

## **Kaikōura District Council and Kaikōura Sport and Recreation Recovery Leadership Team Media Release: Survey Dives into what Kaikōura Community wants in a new pool**

**2 July 2018**

Kaikōura's Sport and Recreation Recovery Leadership Team (SRRLT) and Kaikōura District Council have launched a major piece of consultation around their plans for a new pool.

Together they are seeking community feedback on three key issues - design, location and affordability. The survey will give Council the information it needs to make a final decision on the way forward for the community pool. The decision will be made in December this year.

The existing community pool was damaged in the 2016 earthquake, since then the community has been making do with a pop-up pool funded by Council. Community consultation following the 2016 Kaikōura earthquake showed a strong desire for a new community pool. Since then, SRRLT and Council have worked together to develop ideas for a new pool site, design and funding.

Mayor Winston Gray says, "As part of its Three Year Plan Council committed to making a final decision on a permanent pool solution in December 2018. This consultation will give our community a say in that decision. I encourage everyone to complete a survey and let the SRRLT and Council know what you value most in a community pool, what you're prepared to pay for it and where you'd like it to be built. We want to make a decision that best represents what the community wants and to do that we need to hear directly from the people who will be paying for and using the new pool."

"It's really important that the community is engaged every step of the way and I want to thank the SRRLT for the amount of effort they have put into this great piece of work. It is a real credit to their passion and dedication to sport and recreation in Kaikōura – we are lucky to have so many people like them in the community," Gray said.

Sport and Recreation Recovery Leadership Team Chairman Mark Fissenden said, "Kaikōura has wanted a new pool for some time and this consultation will bring us one step closer to making that happen. I firmly believe that we can make a new pool happen and that it would bring benefits to Kaikōura's community wellbeing, sport and tourism sectors. Right now, our pool facilities just aren't up to scratch – a new pool would benefit everyone from our youth learning to swim, to our elderly who would have a heated indoor year round pool to use for fitness and fun."

Community consultation will be happening from 1 July to 15 August 2018. The survey can be completed online on the Sport Tasman and Kaikōura District Council website's, in paper at Kaikōura District Library, in person at the Kaikōura Pool caravan (located at key community events and sites). The SRRLT will also be door knocking during this time, so greet them with a smile and let them know your thoughts.

**ENDS**

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