

Community Development Report

Committee Consideration – 13 November 2018 Council Resolution – 27 November 2018

Table of Contents		
Item No.		Page No.
CM04.18	Review of School Pool Subsidy	2

Committee	13 November 2018	
Council	27 November 2018	
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Attachments	N/A	

CM04.18 Review of School Pool Subsidy

Executive Summary

This item seeks Council's approval to increase the school pools subsidy by \$700 per school which can be absorbed within existing budget.

Recommendation to Committee

Council:

- 1. Increases the school pool subsidy to \$7,700 each for Hollywood and Nedlands Primary Schools for 2018/19 financial year;
- 2. Includes an amount of \$7,700 per school for the school pool subsidy in future budgets for consideration by Council in the annual budget process.

Discussion/Overview

Background

Parents and Citizens' Associations of state government primary schools located within the City of Nedlands may apply to Council for an annual subsidy. The subsidy is conditional on the pools are made available to the public during the summer season and the associations undertaking an annual pool safety assessment conducted by the Royal Life Saving Association of Australia. The City has provided the schools pools subsidy since 1998.

The current subsidy is \$7,000 per school per annum and has not been reviewed since 2009. An amount to cover the cost of providing the School Swimming Pool Subsidy is included in the annual budget for Council's consideration. Payment of the subsidy is subject to its approval by Council as part of the budget process. The subsidy is currently paid to two local primary schools, being Hollywood and Nedlands Primary Schools.

Discussion

Hollywood Primary P&C have requested that the school pool subsidy is reviewed and increased to \$7,700.

It is proposed that Council support this request and increase the subsidy by \$700 per school. The increase is to reflect the increase in inflation over the years which have increased the operating costs of the pools.

Legislation / Policy

Council Provided Grants, Subsidies and Donations policy states that:

Parents and Citizens' Associations of state government primary schools located within the City of Nedlands may apply to Council for an annual subsidy to enable their school pools to be opened to the community over the summer school holiday season.

Key eligibility criteria are:

• Access by the general community – the pool must be open to the general community (i.e. wider than the school community) for the summer school holiday period;

• Safety – the pool must be maintained and managed to a level that meets the City's safety requirements, as outlined in the associated Administration procedure

• Insurance – the body responsible for the pool must maintain an appropriate level of public liability insurance, as outlined in the associated procedure.

The School Pools Subsidy provided by Council is not intended to meet the full cost of opening the pools to the community. Rather, it is intended as a subsidy only, with user fees and the P & C's meeting the balance of cost. An amount to cover the cost of providing the School Swimming Pool Subsidy will be included in the annual budget for Council's consideration. Payment of the subsidy is subject to its approval by Council.

Risk Management

N/A

Key Relevant Previous Council Decisions:

Item 14.1, 24 November 2009 – Motion to reinstate the swimming pool subsidy

Consultation

N/A

Budget/Financial Implications

The school pool subsidy has \$14,000 in approved budget for 2018/19 financial year. The existing approved donation budget can absorb the increase of \$1,400 for this financial year. Therefore, no further budget consideration is required for an increase to the school pools subsidy for this financial year.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council approves an increase to the school pools subsidy.