

UNCLASSIFIED

To: Executive Group Manager, Service Design and Delivery

TRIM No.: EDU19/26

File Ref: Nil

From: Executive Branch Manager, Learning and Teaching

Subject: Swimming Pool 5 Star Accreditation

Critical Date: 12 February 2019

Critical Reason:

Recommendations

1. That the Directorate communicates with schools that have swimming carnival bookings at [redacted] Phillip Swimming and Ice-Skating Centre regarding their 5-star accreditation status and booked carnivals

AGREED/NOT AGREED/PLEASE DISCUSS

2. [redacted]

3. That all swimming carnivals planned for Phillip Swimming and Ice-Skating Centre be rescheduled to a different venue

AGREED/NOT AGREED/PLEASE DISCUSS

Executive Group Manager's Comments:

Thank you for the excellent work done. Please place an update on the MUIB

[redacted]
Executive Group Manager: Ross Hawkins

14 /02/2019

Phone: 6205 1099

Background

On 7 January 2019, Learning and Teaching met with [redacted]

[redacted] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre. At

the meeting, [redacted] venues were advised that the current checklist supplied to [redacted] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre for the purposes of 5 star self-accreditation was now out of date. Pool owners were informed that, in 2019 and the Directorate will mandate that ACT public schools can only use aquatic venues that are Royal Life Saving Australia (RLSA) 5 Star accredited. The Directorate also indicated that they would pay for the 2019 RLSA assessment on a one off basis.

RLSA 5 Star Accreditation remains current for a period 12 months. The Directorate has been pro-active in working with and/or supporting [redacted] venues, schools and Royal Life Saving ACT (RLSACT) in managing impacts relating to the Directorate's policy change. This has included organising access to an appropriately qualified assessor for [redacted] venues with RLSACT,

[redacted] and tentatively booking alternative venues for all school potentially affected if [redacted] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre do not become 5 Star complaint.

The Directorate will continue to work in good faith with [redacted] venues to encourage ongoing commitment to providing continuing safe access for ACT school students to swimming and carnivals and aquatic activity based events.

On [redacted] 24 February 2019, [redacted] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre were assessed by RLSNSW respectively for 5 Star accreditation.

On 24 January 2019, [redacted] RLSACT advised the Learning and Teaching Branch that [redacted] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre had not met the requirements for RLSA 5 Star accreditation. [redacted] provided a copy of the report to [redacted] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre, and the Learning and Teaching Branch on 25 January 2019.

Issues



[REDACTED]

Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre

Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre underwent an assessment of their Phillip facility by an RLSNSW assessor on 24 January 2019. [REDACTED] provided a copy of the report to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre underwent an assessment of their Phillip facility by an RLSNSW assessor on 23 January 2019.

The RLSA Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment (AFSA) covered a full assessment of the facility against the GPSO. The results of the assessment appear in Appendix 3. The 5 Star Accreditation assessment is contained within the full assessment. The results of the 5 Star accreditation appear in Appendix 4.

Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre has been provided with a two month timeframe (from 25 January 2019) to correct the 5 Star non-compliance items identified throughout the report. RLSNSW requires evidence of compliance to each area of non-compliance in the form of documentation/photo/or face to face (site visit) to award a 5 Star accreditation within the 2 month period.

The Directorate met with [REDACTED] on 29 January 2019 to discuss the outcomes of the report. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] would attempt to meet the 5 Star accreditation assessment criteria by 20 February 2019 when Alfred Deakin High School was booked to run their swimming carnival.

RLSNSW requested evidence in the form of documentation/photo/or face to face (site visit), to be able to mark off the items and award the 5 Star Water Safety Partnership. Based on [REDACTED] general disinterest expressed at the meeting and the Senior Manager, Curriculum believes there is a low probability that Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre will be 5 star accredited by 20 February 2019 for Alfred Deakin HS. [REDACTED] was not confident that he would be able to meet the deadline.

Learning and Teaching recommends that:

1. [REDACTED]
2. [REDACTED]
3. All swimming carnivals planned for Phillip Swimming and Ice-Skating Centre be rescheduled to a different venue

Consultation with Strategic Finance and Funding Implications

The Learning and Teaching Branch will be invoiced for the [redacted] assessments at an approximate cost of \$3000. The cost will be met from within existing Branch budget.

Consultations

RLSACT and the RLSSNSW Assessor have provided advice to the Learning and Teaching Branch on the outcomes of the report. The advice provided is contained within the report.

Media

[redacted]

Media would be briefed on key messaging as appropriate.

[redacted]
Executive Branch Manager
Jason Borton
13/02 /2019

Appendix 3: Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment outcomes

Safety Score

The Safety Score does not give any weight to the level of risk associated with any non-compliances identified. Suggestions for remediation of non-compliance items and prioritisation of actions is provided in the accompanying Safety Improvement Plan. These suggestions are intended as a guide only and it remains the responsibility of the venue management to determine the appropriate action and urgency of implementation as a result of their own assessment of risk.

Section Title	Percentage % Safety Score
1 Health & Safety Systems	30%
2 First Aid	51%
3 Facility Design	46%
4 Supervision (General)	45%
5 50m Swimming Pool	95%
6 Supervision (Pool): 50m Swimming Pool	0%
7 Program Pool	98%
8 Supervision (Pool): Program Pool	0%
9 Toddler Pool	81%
10 Supervision (Pool): Toddler Pool	0%
11 Keep Watch at Public Pools	0%
12 Programs	90%
13 Technical Operations	35%
Safety Score	58%

Appendix 4: Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre 5 Star accreditation assessment results

An aquatic facility may become a 5 Star Water Safety Partner if they conform to a range of key compliance areas highlighted within the AFSA. The 5 Star Water Safety Partner Accreditation highlights an aquatic facility's ongoing commitment to aquatic safety standards. 5 Star Water Safety Partners commit to an annual Aquatic Facility Safety Assessment undertaken by Royal Life Saving.

Area	Total Achieved	Total Possible	Percentage % Safety Score
1 Health & Safety Systems	5	11	45%
2 First Aid	4	4	100%
3 Facility Design	0	0	N/A
4 Supervision (General)	1	3	33%
5 50m Swimming Pool	7	10	70%
6 Supervision (Pool): 50m Swimming Pool	0	3	0%
7 Program Pool	4	6	67%
8 Supervision (Pool): Program Pool	0	3	0%
9 Toddler Pool	3	5	60%
10 Supervision (Pool): Toddler Pool	0	0	N/A
11 Keep Watch at Public Pools	0	0	N/A
12 Programs	1	1	100%
13 Technical Operations	0	1	0%
Safety Score			53%

SWIMMING POOL ACCREDITATION

- The current Swimming and Water Park Aquatic Activities Policy was in response to the outcomes and recommendations of an investigation into a critical near drowning incident on 14 March 2012. The incident occurred during supervised free swim time at a school swimming carnival where a student had to be rescued from the pool and required resuscitation before being hospitalised. This incident did not occur at [REDACTED] Phillip Pool and Ice Skating Centre.
- The policy was developed in consultation with a range of stakeholders including pool operators and the Royal Life Saving Australia ACT branch (RLSACT). The policy states that schools may only select venues that are RLSACT 5 Star Accredited or *provide evidence of compliance with Royal Life Saving Society Guidelines* for swimming carnivals and aquatic activity days.
- In 2012, RLSACT provided a checklist based on the Royal Life Saving Society Australia Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation to be used by [REDACTED] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre to self-accredit.
- Since 2012, to comply with the requirements of the Policy, [REDACTED] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre have undertaken to provide evidence of compliance through self-assessment, using an adapted RLSSA Guidelines for Safe Pool Operation (the Guidelines) checklist on an annual basis.
- RLSACT advised the Directorate in November 2018 that the checklist was now out of date and did not align to the current safety Guidelines. [REDACTED] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre compliance expired on 31 December 2018.
- All ACT public schools were notified via the Directorate's Schools Bulletin on 20 November 2018 that [REDACTED] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre compliance expired on 31 December 2018.
- School generally book venues up to 12 months out from the scheduled event.
- The following schools have bookings with either venue in 2019, noting that at the time of writing that 70 of 88 schools have responded to the request for data (please note the Directorate will continue to collect the remaining school data):

- [REDACTED]



- Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre

Mount Stromlo High School	Cancelled
Melrose High School	Cancelled
Alfred Deakin High School	Cancelled

- The Director General has approved a change to the current policy to state that schools may only book venues that are RLSACT 5 star accredited.
- This decision removes the “*or provide evidence of compliance with Royal Life Saving Society Guidelines*” clause in the current policy.
- The Directorate has amended the old policy and guidelines to reflect this change. Media and Comms will replace all online presences of the old policy and guidelines with the new one prior to the commencement of the 2019 school year.
- Schools will be notified of the changes to the policy and guidelines via the Schools Bulletin in week 1.

Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre

- The Directorate met with [REDACTED] Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre on 7 January 2019 and indicated that the current checklist supplied to Phillip Swimming Pool for the purposes of 5 star self-accreditation was now out of date and, that in 2019 the Directorate will mandate that all ACT public schools can only use aquatic venues that are RLSACT 5 star accredited.
- The Directorate indicated they would pay for the 2019 RLSACT assessment on a one-off basis.
- At the meeting, [REDACTED] indicated [REDACTED] would contact RLSACT to organise an assessment. [REDACTED] also indicated that the outcome of the assessment would determine [REDACTED] decision to become accredited based on any prospective costs in becoming compliant.
- The Directorate will provide written confirmation of the changes to the Directorate’s policy position to [REDACTED] and include reference to [REDACTED] indication [REDACTED] would organise a

RLSACT 5 Star Accreditation assessment prior to the commencement of the 2019 school year.

- The three schools currently with bookings at Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre have been emailed advising them that they should have a second venue tentatively booked in the event that Phillip Swimming and Ice Skating Centre does not become RLSACT accredited by the date of their respective bookings.
- Melrose High School, Stromlo High School and DAIfred Deakin School have cancelled their bookings at Phillip Pool and booked other venues to secure a carnival venue in the eventuality that Phillip pool does not become 5 star accredited for 2019. . This change has included a change in the date of the school carnival due to the absence of an alternative venue on the planned date.
- There are currently no bookings at Phillip by ACT public schools.

