

**WARREN SHIRE COUNCIL**  
Mayoral Minute  
to the Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held at  
Council Chambers, Warren, on Thursday 24th January 2019

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**ITEM 2      MAYORAL DECISION TO OPEN WARREN WAR MEMORIAL  
SWIMMING POOL FREE OF CHARGE JANUARY 2019      (S19-2)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the opening of the Warren War Memorial Swimming Pool free of charge due to excessive heat be approved for the period 18th to 28th January 2019.

**PURPOSE**

This report has been prepared to inform Council of a decision undertaken by the Mayor between Council meetings in accordance with Cl 226(d) Local Government Act 1993.

**BACKGROUND**

Council had received requests through social media to consider opening the Warren pool free of charge similar to other western Councils during the extreme heat period.

**REPORT**

This report has been prepared in accordance with Cl 226(d) Local Government Act 1993 to confirm a decision of the Mayor to allow the Warren Pool to be open free of charge to the public.

The Mayor in consultation with the General Manager considered several requests by the community via social media to open the Warren pool during the extreme heat wave period. It was considered that based on the minimal loss of income that the overall public benefit was very high and would assist families to attend the pool.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

Based on the average takings for this pool season it was estimated that Council would lose an average of \$80/day in entry fees. It was considered that this loss in entry would be recovered due to spending at the Council operated canteen and due to a larger number of people entering the pool.

Council staffing levels are budgeted under the annual budget and only minimal cost would occur during the period of free entry.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Mayor in accordance with Cl226(d) Local Government Act 1993 can “*exercise, in cases of necessity, the policy-making functions of the governing body of the council between meetings of the council*”, where they believe a level of urgency exists. The extreme weather conditions and a need to support the community during this period is considered to meet the urgency of this decision. The Mayor must report any decision to Council at the next available opportunity.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

There are minimal risks associated with free entry to the pool.

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**CONTINUED**

**STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION**

Council publicised this decision to Councillors, the staff and the public via emails and through social media.

**OPTIONS**

Council must consider the action taken by the Mayor in forming this decision.

**CONCLUSION**

This report is to report an action undertaken by the Mayor in accordance with CI 226(d) Local Government Act 1993.

**LINK TO POLICY AND / OR COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

5.2.2 Timely and accurate reporting for efficient management and accountability.

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION /ATTACHMENTS**

Nil