



Clutha District Council

Website Version - contains redactions for privacy reasons

# **Bruce Community Facility Consultation 2024**

## **Submissions**

### **Book 1**

## **Verbal Hearings**

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# Bruce Community Facility Consultation 2024 Submission Booklet

ADAMS, Darlene

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Contribution ID	1264
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Darlene Adams Darlene
Contact person (organisation or group)	Adams
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Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	Yes
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Which is your preferred option?	
Please tell us more:	

Yes Yes Please Build this facility. We the Milton community and Council owe this to our town folk young and old. Milton has become stagnant people are moving here and leaving because there is Nothing. Our pool is open 5 months a year and is beyond enjoyment of paying to swim there. The pools are old and not fit for purpose. Sadly in 2019 my whanau lost a much loved son and grandson aged 9 years old. Thru a brain bleed many months prior he was rendered totally paralyzed. To have been able to take him for swims every other day would have been extremely beneficial, we did take him on occasion to Milton however it just became so hard with the entry and exiting of the pool. To take him out of Milton was not an option due to travelling. Since then I see more and more town folk locals young and old that definitely really need this pool time rehabilitation of therapy for such a wide and varied amount of ailments. Also Swim Safe here in Milton we have the east coastline of ocean 12 to 15 minutes away which really does strengthen the need for all our tamariki and town folk to be water confident and if we as a united group can be part of that how amazing would that be. We need to just get on with the job of providing this fantastic facility, yes costs are up and yes rate increases are inevitable whether the Complex is provided or not. Lets be able to look at where our rates dollar is going. So much money and time etc has been put into this project over the last 5 years I am truly baffled why we are still having to fight for our town. I am an avid pool user however I go to Mosgiel but once I retire this will not be an option as I will not be affording petrol I want to go to my own home

town pool.As for a new library service centre well come on that has been needed for many years as a child i was an avid book reader our library was then situated on the corner of union and eden street a big old damp building, now it resides at the old council office building what a joke the buildings an embarrassment the only good thing is the absolute wonderful staff.That building has about 4 or so heat pumps a new purpose built complex would be soo heat efficient thats a no brainer Also with the internet available for users, libraries are not just books in modern society they are so much more nowadays a social space for communities.Any way i could give a thousand reasons for the need for my community to have this much needed complex built ASAP.Thankyou

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 22, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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Contribution ID	1344
This submission is from an	Group
Name of submitter	Clutha Concerned Citizens
Contact person (organisation or group)	Phil Barrett
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
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Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

I would like to give a synopsis of the feeling within the groups that we are involved with. A large majority support some kind of revamped pool rather than a new build. A lot of questions around the budget and costing, Both the 2million dollar fundraising and Better of fund are essentially guaranteed by ratepayers if they fall short. Actual costing can only be done once someone draws up the build plans, Are there any guarantees to the districts ratepayers that these numbers quoted will be adhered to? Foundation issues at the existing site seem to be ignored for the new site, Why have the foundation requirements not been part of the consultation? If the requirements are not known, how can the quoted numbers be correct? What will happen to the existing pool if the new build goes ahead? Is this another unlisted cost to the ratepayer? Nobody wants to see Milton without a pool, But how can a vote even take place with so many loose ends?

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 23, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

Clutha Rates Proposal (Group)

Clutha District Council Staff Note:  
Mr Barrett advised post submitting  
name of group.

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Contribution ID	1309
This submission is from an	Group
Name of submitter	Phil Barrett
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Postcode	
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

My submission really is a set of questions that we believe need to be answered before any vote can take place. Who is responsible for meeting any short fall in the 2million dollar community fundraising? The consultation document doesn't say , just that there may be a danger its not achieved. This project seems to be priced on concept plans alone, Is there a Tender process? Is it even legal to offer work of this scale without tenders being sought? Is this project a fixed price contract? What guarantees has the community got that this project will not turn into another overpriced toilet or hub fiasco? This council used to consider our most vulnerable, that has changed .The financial implications of those affected by this councils decisions have crossed new boundaries, working families are now seeking help from support groups, What level of imposition are you willing to put on this community? What is the cut off point to say enough? The newly elected coalition has sent a directive to councils to focus on the need to have rather than the want to have. What is a swimming pool, If not a want to have ? Does vote exclusion for predetermination only apply to councillors?

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Lodgement Details:

Date received            Oct 23, 2024, [REDACTED]  
Privacy statement        Yes

Type of Submission      Electronic

Attachments              No

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Contribution ID	1051
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Phil Barrett
Contact person (organisation or group)	
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Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

Nothing has changed since the recent LTP consultation, the whole district spoke very clearly against council spending and sticking to core services. The Mayor [REDACTED] in the media about 3 waters being the cause of our compulsory rates rise, He even said himself a clear message had been sent from the community regarding council spending, and yet you lot are back here wanting to know weather to spend 20 million dollars, on a swimming pool, Really? Now is NOT the time to be putting this imposition on the ratepayers, Your own satisfaction survey shows a loss of faith in this council, how many ways do you need to be told that people are not happy? The consultation document is full of holes, Who pays if the 2million promised by trust isn't achieved? Ratepayers again? How can the project be started so quickly without a tender process? How can the Mayor, with an opinion on everything, even be allowed to vote when councillors are threatened with vote exclusion if they speak? How can the council even vote on an incomplete document? Total cost? proper running costs? Are you really expecting people to believe the costs posted? The public have a right to the answers to these questions. What about the piling requirements? Simply ignoring the potential need and cost doesn't make it disappear, Unstable ground is a key argument for wanting a new pool, surely it must be of top consideration for the new site? Insurance and seismic requirements may very well dictate the inclusion of ground stabilisation. Has any engineering report ever excluded the need for this? Without a tender process, how can anyone get assurance of costs? Track record of previous builds not good. Public toilets voted on 600,000 Cost over a million and not finished. Town hall, We will never know the true cost as its shrouded in mystery, but its ongoing and will never end, people do not want another Town Hall debacle. The Greenfield bore, Started without proper consideration and then the need for more money thrust upon the community. Who is going to put there hand up and say they are responsible for this project? Who



will take responsibility? be accountable?Do you think its fair to just constantly run up a bill with no consequences?Its a big fat NO from me.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 19, 2024	[REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes	
Type of Submission	Electronic	
Attachments	No	

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## BLACK, Gilbert

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Contribution ID	1248
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Gilbert Black
Contact person (organisation or group)	
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

I don't know how the Council could even be considering a new pool and library complex that would cost in excess of \$20m when the greater Milton area only has a population of around 4000 and the majority of those rarely if ever use either facility. You have not even offered estimates of the cost of repairs or replacement of the pool at the existing location, which is a much more convenient location than in the middle of town, nor have you provided costs for the upgrade of the library. Libraries are used less now than in the past as most homes have internet access and schools are taking on holiday programs, which is the best place for that as they have the resource to do so. To say the single-story Library needs to be replaced because it is an earthquake risk is a pathetic reason to want to destroy it. Simeon Brown, the minister of local government has advised Councils that during the present fiscal situation now is not the time for councils to be spending large amounts of money on nice to have projects, but should instead be concentrating on need to haves, and there are plenty of need to haves in the infrastructure of the Clutha District Council area. I am in full agreement with him. I am aware that a considerable amount of money has already been spent on the planning of a new library/swimming pool complex and that the majority of that money could be lost if the project doesn't go ahead, but I believe the Council has been negligent in going this far without keeping ratepayers informed about the cost and logistics of alternatives. M-Files ID 919259

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### Lodgement Details:

Date received                      Oct 21, 2024

Privacy statement      Yes

Type of Submission      Hardcopy

Attachments      No

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## CLARK, Lyn

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Contribution ID 824  
This submission is from an Individual  
Name of submitter Lyn Clark

Contact person (organisation or group)

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Town/City

Postcode

Phone number

Email (for submission communication purposes)

Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing? Yes

Which is your preferred option? Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)  
Please tell us more:

It's essential that this and the next generation of children have access to a pool to learn to swim . Because we are a town that has a large river and many creeks and streams that regularly flood. Learning to swim saves lives - which was apparent not that long ago when the boy rescued his drowning brother at Chrystal's beach . When the current pool eventually closes and schools cannot offer swimming , there will be hundreds of kids unable to learn to swim . I

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### Lodgement Details:

Date received Sep 25, 2024, [REDACTED]

Privacy statement Yes

Type of Submission Electronic

Attachments No

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BALMORAL-TUAPEKA RURAL  
WATER SCHEME COMMITTEE

Roger Cotton

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Contribution ID	960
This submission is from an	Organisation
Name of submitter	Balmoral-Tuapeka Rural Water Scheme Committee
Contact person (organisation or group)	Roger Cotton
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Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
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Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Please tell us more:	

The Balmoral-Tuapeka Rural Water Scheme Committee would like to submit in support of the Bruce Community, in making a decision to build, or not, the new Bruce Community and Swimming Pool facility. This project's forecasted cost blowout, is something we sympathise with fully, and would like to complement this community in their efforts in the fund raising arena, and also acknowledge the support the Clutha District Council has offered the community in working together to get this project underway. However, we notice on the Clutha District Council's website page dedicated to the Bruce Facility Project, under the Frequently Asked Questions section, there is a statement we would like to highlight and draw Council's attention to, which is the question, Who will pay and how? In the answer, it clearly states that Council has confirmed that the Central Government Three Waters Better Off Funding Support package will be used to help meet some of the project's costs. It is our clear view that a swimming pool and community facility "does not" meet the Three Waters Better Off Funding Support criteria, and to strengthen our position, in the same section, it states there is a risk with this funding support because the "Government has signalled a preference that this funding be used on Three Waters Projects". As you are fully aware, there are Three Waters projects in our District well under way that are screaming out for financial support, to help make the cost of building and delivering these Three Waters Projects, affordable for ratepayers and consumers. If there was not a Three Waters Project or projects in dire need of financial "help", directing this Better Off Funding to a project like the Bruce Community Facility would or could be seen as appropriate. It is our firm view that Council needs to revisit its confirmation of using this funding to support, in this case, the Bruce Facility Project, and use the Three Waters Better Off Funding for what it is intended, and granted to be used for, Three Waters Projects, like among others, the GreenFields Bore Project. Just a reminder to Council, The GreenFields Bore Project is critical infrastructure, that is

vital for Industry, Farming and Human needs within a 78,600 hectare area of the Clutha District, one which houses approximately 500,000 stock units, and will supply high quality drinking water to approximately 1650 people, which includes the townships of Waitahuna, Tuapeka Mouth and Lawrence.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received Oct 20, 2024, [REDACTED]

Privacy statement Yes

Type of Submission Electronic

Attachments No

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## COWIE, Ronald

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Contribution ID	833
This submission is from an	Individual
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Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

we cant afford it you already have a rates increase projected at 16.9 next year. And 22 . the rate percent the following year the rate payers don't have a endless supply off money its a nice to have but its not a necessity with this councils track record the cost is not going to be 19.4 million i.e. balclutha town hall and greenfields water scheme it be closer to 25 million. i have a daughter in milton owns own home pays 2900 in rates 16 percent next year 3390 the following year at 22 percent so then its 4135 in rates and you want her to pay another 300 and we all no its be over 500 in reality she cant afford that as well. is their provision that its a contaminated site and cleanup have you budgeted for earthquake foundations and what is the cost off dismantling the current pool and who's paying for that. we are not a endless supply off money and unfortunately te whata ora have got in first and aren't finished and your lack off financial control and spending on nice to haves instead off necessities and not concentrating on your core business we find ourselves in this position.

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### Lodgement Details:

Date received	Sep 26, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic





## FROST, Larry

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Contribution ID	1358
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Larry Frost
Contact person (organisation or group)	
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

I submit against the Milton Pool + Library complex as there is no assurance that this project will come in at 20 million after 33% increase in projected costs up until now and id approved once costs escalate the bruce ratepayers will be further adversely impacted. The most disappointing aspect of this project is the fact that the Council has not provided costings to upgrade the current pool. and have spread unsubstantiated and misleading information of possible costs without providing factual information in doing so Council has completely dismissed this majority 64% of respondents in the 20Individual8 Our Place Milton Community Plan wanted the pool to remain in Taylor Park. Most residents have possibly disengaged as they have been ignored. This is a short sighted decision to relocate the pool to the centre of town. The site at the pool at Taylor Park is close to Schools, Gym, Physio, Camping ground, playground, Walking + Cycling Tracks, Sort Facilities + The Vintage Club development. if build in the main street this will strip milton of another opportunity to develop a visitor attraction at the north end of town similar to the loss of the museum cafe development at a local resident which is now in Geraldine. I believe to there advantage and our loss. the 20 Million dollar plus debt will hamstring future visitor attractions for the Bruce area Milton Township. IF the 20 million dollar project continues alone with other rate increases this will double rates for bruce rate payers over a year period which is an unsustainable outcoming lower socioeconomic are.

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### Lodgement Details:

Date received            Oct 21, 2024

Privacy statement Yes

Type of Submission Hardcopy

Attachments No

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Contribution ID	1316
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Fitz Gerwitz
Contact person (organisation or group)	Fitz Gerwitz
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
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Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

Here is a basic economy lesson: if you can't pay for it now, you won't be able to pay for it later. And until that time, every other argument is moot. So, rather than focussing on accumulating as much debt as possible (seriously guys, what on earth are you doing?!?), focus on saving. Reduce costs, reduce spend, stop borrowing as if there is no tomorrow, and pay of the massive, irresponsible debt. Then, once the debt has been paid off, start saving. And then, when enough money has been saved, then and only then we shall talk about "nice to have" projects.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 23, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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HEALTH NEW ZEALAND TE  
WHATU ORA,

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Contribution ID	1335
This submission is from an	Organisation
Name of submitter	Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora
Contact person (organisation or group)	Gagan Gurung
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Please tell us more:	

CDC Comment: Refer to attached email/letter

Social Pinpoint extract based on letter below at p23 of Submission Book.

SubSubmission on Bruce Community Facility<sup>1</sup>. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Bruce Community Facility project. This submission has been compiled by the National Public Health Service (NPHS) Te Waipounamu Region, Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora. NPHS Te Waipounamu services the South Island including the Clutha District.<sup>2</sup> NPHS recognises its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities of Aotearoa New Zealand under the Pae Ora Act 2022 and the Health Act 1956.<sup>3</sup> Pae Ora requires the health sector, as one of its roles, to protect and promote healthy communities and health equity across different population groups by working together with multiple sectors to address the determinants of health.<sup>4</sup> For purposes of defining equity, we use the Ministry of Health's definition. In Aotearoa New Zealand people have differences in health that are not only avoidable, but unfair and unjust. Equity recognises different people with different levels of advantage require different approaches and resources to get equitable health outcomes.<sup>5</sup> This submission responds to some of the options provided in the Bruce Community Facility Proposal.<sup>6</sup> This submission also sets out matters of interest and concern to NPHS Te Waipounamu.<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Health. Achieving equity [internet]. Wellington: Ministry of Health [ Updated 2024 March 6; cited 2024 May 7]. Available from: <https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/whats-happening/about-us/who-we-are/achieving-equity/GeneralComments><sup>7</sup>. We welcome the opportunity to comment on the consultation documents for the Bruce Community Facility project. As part of preparing this submission, we consulted with Tokomairiro Waiora to capture the voices of whānau and local communities in this proposal.<sup>8</sup> Health and wellbeing are influenced by a wide range of factors beyond the health sector. These influences can be described as the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, and are impacted by environmental, social and behavioural factors. They are often

referred to as the 'social determinants of health'.<sup>29</sup>The diagram<sup>3</sup> below shows how these determinants are interlinked and complex. Initiatives to improve health outcomes and overall quality of life must involve organisations and groups beyond the health sector, such as local government if they are to have a significant impact.<sup>4</sup>Specific Comments<sup>10</sup>.NPHS supports Option 1 – the development of a new community library and pool facility with six swimming lanes. We believe that investing in such a facility is essential from a public health perspective for the long-term health and well-being of the Milton and wider Bruce area communities. We highlight this proposal's benefits of promoting physical activity, mental well-being, and social connection.<sup>2</sup> Public Health Advisory Committee. The health of people and communities: a way forward - public policy and the economic determinants of health. Wellington: Public Health Advisory Committee; 2004.<sup>3</sup> Barton H, Grant M. A health map for the local human habitat. The Journal of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health. 2006 Nov;126(6):252-3.<sup>4</sup> McGinnis JM, Williams-Russo P, Knickman JR. The case for more active policy attention to health promotion. Health affairs. 2002 Mar;21(2):78-93.<sup>11</sup>.A swimming pool in the community will improve opportunities for physical activity for people of all ages, ranging from children learning to swim, to older people. Regular physical activity is associated with many positive health outcomes, including reducing the risk of obesity, heart disease, type 2 diabetes and cancer and helping to manage depression.<sup>5</sup> However, physical activity levels in New Zealand are decreasing, and unhealthy weight is among the top five risk factors for health loss and premature death.<sup>6,7</sup><sup>12</sup>.The facility would also provide spaces for social interaction and mental well-being through the nearby library and multipurpose areas, which are quite important in rural and semi-rural communities. Evidence shows that there are increasing concerns about isolation and mental health issues in rural areas of New Zealand. Suicide rates have historically been higher in rural communities than in urban communities. This facility would act as a connecting place for families, older people, and individuals to come together, access support, and participate in community activities.<sup>8</sup><sup>13</sup>.From a public health perspective, choosing Option One offers a long-term solution rather than simply responding to immediate needs. While the project has costs, a purpose-built modern facility that promotes health, education, and community cohesion will provide a long-term investment in the well-being of the entire community.The facility is designed to meet current and future needs as the Bruce area grows. This investment avoids the higher cost of constantly repairing older infrastructure, unlike Option Two, that presents risks like health and safety hazards, disruption of services, higher repair costs, or even the closure of the facility.The rate increase under Option 1 may financially impact households, particularly in the current economic climate. This increase could pressure low-income families, especially in rural areas like Milton, for which the council could consider strategies like rebates for low-income households.<sup>14</sup>.The facility would benefit a part of the Clutha community that has a lower socioeconomic profile. Additionally, having these community facilities within the local area reduces the need for community members to travel long distances to access health and well-being-promoting facilities, which is especially beneficial for low-income families, people with disabilities, children, and older people.<sup>15</sup>.We also recommend that if Option One proceeds, the facility incorporates universal design principles, ensuring the inclusion of accessible toilets, drinking water fountains, entrances and pathways, making it accessible to everyone. Accessibility needs may relate to mobility scooters, prams and individuals with language, visual, or intellectual disabilities. We note that accessible parking has already been included in the facility specifications, designs and<sup>5</sup> Warburton DE, Nicol CW, Bredin SS. Health benefits of physical activity: the evidence. Cmaj. 2006 Mar 14;174(6):801-9.<sup>6</sup> Ministry of Health. New Zealand Health Strategy. Wellington: Ministry of Health;2023<sup>7</sup> Ministry of Health. Annual Update of Key Results 2022/23: New Zealand Health Survey. Available from: Annual Update of Key Results 2022/23: New Zealand Health Survey | Ministry of Health NZ<sup>8</sup> Ministry of Health. Briefing on rural health to Hon Matt Doocey, Associate Minister of Health;2024. Available from: h2024036867-briefing-rural-health.pdfplans.According to the BRANZ study, it is significantly cheaper and less disruptive to integrate universal design features into new buildings than to retrofit later.<sup>9</sup><sup>16</sup>.We recommend

considering the inclusion of a parents’ room with a private indoor breastfeeding space and an electrical outlet for pumping breastmilk, separate from the toilets. This would support parents from rural and semi-rural areas who travel to Milton for business and recreation.<sup>17</sup>We also recommend considering alternative engagement techniques for those who have difficulties accessing or using internet service to complete the survey, travelling to attend community workshops, or feeling uncomfortable speaking in larger group settings. In discussions with Tokomairiro Waiora we learned that many whānau and community members they serve do not have reliable internet access nor the means to travel to participate in workshops. Additionally, these whānau feel more comfortable speaking with Tokomairiro Waiora staff, with whom they have established close relationships. Moreover, the 2023 Clutha District Community Needs Assessment also showed that digital inclusion remains a challenge for many in the district, particularly older adults and low-income families.<sup>10</sup>Summary<sup>18</sup>.NPHS Te Waipounamu supports Option One because this will provide a long-term investment that will contribute to the health and well-being of the Milton and wider Bruce area communities.<sup>19</sup>.NPHS Te Waipounamu will wish to be heard with respect to this submission.<sup>20</sup>.Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Bruce Community Project proposal.Ngā mihiVince BarryRegional DirectorNational Public Health ServiceTe Waipounamu Region9 BRANZ. Study Report SR 263;2011. Available from: [https://d39d3mj7qio96p.cloudfront.net/media/documents/SR263\\_Lifetime\\_housing\\_-\\_the\\_value\\_case.pdf](https://d39d3mj7qio96p.cloudfront.net/media/documents/SR263_Lifetime_housing_-_the_value_case.pdf)<sup>10</sup> Wylie S. Clutha district community needs and strengths assessment; 2023. Available from: 2023-08-11-CluthaCommunityNeedsandStrengthsAssessment.pdf (cluthanz.com)For and on behalf of NPHS Te WaipounamuContact detailsGagan GurungPhone number 03 476 9820email address gagan.gurung@southerndhb.govt.nzTeWhatuOra.govt.nzM-Files 37793 please review submission (I'm assuming that they would like to talk)

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 23, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Email/Letter (Attached)
Attachments	Yes

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**From:** [Gagan Gurung](#) [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Help Desk](#)  
**Subject:** National Public Health Service Submission: Clutha Bruce Community Facility Project  
**Date:** Monday, 21 October 2024 10:57:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**Caution: This message originated from outside CDC, DO NOT click links, open attachments, or follow instructions without validating your trust in the sender first. If unsure, please contact IT.**

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Kia ora,

Please find attached the National Public Health Service's submission on the Clutha's Bruce Community Facility 2024 Consultation.

Ngā mihi

**Gagan Gurung** (he/him)  
**Health in All Policies Advisor, Planning, Policy & Performance**  
**Te Waipounamu | National Public Health Service**

waea pūkoro: [REDACTED] īmēra: [REDACTED]  
369 Taieri Road, Halfway Bush, Dunedin | Private Bag 1921, Dunedin 9010



**Health New Zealand | Te Whatu ora**

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21 October 2024

The Chief Executive  
Clutha District Council  
P.O. Box 25  
**Balclutha 9240**

Tēnā koe Steve

## Submission on Bruce Community Facility

1. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Bruce Community Facility project. This submission has been compiled by the National Public Health Service (NPHS) Te Waipounamu Region, Health New Zealand - Te Whatu Ora. NPHS Te Waipounamu services the South Island including the Clutha District.
2. NPHS recognises its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities of Aotearoa New Zealand under the Pae Ora Act 2022 and the Health Act 1956.
3. Pae Ora requires the health sector, as one of its roles, to protect and promote healthy communities and health equity across different population groups by working together with multiple sectors to address the determinants of health.
4. For purposes of defining equity, we use the Ministry of Health's definition.  
*In Aotearoa New Zealand people have differences in health that are not only avoidable, but unfair and unjust. Equity recognises different people with different levels of advantage require different approaches and resources to get equitable health outcomes.<sup>1</sup>*
5. This submission responds to some of the options provided in the Bruce Community Facility Proposal.
6. This submission also sets out matters of interest and concern to NPHS Te Waipounamu.

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<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Health. Achieving equity [internet]. Wellington: Ministry of Health [Updated 2024 March 6; cited 2024 May 7]. Available from: <https://www.tewhatauora.govt.nz/whats-happening/about-us/who-we-are/achieving-equity/>

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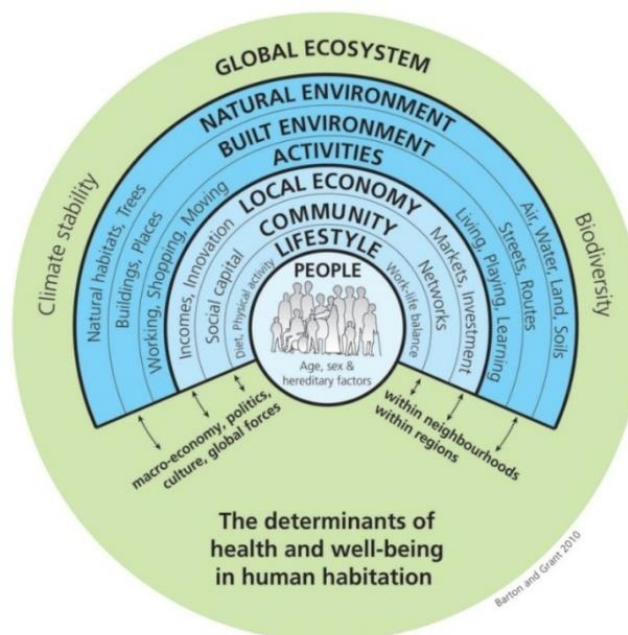
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## General Comments

7. We welcome the opportunity to comment on the consultation documents for the Bruce Community Facility project. As part of preparing this submission, we consulted with Tokomairiro Waiora to capture the voices of whānau and local communities in this proposal.
8. Health and wellbeing are influenced by a wide range of factors beyond the health sector. These influences can be described as the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, and are impacted by environmental, social and behavioural factors. They are often referred to as the 'social determinants of health'.<sup>2</sup>
9. The diagram<sup>3</sup> below shows how these determinants are interlinked and complex. Initiatives to improve health outcomes and overall quality of life must involve organisations and groups beyond the health sector, such as local government if they are to have a significant impact.<sup>4</sup>



## Specific Comments

10. NPHS supports Option 1 – the development of a new community library and pool facility with six swimming lanes. We believe that investing in such a facility is essential from a public health perspective for the long-term health and well-being of the Milton and wider Bruce area communities. We highlight this proposal's benefits of promoting physical activity, mental well-being, and social connection.

<sup>2</sup> Public Health Advisory Committee. *The health of people and communities: a way forward - public policy and the economic determinants of health*. Wellington: Public Health Advisory Committee; 2004.

<sup>3</sup> Barton H, Grant M. A health map for the local human habitat. *The Journal of the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health*. 2006 Nov;126(6):252-3.

<sup>4</sup> McGinnis JM, Williams-Russo P, Knickman JR. The case for more active policy attention to health promotion. *Health affairs*. 2002 Mar;21(2):78-93.

11. A swimming pool in the community will improve opportunities for physical activity for people of all ages, ranging from children learning to swim, to older people. Regular physical activity is associated with many positive health outcomes, including reducing the risk of obesity, heart disease, type 2 diabetes and cancer and helping to manage depression.<sup>5</sup> However, physical activity levels in New Zealand are decreasing, and unhealthy weight is among the top five risk factors for health loss and premature death.<sup>6,7</sup>
12. The facility would also provide spaces for social interaction and mental well-being through the nearby library and multipurpose areas, which are quite important in rural and semi-rural communities. Evidence shows that there are increasing concerns about isolation and mental health issues in rural areas of New Zealand. Suicide rates have historically been higher in rural communities than in urban communities. This facility would act as a connecting place for families, older people, and individuals to come together, access support, and participate in community activities.<sup>8</sup>
13. From a public health perspective, choosing Option One offers a long-term solution rather than simply responding to immediate needs. While the project has costs, a purpose-built modern facility that promotes health, education, and community cohesion will provide a long-term investment in the well-being of the entire community.

The facility is designed to meet current and future needs as the Bruce area grows. This investment avoids the higher cost of constantly repairing older infrastructure, unlike Option Two, that presents risks like health and safety hazards, disruption of services, higher repair costs, or even the closure of the facility.

The rate increase under Option 1 may financially impact households, particularly in the current economic climate. This increase could pressure low-income families, especially in rural areas like Milton, for which the council could consider strategies like rebates for low-income households.

14. The facility would benefit a part of the Clutha community that has a lower socioeconomic profile. Additionally, having these community facilities within the local area reduces the need for community members to travel long distances to access health and well-being-promoting facilities, which is especially beneficial for low-income families, people with disabilities, children, and older people.
15. We also recommend that if Option One proceeds, the facility incorporates universal design principles, ensuring the inclusion of accessible toilets, drinking water fountains, entrances and pathways, making it accessible to everyone. Accessibility needs may relate to mobility scooters, prams and individuals with language, visual, or intellectual disabilities. We note that accessible parking has already been included in the facility specifications, designs and

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<sup>5</sup> Warburton DE, Nicol CW, Bredin SS. Health benefits of physical activity: the evidence. *Cmaj*. 2006 Mar 14;174(6):801-9.

<sup>6</sup> Ministry of Health. *New Zealand Health Strategy*. Wellington: Ministry of Health;2023

<sup>7</sup> Ministry of Health. *Annual Update of Key Results 2022/23: New Zealand Health Survey*. Available from: [Annual Update of Key Results 2022/23: New Zealand Health Survey | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

<sup>8</sup> Ministry of Health. *Briefing on rural health to Hon Matt Doocey, Associate Minister of Health;2024*. Available from: [h2024036867-briefing-rural-health.pdf](#)

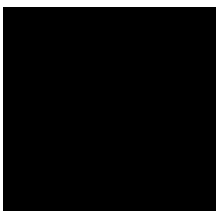
plans. According to the BRANZ study, it is significantly cheaper and less disruptive to integrate universal design features into new buildings than to retrofit later.<sup>9</sup>

16. We recommend considering the inclusion of a parents' room with a private indoor breastfeeding space and an electrical outlet for pumping breastmilk, separate from the toilets. This would support parents from rural and semi-rural areas who travel to Milton for business and recreation.
17. We also recommend considering alternative engagement techniques for those who have difficulties accessing or using internet service to complete the survey, travelling to attend community workshops, or feeling uncomfortable speaking in larger group settings. In discussions with Tokomairiro Waiora we learned that many whānau and community members they serve do not have reliable internet access nor the means to travel to participate in workshops. Additionally, these whānau feel more comfortable speaking with Tokomairiro Waiora staff, with whom they have established close relationships. Moreover, the 2023 Clutha District Community Needs Assessment also showed that digital inclusion remains a challenge for many in the district, particularly older adults and low-income families.<sup>10</sup>

## Summary

18. NPHS Te Waipounamu supports Option One because this will provide a long-term investment that will contribute to the health and well-being of the Milton and wider Bruce area communities.
19. NPHS Te Waipounamu will wish to be heard with respect to this submission.
20. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Bruce Community Project proposal.

Ngā mihi



**Vince Barry**

**Regional Director  
National Public Health Service  
Te Waipounamu Region**

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<sup>9</sup> BRANZ. Study Report SR 263;2011. Available from: [https://d39d3mj7qio96p.cloudfront.net/media/documents/SR263\\_Lifetime\\_housing\\_-\\_the\\_value\\_case.pdf](https://d39d3mj7qio96p.cloudfront.net/media/documents/SR263_Lifetime_housing_-_the_value_case.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> Wylie S. Clutha district community needs and strengths assessment; 2023. Available from: 2023-08-11-CluthaCommunityNeedsandStrengthsAssessment.pdf (cluthanz.com)

*For and on behalf of NPHS Te Waipounamu*

**Contact details**

Gagan Gurung

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## HERBERT, Joseph

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Contribution ID	1210
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Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Please tell us more:	
Hi I'm the board chair of Tokomairiro High School we need this new facility for our students, for sports days and PE classes. We just want to make sure every student has the chance to swim thank you. Can you please add this to my previous statement	

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### Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 22, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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HOWATT, Hugh

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Contribution ID	1267
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Hugh Howat
Contact person (organisation or group)	
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Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

ticked yes to speak (if required to get my point)As a Ratepayer I am more than a little concerned about the funding model that will be used to pay for the new complex. having attended the Milton evening consultation meeting there seems to be no ability or will by Council to actually cap the cost of this project. The though seems to prevail that local and district ratepayers are capable or willing to cover any further cost increases that will occur as the project progresses (the cost of the extra piles under the pool itself does to enhanced earthquakes protection requirements) My feeling from the meeting was that more than a few ratepayers present who were on fixed and single incomes were really concerned about their ability to pay these increased rate charges. In this day and age with the technology available that council have not put more effort into finding a more cost-effective repair for the existing pool complex. The existing site is adjacent to tow of main users (Toko High School and Milton Primary School) so is well sighted apart from the need to stabelise the ground under the complex. As councilor's who represent the entire Clutha District you have to justify the minimum UAGC increase of \$154.00 per annum to all ratepayers. This will be on top of any increases required to cover the new three waters requirements. In conclusion you will notice I have not detailed the cost of the new complex too much (option 1 19.4 million) as what we are currently witnessing with the Dunedin Hospital farce will prove the point that this option 1 cost is rather aspirational rather than a realistic reflection on the final cost of this project. A cost that most ratepayers are not able to cover.Yours faithfullyH Howat(Ratepayer)M-Files ID919256

Lodgement Details:

Date received Oct 22, 2024

Privacy statement Yes

Type of Submission Hardcopy

Attachments No

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## JOHNSTON, Ange

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Contribution ID	1336
This submission is from an	Individual
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Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Please tell us more:	

As a mother of three young children and a teacher living in Waihola, I know how much our district desperately needs a fit for purpose pool and library. Our community is growing, and recent successful developments such as the the bike trail and the Waihola Playground upgrade are attracting more and more people to our area. We are in a crucial time of needed to make the most of this momentum and present the Bruce District as an enticing place to live and bring up a family, or visit and spend time in. We need facilities that are innovative, future proofed, and will serve our community for many years to come My work in education has been based in this district for the last twelve years and I have seen over time how many families and children travel through to Dunedin for the opportunities that are presented there, and this doesn't have to be the case. We have the chance to show that our community can provide the services, recreation, and sporting opportunities right here, and not be seen as "less than". This helps to provide our children a true sense of belonging, growing and empowering them within their own community, without the need for people thinking they need to leave in order to get the best. I know having a pool open all year round would make a huge difference for my family and many others. My youngest son lives with a severe disability and swimming at the pool brings him immense joy, provides him with a form of refuge, and is a form of physical therapy. We currently travel through to Mosgiel weekly all year round for him to make use of the pool, and for swimming lessons for my other children. This comes with travel costs, and we are in a privileged situation to be able to equip our children with these life saving skills. All of the children within our district deserve to be able to easily access a pool all year round without the need for travel, for their own safety and wellbeing. An accessible pool for all will make a huge difference to the lives of many people living in our area, including those living with a disability. As a family we also make use of the public libraries throughout the Otago region and I can honestly say the staff and the books



at Milton library are the best of the best! Unfortunately the space doesn't let the library function to the best it could be and the space itself is truly lacking. We deserve a library that is a welcoming hub for the community, that can bring people together to connect, learn and support each other in ways that a modern library should. I could expand a lot further on all of these points and more, and would be happy to discuss the arguments for going ahead with the planned new facility at the hearing, or with anyone beforehand.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received Oct 23, 2024, [REDACTED]

Privacy statement Yes

Type of Submission Electronic

Attachments No

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## KIDD, Martin

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Contribution ID	992
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Martin Kidd
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Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Please tell us more:	

As an Advanced Scope Orthopaedic Physiotherapist leading the Southern Community orthopaedic triage service (SCOTS), I understand the challenges facing a growing number of our community who struggle with persistent musculoskeletal pain. Health NZ has placed an emphasis, and funding, on supporting this group of people to remain independent and active members of society. Our non-surgical options, therefore, are growing, with evidence internationally supporting exercise as the first line of management for persistent musculoskeletal pain. Osteoarthritis is a weight-bearing condition. Treatment options that involve strengthening in a reduced weight-bearing context (such as pool therapy), therefore, are likely to be more successful than other management options. Currently the pool with the best access for less able users is the Mosgiel pool. It has become very popular amongst my patient population from all around the region because of ease of access. The care and consideration that has gone into the new Milton pool facility in terms of ramp access and easy parking should ensure that the entire Clutha District will benefit from the Milton pool, without any reliance on the Mosgiel pool, some 44km distant from Milton. The Balclutha pool, while an admirable facility for what it provides, does not have ramp access to its large pool, thereby excluding some participants from therapy. Patients report that they use the Mosgiel pool along with others who share the same journey. They then emerge from the pool and carry on their day together in a cafe, thereby contributing to the local economy. Many of my patients are from the Clutha District: to have a facility that supports their osteoarthritis journey and keeps them active and independent contributors to the community is so important to their own sense of wellbeing and to the wellbeing of community. I strongly endorse the construction of a new community aquatic facility in Milton. The benefits to the health of the Clutha District community far outweigh any detriment caused by rates increases. Rehabilitate here, engage socially here, spend your money here: support the new aquatic facility for

the good of our community.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received Oct 14, 2024, [REDACTED]

Privacy statement Yes

Type of Submission Electronic

Attachments No

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## KNOWLES, Nanetta

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Contribution ID	1029
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Nanetta Knowles
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Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Please tell us more:	

We are a country surrounded by water learning and being confident in our waters are paramount and feeling safe when we swim. Swimming reminds us of what a joyful experience it is O gravity, weightlessness and healing having this pool in Tokomairiro that is functional, community engaging, can benefit so many family's individuals organisations etc.The submission I wasnt to talk about some of the safety issues identified here in Tokomairiro I see our young people kids' teens as they choose to swim in some of our creeks and streams that are not fit for purpose. Many of these swimming holes are now being polluted by industries surrounding our town. There has to be a safer option for them.I look forward to expanding more and how we can make the pool a contributor in keep our community better connected, engaging as safer option for us all.Nga mini nui koutou - kind regardsNaNanetta KnowlesM-Files 918771

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### Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 17, 2024
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Hardcopy
Attachments	No

MACAULAY, Wayne

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Contribution ID	1330
This submission is from an	Individual
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Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

Nice to have, but at present the rate payers of Milton under the current financial climate and general rate rises cannot afford to pay for this. The cost of 19.4m is an estimate only and if the ground for building has to be earthquake proofed could be another \$1m dollars.M-Files ID919523

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 23, 2024
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Hardcopy
Attachments	No

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## MCCAWE, Allen

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Contribution ID	1302
This submission is from an	Individual
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Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Please tell us more:	

As a long-term ratepayer of some 48 years in the Bruce Community Facilities Rating Area, I offer my full support for the implementation of Option 1 in Milton Township. It is very evident, supported by research into costings and future suitability, that the existing Milton Library, and the Centennial Pool facility, have reached the end of their respective functional lifespans, and both are in urgent need of replacement if they are to remain as viable facilities in the town. I believe that both of these facilities should be considered as "essential" for present and future residents of not only Milton township, but also of the productive rural areas surrounding it. Efforts which have recently been made to attract and retain industry and institutions in the Bruce Ward have created employment opportunities and growth potential which have been taken up by non-residents and Milton residents alike. I believe that it would be greatly advantageous to encourage more families to move to the district, but the decision to take that action is often complicated by the availability and attractiveness of community facilities, compared to what the family may be leaving. While the provision of a modern community library and swimming pool will not necessarily answer all of those requirements for prospective new residents, such facilities are an attraction, and perhaps an indication of the desire by present residents, and the administrative body such as CDC, to be seen as progressive in their thinking and actions. Such "thinking" has limitations of course, primarily financial, and while fiscal responsibility on behalf of Council is expected by ratepayers at all times, that should always be tempered by a vision for the future, whereby expenditure made now can be justified by a long-term vision for the benefit of future residents, particularly those families with children. I personally believe it would be fiscally irresponsible for Council to expend further funds on trying to upgrade or retain the existing library and pool facilities in their separate localities as at present. We cannot ignore the fact that our overall population is an ageing one, and Milton district is no exception to that phenomenon.

either. Those of us in the retirement category naturally give consideration to the future for our grandchildren and perhaps our great-grandchildren, and it is pleasing to see that the proposed facility includes provisions for both ends of the age spectrum. I would imagine that the use of the "community spaces" in the proposed complex might provide hosting opportunities for both public events, and private engagements such as children's birthday parties where the pool would be a major attraction for entertainment. With respect to funding of the new complex, I note a 25 year loan repayment period is proposed, which is reflected in the estimates of rates increases for the district. I would question the term selected, given that 25 years is less than a generation, and not even as long as the average home loan currently. A term of perhaps 30 or 35 years might lessen the rates impact, although paying off any loan in a shorter period is always desirable for any borrower, and Council is no exception to that rule. However, the 25 year term repayment, plus estimated annual running costs for the facility, amounts to about \$1 per day additional costs for ratepayers over that time, a fact that perhaps should be emphasised a little more in promotion of the project within the community. In re-affirming my support for Option 1), to proceed with the proposed Library and swimming pool development in Milton, I would submit that the success of a community is measured not only by what is done in the here and now for current members, but is also reflected by the legacy left behind by us for future generations to enjoy and benefit from. Anything done to improve and future-proof key infrastructural services, plus the provision of community well-being facilities, will enhance the attractiveness of the town, and speak highly of the vision and foresight of current decision-makers, as well as help to install a sense of pride within the community. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on this important decision. Allen McCaw MNZM.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 22, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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## MCCAWE, Carlee

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Contribution ID	1339
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Carlee McCaw
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Email (for submission communication purposes)	Yes
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Which is your preferred option?	

Please tell us more:

My response to this submission question is a resounding “yes”, with a strong follow-up question for Council: “is there even another reasonable, viable and responsible option to consider??”The answer to that follow-up must also be a resounding “no”, because this question has been clearly and thoroughly asked and answered over the past 5 years:- the current library, pool and service facilities are no longer fit for purpose;- the options of repairs and renovations are cost-comparable with a new build;- the refurbishment ‘option’ for the pool is neither guaranteed to solve the myriad issues it faces, nor come with any sort of life-expectancy assurance, should it even meet with initial success. So what happens then? We start the long, drawn-out process all over again? Get new quotes which will, without fail, only have increased in cost? Essentially, throw good money after bad. But Council is already well aware of those issues. Fundamentally, this consultation should not be about a binary question of YES, we want a new, modern facility, worthy of our district and our community, or NO, we want to continue with the old, and see if we can make a plan to drag out the (already been and gone) expiry dates of the existing buildings. We all know we want a new facility, we’ve been saying it over and over and over again for the past 5 years. Even the detractors agree. But there’s that eternal question: where do we find the money? So, what this consultation should be about is engaging with the community, with the entire district, about the HOW. HOW do we green-light a facility that both supporters and detractors agree “everyone wants”, but the concerns are purely financial? HOW do we ensure the funds are there to make this facility go ahead, but that won’t break the bank for our district as a whole? HOW do we support those families and households in our district that may struggle to meet yet another increase in rates? Because it hardly seems fair or right that anyone in our community should have to forgo essential facilities that will directly benefit them, because of enforced increases in other areas such as an on-again, off-again government water



scheme.HOW do we continue to grow our community, make it a desirable place to visit, stay and live, so that we can ultimately grow the district and decrease the burden on individual households.HOW do we genuinely engage and draw together the wide geographical and philosophical differences in the Clutha District so that we are working collectively to achieve facilities and projects that benefit every single one of our communities, rather than creating a potential situation where we all “vote no” to each other’s projects.There are a multitude of options and answers to these HOWs, and many of us are already working hard to come up with ideas, plans and tools to decrease financial burden on those members of our community who might need it. Because, really, that’s the main concern shared by everyone.So please, stop asking the same question over and over again, accept the YES, WE WANT THIS that is already coming loud and clear from the both the yays and the nays.And then how about we all get on with working together to address the HOW of this and future projects.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 23, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
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Attachments	No

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MOODIE, Katie

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Contribution ID 793

This submission is from an Individual

Name of submitter Moodie Katie

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Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing? Yes

Which is your preferred option? Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)

Please tell us more:

It is extremely challenging to get children to be as physically active as necessary. The location of the pool lends itself perfectly to being within the optimal distance of 800m from home for a child to access this facility. In addition with our aging population it is a vital asset to ensure the health and wellbeing of our older generations.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received Sep 23, 2024, [REDACTED]

Privacy statement Yes

Type of Submission Electronic

Attachments No

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Lodgement Details:

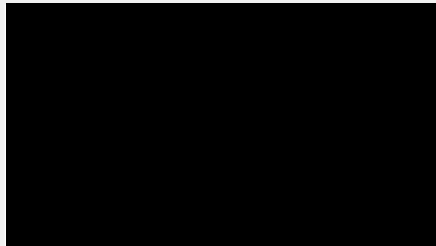
Date received

Privacy statement

Type of Submission

Attachments

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## OATS, Gail

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Contribution ID	1131
This submission is from an	Individual
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Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

Unaffordable and unnecessary. The existing pool was being used last season with no problems. It has not leaked since remedial work was undertaken. We need an independent opinion from an engineer not connected with the council. There are other options for pool users within short distances from Milton.

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### Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 21, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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Contribution ID	1046
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Ray Powell
Contact person (organisation or group)	Ray Powell
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1

Please tell us more:

A child learning to swim competently in NZ an island nation, with an outdoor way of life is paramount! And is as important to their education as reading writing and arithmetic, having a quality pool readily and easily available all year for all generations of the Milton and Tokomairiro District is what has to happen, absolutely! A new pool with facilities suitable for young, mature and older citizens open 12 months of the year would be a huge asset, the teaching of safe water skills would save lives and the tepid temperature and spar pool would improve the mobility and health of our aging community. I have voted Option A, because with Option B there is no guarantee that the old pool could be repaired and rebuilt.Milton and the Tokomairiro district could end up without a pool WHICH IS NOT AN OPTION.It concerns me that the CDC have had five plus years and still not supplied accurate engineering or financial estimates for the old pool other than a visual look over. Ray Powell

Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 18, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

RATANA, Joeline

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Contribution ID	1277
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Joeline Ratana
Contact person (organisation or group)	
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1

Please tell us more:

There is nothing i want more than to see this beautiful complex getting built.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 22, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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ROBINSON, David

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Contribution ID	1158
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	David Robinson
Contact person (organisation or group)	
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	
I will at the hearing	

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 21, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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## SCHILLER, Carl

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Contribution ID	1355
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Carl Schiller
Contact person (organisation or group)	
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1

Please tell us more:

Kia Ora Councilors, Milton needs a new library and pool complex. Obviously, the current facilities are either not fit for purpose, or structurally unsound. As the Milton Primary School Board of Trustees Presiding member, it is vitally important all school children are provided the access and opportunity to learn to swim, without social or financial constraint. Transporting to another pool not only carries a significant financial cost but also a time cost, impacting class-room learning time. As a community we need to provide these facilities for future generations and give them the opportunities our forebears gave us. Thanks for your time and consideration.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 23, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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## SCHILLER, Kim

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Contribution ID	1266
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Kim Schiller
Contact person (organisation or group)	
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1

Please tell us more:

It was fairly obvious in the town meetings, that it is unanimously accepted that we need new facilities (in particular the pool), however the execution of this task is under scrutiny. The inevitable trotting out of: how the location is wrong, why are there not multiple options with corresponding quotes, why can't we just have either a new pool OR a new library, lets limp the old pool along until the economy improves, the Library just needs a lick of paint... were simply travelling over old ground. My take-away from the meetings was that (unsurprisingly) the rates increase is the only real issue standing in the way of the continuation of the project. I believe the people with these concerns can be broken down into two groups: 1) Community members with a generalised opposition to the cost of the facility. The reality of this groups actual inability to furnish the \$264 - \$310 cost per annum is unclear, despite the indignant and outraged statements about unaffordability. My observation is that this group consists of mainly older people with perhaps an unwillingness to contribute, rather than an inability. 2) Community members who will genuinely be put under excessive financial strain by the additional rates cost. I believe that the facility will not only provide myriad benefits in terms of services, recreational and therapeutic opportunities, physical, social and educational wellbeing, but will also create a ripple of growth and positive change. Milton is dated, unattractive and unappealing to visitors and potential residents. Our community is accustomed to the 'bare minimum' and in many cases embraces that. But we have a generation of adults and our children who want the future to be different. We cannot risk the future prospects of our town, ward and district because we "can't afford" to have vision today. So, the question is not if the facility should be built - that is an absolute no-brainer. The question is, how do we acknowledge our poverty and wrap around our most vulnerable homeowners and rent-payers to alleviate the added financial pressure. There is more than one way to skin a cat. Community and Council need to shift gears, think laterally about

how to make this happen and get moving or the future will leave us behind to stagnate for another 40 years.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 22, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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## SINCLAIR, Don

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Contribution ID	1102
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Don Sinclair
Contact person (organisation or group)	Don Sinclair
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

As I understand the situation in paying for the planned new Milton Swimming Pool at Milton, which at present the total cost is suppose to be 20million dollars, we ratepayers here in the Tahakopa Valley note in this weeks "Clutha Leader" 17th October 2024 on its front page headed "Pool, Library costs rocket".In this written articl, it was stated that the Council estimates the new complex would mean an extra \$81.00 dollars a year for all Clutha District ratepayers, and \$301.00 dollars year for Bruce Ward residents.As far as I'm concerned we object to having to pay that \$81.00 dollars as a extra on our present rates bill, if the Milton rate payers want a new Milton Swimming Pool, well they can raise the \$20million dollars themselves, as far as I'm concerned, they got a cheek in asking the Clutha ratepayers to help pay for their new Swimming Pool that we would never likely to use.Why can they not do what the North Dunedin people did in raising all the funds themselves for a overhaul job on the Opoho Road 1958 build Dunedin North Intermediate School learners Swimming Pool?It was a article in the Otago Daily Times a few weeks ago on that project which did take them a few years to raise all the required funds \$1.4 million to make it happen but they got there, and the photo in the article showed it to be a great job was done on that project, the lady involved in it all looked very pleased with herself, and their pool.Also my wife talked to a niece who has a young family in Roxburgh, and she a member of the fund raising committee who raised \$5million dollars for the Roxburgh new built (outside) swimming pool which was all completed a few years ago now, it too looked a great job for their use in teaching their kids to swim and it took that committee five years to raise the funds to do that project.I just like to add that our own kids were taught to swim at their schools but they did join the local Brighton Surf Club, and that's were they really did learn to swim in real outside conditions, where there is most likely for a drowning mishap to occur.The Tahakopa Valley local people all helped in building the Tahakopa school learners swimming pool, I believe the Otago Education Board

did put up some funding, but the Tahakopa locals also had to front with some funding to make it all happen, back in the late 1950s. Also there is the Owaka new swimming pool which was partly funded by the Clutha District Council, but a high percentage of the funding for that project was funded by the Owaka local district people. As I said in my last Submission to the Clutha District Council, we of the Tahakopa Valley are only a very small group of ratepayers, and "Our Hut Heritage Hub" does projects in our community, at present we are raising funds to build a lawnmower tractor shed at "Our Hut" property at a cost of just on \$10,000, we are not asking the Clutha District ratepayer to pay for our Lawnmower storage shed that we the locals want? So I ask the question, what is wrong with the Milton locals in not being able to raise the necessary funds themselves?

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 20, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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## SINCLAIR, Aaleeya

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Contribution ID	1350
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Aaleeya Sinclair
Contact person (organisation or group)	
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1

Please tell us more:

I've done a lot of thinking about this, and I believe that a new pool and library facility in Milton would be so much better for every age group than trying to fix the old ones. I'm a person that loves to swim and I know I'm one of the lucky ones because my parents can afford to take me to another town to swim. But I know lots of people who might not have that opportunity. As a kid with a heart condition I know how important swimming is for my health. Swimming is the only sport that my parents wouldn't let me give up (even if I wanted to). For my lessons I have to drive at least half an hour to get to the nearest pool. Furthermore, isn't it strange that when I say "can I take a friend to the pool", both me and my parents' minds immediately go to Mosgiel or Moana Pool. There should be a pool closer to home that I would actually enjoy swimming in, and could swim in ALL year round. While I love swimming, believe me when I say I love reading more! To be able to combine the two would be mind-blowing, and would create my perfect day out. I used to go to the Milton Library all the time but I now I feel like I have read most of the books on offer there. I don't go there much anymore because I can't wait that long for a book to arrive because then I wouldn't have anything to read in the meantime. When I do go, I often find it loud, especially after school. A library should be a place that people can go to talk but there also needs to be enough room for people to read uninterrupted. Ideally a library should also be a light, welcoming space where other children might get the opportunity to fall in love with reading as much as I have. I know that nearly \$20 million is a lot of money, and I'm sure that the Council probably thinks that, as a 12 year old, I wouldn't even comprehend a number that big. But I do know enough to understand that a decision by your generation about a new facility like this should be made with plenty of input from my generation, because that is who it will affect the most.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received Oct 23, 2024, [REDACTED]

Privacy statement Yes

Type of Submission Electronic

Attachments No

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SMITH, Marie

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Contribution ID	924
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Marie Smith
Contact person (organisation or group)	Marie Smith
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1

Please tell us more:

We need this new pool now as the old one is past its used by date. Children need to learn to swim and about water safety it is of the utmost importances as we have many water activities around our country. What is the cost of a life? The cost of taking school children out of town for lessons is a bigger cost. Enjoying being in a pool with friends is also important socially. As we age some of us need weightless exercises to help us with mobility. Some would not be able to drive out of town and or afford the cost. If we build now, it will stop the cost increasing. As the pool could fall apart at any time then we would not have a pool.(M-files -ID916572)

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 03, 2024
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Hardcopy
Attachments	No

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## TAPP, Therron

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Contribution ID	1115
This submission is from an	Individual
Name of submitter	Therron Tapp Therron
Contact person (organisation or group)	Tapp
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.
Please tell us more:	

There are still many questions that need to be answered regarding the pool project. Suddenly, the Bruce Community no longer needs to fundraise the \$2 million required for the project to proceed. This raises the assumption that the ratepayer will be picking up the tab once again. Additionally, Councillor Catherwood raised questions about the calculations used to estimate the impact on rates. Any extra costs or overruns will be onerous for the ratepayers, especially those in the Bruce area. For example, the \$1 million extra cost to build the foundations to future-proof the pool for earthquakes was conveniently left out. There are also ongoing questions about the "Better Off" funding. The government is unhappy that this funding is being allocated to the pool instead of infrastructure, as they have already requested that the council reallocate it to our core water services. As I mentioned, the Bruce community was supposed to fundraise \$2 million towards the cost of the pool but has fallen short, even with the extraordinary effort they have put in during this current economic climate. Any shortfall will need to be funded by the ratepayer. I would hate to think that the money donated so far could have meant other charities and community groups missed out on funding. Although the pool was initially promoted as a facility for children, it appears more suited for Boomers to relax in a spa and those fortunate enough not to work long hours to cover recent rate rises can enjoy a few laps before their next Frappuccino latte. While there is a paddling pool for parents with young toddlers, there is a noticeable lack of fun amenities for older kids—no water slides, no diving pool, no wave pool. This lack of features tends to overlook the needs of children older than toddlers but younger than adults missing a huge demographic contradicting the original promise. Additionally, the council often gets these grand plans approved, but the ratepayer ends up with the old bait and switch. Look at what was promised for the Stewart Reserve and what was delivered. Similarly, the Clutha destination toilets and the Milton streetscape projects did not meet



the initial promises. These examples highlight a pattern of over-promising and under-delivering, which raises concerns about the pool project's potential outcomes.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 21, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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TAYLOR, Mark

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Contribution ID	940
This submission is from an	Group
Name of submitter	Mark Taylor
Contact person (organisation or group)	Mark Taylor
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]

Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing? Yes

Which is your preferred option? Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.  
Please tell us more:

A detailed costing of the existing pool and facilities must be undertaken to evaluate the true costs and ongoing asset value and life cycle costs compared to a new pool/library/community room. This comparative study must be done by appropriately qualified persons and made available to all ratepayers, then this should be weighted against the true value that it gives the community, short term and long term. The short term financial climate for huge spending (new facilities), should also be assessed and upgrades, timed to cause the least impact on other must-do projects that may have higher risks for the Clutha District ratepayers, eg staged installations versus a large one-off project.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received	Oct 09, 2024, [REDACTED]
Privacy statement	Yes
Type of Submission	Electronic
Attachments	No

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WILSON, Peter

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Contribution ID 1033  
This submission is from an Individual  
Name of submitter Peter Wilson  
Contact person (organisation or group)  
Address Line 1 [REDACTED]  
Address Line 2  
Town/City [REDACTED]  
Postcode [REDACTED]  
Phone number [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
Email (for submission communication purposes) [REDACTED]  
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing? Yes  
Which is your preferred option? Option 2: Do not build a new library and pool facility.  
Please tell us more:

Owing to the high rate demands and the increasing levels of financial hardships amongst rate payers, I view the funding of these facilities not acceptable at this time.

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Lodgement Details:

Date received Oct 17, 2024, [REDACTED]  
Privacy statement Yes  
Type of Submission Electronic  
Attachments No

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BRUCE COMMUNITY FACILITIES  
TRUSTCOMMITTEE

Stephen Woodhead

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Contribution ID	1311
This submission is from an	Organisation
Name of submitter	Bruce Community Facilities Trust Committee
Contact person (organisation or group)	Stephen Woodhead
Address Line 1	[REDACTED]
Address Line 2	[REDACTED]
Town/City	[REDACTED]
Postcode	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]
Email (for submission communication purposes)	[REDACTED]
Do you want to speak about your submission at this hearing?	Yes
Which is your preferred option?	Option 1: Community library & pool facility with a 6 lane swimming pool (\$19.4M)
Please tell us more:	

CDC Office Comment: Submission received via Social Pinpoint. Text was taken from submitter letter on which it is based and which has now been received (31/10/24) and is attached.

Bruce Community Facilities Trust Committee Bruce Community Facility CDC Consultation October 2024 We the Bruce Community Facilities Trust Committee support option 1 We wish to speak in support of our submission. Vision: To develop a vibrant, contemporary multi-purpose community facility which fosters an appreciation for a healthy, balanced and enriched lifestyle. The Clutha District Council and the Bruce Community Facilities Trust, backed by the wider community have been working towards creating a new facility that will provide a wide range of benefits to Milton, the Bruce District and the wider Clutha District. The Bruce Community Facility will improve accessibility, livability, and community wellbeing, and help to facilitate economic growth. At its core, this project is about bringing people together, through the provision of shared facilities and essential community-based services. This will be a facility that caters for people of all ages and backgrounds, and with diverse interests. The facility, a combined Library, Service Centre and Aquatic Centre aims to replace the current disjointed and outdated infrastructure and transform the centre of Milton into a destination location that is well used and enjoyed by members of the community and visitors alike. Some facts: Population of the Bruce District is approx. 4,000 and growing. School roles across the four schools in Milton and Waiholo and Taieri Mouth total 450 primary and secondary students. The nearest pools are in Balclutha, 27km and Mosgiel 44km away. This means a combination of cost and time rules out swimming in school time if Milton pool closes permanently. Council data shows total attendance levels in 2022/23 for the Milton pool were 5,500, 45% were school visits. This is down from a peak of 19,000 in 2010/11. We believe the poor state of the pool and the low temperature have contributed to this drop off in volumes. Swim NZ states 3 swims per population is low, 6 is ideal, 9 is high. With 5,500 swims Milton is low at 2.5 swims per pop, across the Bruce District 1.3 swims per population is very low. During 2023 NZ lost 90 people from

drowning, 1.7 per 100,000, third worst in developed world. Australia has 1.1 per 100,000. Our current library is far too small and being originally built and designed as an office is not fit for purpose. Benefits: The key benefits gained by a combined facility include helping to create a sense of community, creating a focal point, and helping to transition Milton from a small rural town to more of a 'destination' experience. With the bike trail completed, the main street upgrade and a subdivision underway the opportunity and time to both provide and significantly improve the recreational experiences for residents, visitors and passing tourists is now. A new pool open year-round as against the current 6 months from mid-October to Easter would be a significant benefit for our community. Modern libraries are wonderful active learning spaces with multiple resources for the whole community. Our service centre provides an essential service across a wide range of community needs. Wider District benefit: A new Milton pool would be the only pool in the Clutha District open year-round with a ramp. This would mean people may choose to travel from further afield than the Bruce District to swim or do hydrotherapy, in particular during the easter to labour weekend normal close down period for other pools. It would also make sense for Balclutha and Milton's new pool to stagger maintenance shut down times so there was always one of the pools open. Bruce Community Facilities Trust Update: Council is aware of the fundraising from previous updates. We have so far raised \$200,000. We have been maintaining relationships with funding agencies as we work towards our \$2m target. Conclusion: Community has been consulted twice, during consultation young people fed back that they would value having a swimming pool that is operational year-round and available throughout a longer swim season. It has also been agreed that a combined library/service centre/ pool is the most efficient way to provide these facilities. Extensive planning and design including input from an aquatic consultant has been carried out to ensure the pool meets the needs of our community and ensure it is not being over specified. The design has been confirmed as a 6 lane 25m main pool with a ramp, second pool to be one body of water with a learner's pool, toddlers' area and beach, there will also be a spa pool. Hydrotherapy (water exercise) can occur in main pool and spa. Neighbouring land has been purchased to provide some room for options such as off-street parking. A modern library is essential to meet the needs of our community. The project is ready to go, we have the design and the land. We now need a final commitment from Council to proceed with this crucial project. Any further delay will only transfer costs to another day and provide suboptimal outcomes for our community. We understand the cost and the impact on rates across the District, for some families this is an issue. These are challenging times and there is pressure on both Local Government and community. We are asking Council to show the leadership to deliver the vision that will set up the generations to come for a positive future in our community and district. Yours sincerely Stephen Woodhead BCFT Trustee, Committee Chairman. Summary of History: • 2018 – Community feedback during the Our Place Milton Community Plan helped to prioritise either investment in the Milton Pool led by council with significant community input and to seismically strengthen the existing Milton Service Centre or to create a new service centre/library. • 2019 – After careful investigation and consultation as part of the 2019/20 Annual Plan, Council identified that a new combined pool and service centre facility was the best long-term option and the option preferred by the community. • 2019 – The Bruce Community Facilities Trust was formed to work with Council and Calder Stewart to drive this project forward. • 2020-21 – The Trust led community consultation and focused on engaging with the community on their vision for the facility. The Trust has also been coordinating and undertaking community fundraising efforts for the facility. Further information and work were completed for the community library component of the facility, with a spatial plan and designs created. • 2022 – Further consultation was undertaken, with two main options, including updated pricing. One option was a facility which included a 6-lane pool, the other was a larger facility with an 8 lane pool. A community facility featuring a community library and six lane swimming pool in Milton was approved by Clutha District Council. • 2023 - Feasibility study report completed for Lottery Community Feasibility Funding. Further design and layout work along with in-depth pricing of the complex

undertaken, which included features that had not been previously priced adding to the overall cost was completed by Council. • 2024 LTP decision to go to special consultation.

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Lodgement

Details:statement

Oct 23, 2024,

Date received



Privacy statement

Yes

Type of

Submission

Electronic

Attachments

Yes (Refer CDC Comment in 'Tell us more' section above)

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## **Bruce Community Facilities Trust Committee**

Bruce Community Facility CDC Consultation October 2024

**We the Bruce Community Facilities Trust Committee support option 1**

**We wish to speak in support of our submission.**

### **Vision:**

To develop a vibrant, contemporary multi-purpose community facility which fosters an appreciation for a healthy, balanced and enriched lifestyle.

The Clutha District Council and the Bruce Community Facilities Trust, backed by the wider community have been working towards creating a new facility that will provide a wide range of benefits to Milton, the Bruce District and the wider Clutha District. The Bruce Community Facility will improve accessibility, livability, and community wellbeing, and help to facilitate economic growth. At its core, this project is about bringing people together, through the provision of shared facilities and essential community-based services.

This will be a facility that caters for people of all ages and backgrounds, and with diverse interests.

The facility, a combined Library, Service Centre and Aquatic Centre aims to replace the current disjointed and outdated infrastructure and transform the centre of Milton into a destination location that is well used and enjoyed by members of the community and visitors alike

### **Some facts:**

Population of the Bruce District is approx. 4,000 and growing.

School roles across the four schools in Milton and Waihola and Taieri Mouth total 450 primary and secondary students.

The nearest pools are in Balclutha, 27km and Mosgiel 44km away. This means a combination of cost and time rules out swimming in school time if Milton pool closes permanently.

Council data shows total attendance levels in 2022/23 for the Milton pool were 5,500, 45% were school visits. This is down from a peak of 19,000 in 2010/11. We believe the poor state of the pool and the low temperature have contributed to this drop off in volumes.

Swim NZ states **3 swims per population** is low, 6 is ideal, 9 is high. With 5,500 swims Milton is low at 2.5 swims per pop, across the Bruce District 1.3 swims per population is very low. During 2023 NZ lost 90 people from drowning, 1.7 per 100,000, third worst in developed world. Australia has 1.1 per 100,000. Our current library is far too small and being originally built and designed as an office is not fit for purpose.

**Benefits:** The key benefits gained by a combined facility include helping to create a sense of community, creating a focal point, and helping to transition Milton from a small rural town to more of a 'destination' experience. With the bike trail completed, the main street upgrade and a subdivision underway the opportunity and time to both provide and significantly improve the recreational experiences for residents, visitors and passing tourists is now.

A new pool open year-round as against the current 6 months from mid-October to Easter would be a significant benefit for our community. Modern libraries are wonderful active learning spaces with multiple resources for the whole community. Our service centre provides an essential service across a wide range of community needs.

**Wider District benefit:** A new Milton pool would be the only pool in the Clutha District open year-round with a ramp. This would mean people may choose to travel from further afield than the Bruce District to swim or do hydrotherapy, in particular during the easter to labour weekend normal close down period for other pools. It would also make sense for Balclutha and Milton's new pool to stagger maintenance shut down times so there was always one of the pools open.

#### **Bruce Community Facilities Trust Update:**

Council is aware of the fundraising from previous updates. We have so far raised \$200,000. We have been maintaining relationships with funding agencies as we work towards our \$2m target.

#### **Conclusion:**

Community has been consulted twice, during consultation young people fed back that they would value having a swimming pool that is operational year-round and available throughout a longer swim season. It has also been agreed that a combined library/service centre/ pool is the most efficient way to provide these facilities.

Extensive planning and design including input from an aquatic consultant has been carried out to ensure the pool meets the needs of our community and ensure it is not being over specified. The design has been confirmed as a 6 lane 25m main pool with a ramp, second pool to be one body of water with a learner's pool, toddlers' area and beach, there will also be a spa pool. Hydrotherapy (water exercise) can occur in main pool and spa. Neighbouring land has been purchased to provide some room for options such as off-street parking. A modern library is essential to meet the needs of our community.

The project is ready to go, we have the design and the land. We now need a final commitment from Council to proceed with this crucial project. Any further delay will only transfer costs to another day and provide suboptimal outcomes for our community.

We understand the cost and the impact on rates across the District, for some families this is an issue. These are challenging times and there is pressure on both Local Government and community.

We are asking Council to show the leadership to deliver the vision that will set up the generations to come for a positive future in our community and district.

Yours sincerely





Stephen Woodhead

BCFT Trustee, Committee Chairman.

**Summary of History:**

- 2018 – Community feedback during the Our Place Milton Community Plan helped to prioritise either investment in the Milton Pool led by council with significant community input and to seismically strengthen the existing Milton Service Centre or to create a new service centre/library.
- 2019 – After careful investigation and consultation as part of the 2019/20 Annual Plan, Council identified that a new combined pool and service centre facility was the best long-term option and the option preferred by the community.
- 2019 – The Bruce Community Facilities Trust was formed to work with Council and Calder Stewart to drive this project forward.
- 2020-21 – The Trust led community consultation and focused on engaging with the community on their vision for the facility. The Trust has also been coordinating and undertaking community fundraising efforts for the facility. Further information and work were completed for the community library component of the facility, with a spatial plan and designs created.
- 2022 – Further consultation was undertaken, with two main options, including updated pricing. One option was a facility which included a 6-lane pool, the other was a larger facility with an 8 lane pool. A community facility featuring a community library and six lane swimming pool in Milton was approved by Clutha District Council.
- 2023 - Feasibility study report completed for Lottery Community Feasibility Funding. Further design and layout work along with in-depth pricing of the complex undertaken, which included features that had not been previously priced adding to the overall cost was completed by Council.
- 2024 LTP decision to go to special consultation.