ownership of a new facility would rest with a community trust structure.