



Shire of  
**Collie**

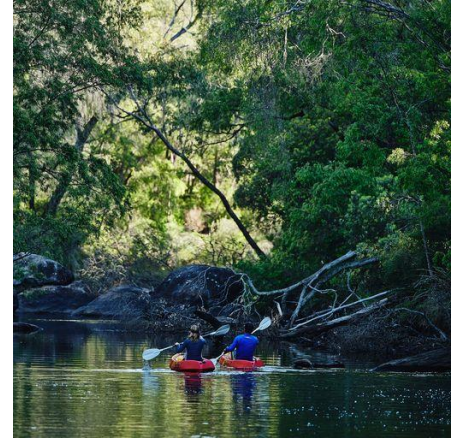
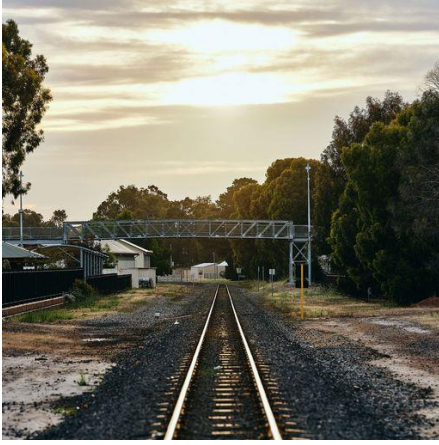
# AGENDA

for the

## SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

to be held on

**Tuesday, 29 August 2023**



## Our Vision

**Collie** - *A progressive community, rich in opportunities and as diverse as its heritage and landscape.*

## Our Values

The core values at the heart of the Council's commitment to the community are:

*Integrity*

*Transparency*

*Accountability*

*Collaboration*

*Respect*

## Our Commitment to Community

**We will** *lead the delivery of our vision*

**We will** *support local business wherever possible*

**We will** *consult and engage with our community on issues that affect them*

**We will** *encourage, welcome and value feedback*

**We will** *encourage, support and advocate for our community*

# **NOTICE OF MEETING**

## **Special Meeting of Council to:**

- Consider the ballot paper for the referendum for an indoor pool.

Members of Council are advised that a meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, 87 Throssell Street, Collie on:

**Tuesday 29 August 2023 at 7.00pm**



Nicole Wasmann  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

28 August 2023

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### **DISCLAIMER**

The advice and information contained herein is given by and to the Council without liability or responsibility for its accuracy. Before placing any reliance on this advice or information, a written inquiry should be made to the Council giving entire reasons for seeking the advice or information and how it is proposed to be used.

Please note this agenda contains recommendations, which have not yet been adopted by Council.

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**SHIRE OF COLLIE**  
**DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST AND INTERESTS AFFECTING IMPARTIALITY**

**To: Chief Executive Officer**

As required by section 5.65(1)(a) or 5.70 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Council's Code of Conduct, I hereby declare my interest in the following matter/s included on the Agenda paper for the Council meeting to be held on

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Item No.	Subject	Details of Interest	Type of Interest Impartial/Financial	*Extent of Interest (see below)

\* Extent of Interest only has to be declared if the Councillor also requests to remain present at a meeting, preside, or participate in discussions of the decision making process (see item 6 below). Employees must disclose extent of interest if the Council requires them to.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**NB**

1. This notice must be given to the Chief Executive Officer prior to the meeting or at the meeting immediately before the matter in which you have declared an interest is discussed, Section 5.65(1) (a) & (b).
2. It remains Councillors'/Employees' responsibility to make further declarations to the Council if a matter arises during the course of a meeting and no previous declarations have been made.
3. It is a Councillor's/Employee's responsibility to ensure the interest is brought to the attention of the Council when the Agenda item arises and to ensure that it is recorded in the minutes.
4. It remains the Councillor's responsibility to ensure that he/she does not vote on a matter in which a declaration has been made. The responsibility also includes the recording of particulars in the minutes to ensure they are correct when such minutes are confirmed.
5. It is recommended that when previewing Agenda, Councillors mark Agendas with items on which an interest is to be declared and complete the declaration form at the same time.
6. Councillors may be allowed to remain at meetings at which they have declared an interest and may also be allowed to preside (if applicable) and participate in discussions and the decision making process upon the declared matter subject to strict compliance with the enabling provisions of the Act and appropriately recorded resolutions of the Council. Where Councillors request consideration of such Council approval the affected Councillor must vacate the Council Chambers in the first instance whilst the Council discusses and decides upon the Councillor's application.

**Remember: The responsibility to declare an interest rests with individual Councillors/Employees. If in any doubt seek legal opinion or, to be absolutely sure, make a declaration.**

Office Use Only:

Date/Initials

1. Particulars of declaration given to meeting

2. Particulars recorded in the minutes

3. Signed by Chief Executive Officer

## INDEX

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1.	OPENING/ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....	1
2.	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME .....	1
3.	DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST .....	1
4.	PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS.....	1
5.	NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC .....	1
6.	CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT .....	2
	6.1 Referendum for an Indoor Pool – Ballot Paper .....	2
7.	CLOSE.....	6

Agenda for the Special Meeting of the Collie Shire Council to be held in Council Chambers, 87 Throssell Street Collie, on Tuesday 29 August commencing at 7:00pm.

**1. OPENING/ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

- 1.1 Councillors granted Leave of Absence at previous meeting/s.
- 1.2 Councillors requesting Leave of Absence for future Ordinary Meetings of Council.
- 1.3 Councillors who are applying for Leave of Absence for this Special Meeting of Council.

**2. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

A 15-minute public question time is made available to allow members of the public the opportunity of questioning Council on matters relating to the purpose of the meeting.

**3. DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL INTEREST**

Councillors in attendance at meetings must disclose to the meeting any Agenda items upon which they have a Financial Interest. Section 5.65 of the Local Government Act 1995 requires Councillors to: a) give written notification of a financial Interest before the meeting; or b) at the meeting immediately before the particular matter is discussed (notification can be given verbally).

A Disclosure of Financial Interest Form is attached to this Agenda (immediately behind the Index) and can be used by Councillors for disclosure purposes - simply tear out and hand to the Chief Executive Officer. Additional forms will always be available at Council/Committee meetings.

Should Councillors be unsure on Disclosure of Financial Interest matters, further clarification can be obtained by reading Sections 5.53 to 5.59 inclusive of the Act.

**4. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS**

Members of the public invited by the Chairperson may address the meeting after Standing Orders have been suspended.

**5. NOTIFICATION OF MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

Councillors may disclose at this point any matters which they wish to have discussed 'behind closed doors' ie the meeting is closed to members of the public. Section 5.23 of the Local Government Act 1995 applies and the meeting may only go behind closed doors for matters expressly prescribed in the Act - see section of the Act appended immediately after the Disclosure of Financial Interest form.

Any decision (of the meeting) to close the meeting or part of the meeting and the reasons for the decision are to be recorded in the Minutes of the meeting.

## 6. CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

6.1 Referendum for an Indoor Pool – Ballot Paper	
<b>Reporting Department:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nicole Wasmann – Director Corporate Services
<b>Accountable Manager:</b>	Nicole Wasmann – Director Corporate Services
<b>Legislation</b>	<i>Local Government Act 1995 S4.99</i>
<b>File Number:</b>	CMG/268
<b>Appendices:</b>	Appendix 6.1.A Draft Ballot Paper
<b>Voting Requirement</b>	Simple Majority

### Report Purpose

To enable Council to determine the information to be included on the ballot paper for the referendum for an indoor pool.

### Officer's Recommendation

That Council approve the draft ballot paper for the referendum for an indoor pool as included at Appendix 6.1.A and including the following information:

#### Purpose

Poll on whether the electors of the Shire of Collie support the Shire proceeding with the development of an indoor heated pool.

#### Background

At its Ordinary Council Meeting on 8 August 2023, Council resolved to conduct a poll of electors asking if the community would support the Shire proceeding with the construction of an indoor heated pool.

The results of this poll will assist the Council to decide whether or not to seek the additional funding required for the construction of a pool. The balance of the existing State Government funds allocated to the project is \$1.8m.

A 6 lane 25m pool with an additional program pool is expected to cost up to \$8m. If less capital is raised, a smaller facility could be considered.

The cost to the Shire to run the pool will be between \$363,000 and \$1,090,000 per annum, depending on the size of the facility and the opening hours. The subsequent increase in rates would be between 5% and 15%. This would equate to additional rates of between \$75 and \$225 on an average residential property in Collie. This is in addition to increases required to meet the cost of inflation.

The results of this poll are not binding on the Council.

Further information can be found on the Shire's website [www.collie.wa.gov.au/indoorpool](http://www.collie.wa.gov.au/indoorpool)

#### Summary of Key Points

##### **Case for YES:**

- Proven health benefits for arthritis, asthma, chronic coronary and respiratory diseases, people with acquired brain injuries, physical disabilities and mental health issues
- Swimming helps children reach many developmental milestones earlier
- Availability for year-round fitness, school programs, rehabilitation and recreation
- Opportunity for social engagement, particularly during winter
- Avoids need to travel to use a heated pool out of town, and potentially spend money out-of-town

##### **Case for NO:**

- Significant ongoing costs to fund two pools – indoor and outdoor
- Additional 5%-15% of rates, on top of usual annual rate increase to meet inflation, to be met by ratepayers
- Limits the ability for the Shire to attract funding for, and meet the costs of, other projects or initiatives.
- Forecasted attendance and revenue from the Pool would be below the nationally recognised standards for aquatic centres based on Collie's population
- There are 2 indoor heated pools within 60 kilometres of Collie

#### **Background:**

At the August 2023 Council Meeting, Council resolved:

*That the Shire of Collie conducts a referendum on the provision of a heated pool in conjunction with the Local Government Elections in October 2023 and that the referendum question be:*

*Would you support the Shire of Collie proceeding with the construction of an indoor heated pool if:*

- *all capital costs of \$4.5-\$8 million dollars, could be externally funded; and*
- *the ongoing operational and renewal costs were to be met from Shire general revenue which would result in an additional increase in Shire rates of between 5-15%?*

#### **Statutory and Policy Implications:**

In accordance with Section 4.99, of the *Local Government Act 1995* Council has the power to hold a poll of electors.

Regulations 88-92 of *Local Government (Election) Regulations 1996* apply.

In accordance with Regulation 90, the Electoral Commissioner may, on behalf of the local government conduct polls and referendums.



**Budget Implications:**

With regards to holding a referendum, the Western Australian Electoral Commission has provided an estimate of additional \$2,500 to conduct the referendum in conjunction with the October 2023 election.

Sufficient funds have been allowed in the draft budget for the cost of the referendum.

**Communications Requirements:** (Policy No. CS 1.7)

Members of the Indoor Pool Working Group have been provided with an opportunity to provide input to the ballot paper. The following feedback was received and considered:

- In the background, the initial draft included a size when referring to the potential for a smaller pool. There was some comment around what the size should stipulate. The size has since been removed from the draft.
- Under the case for no, concern was raised with regards to how the “pool not meeting standards” was framed. This has been clarified to relate to income and use. Feedback also included that low attendance on the current pool is solely due to the temperature.
- Under the case for yes, reference to the economic circumstances of some people prohibiting travel of 50-60 kilometres to use another facility.
- The decision for the referendum being June not August.
- Some members felt the costs included on the draft ballot paper were excessive in comparison to the 2018 study.

The escalation in costs from the 2018 report until the potential construction is likely to be over a period of 8 years. The expenditure shown in the 2018 report is low in comparison to the actual expenses obtained from Western Australian pools. The figures on the ballot paper are based on the percentage increase used in the question. The Indoor Pool Working Group report identified annual costs as \$735,637. The average amount that rates would increase by, has slightly reduced from the initial draft following further review of the average rates on a residential property.

**Strategic Community Plan/Corporate Business Plan Implications:**

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN – ADOPTED DECEMBER 2022		
<b>GOAL:</b>	1	Our Community
<b>Objective:</b>	1.1	Community health, safety and wellbeing
<b>GOAL:</b>	3	Our Built Environment
<b>Objective:</b>	3.1	Safe and well-maintained Shire owned facilities and infrastructure
<b>GOAL:</b>	5	Our Organisation
<b>Objective:</b>	5.1	Innovative leadership, forward planning and mutually beneficial partnerships

**Relevant Precedents:**

Prior community surveys have been held with regards to an indoor heated pool.

**Comment:**

The ballot paper should be impartial and include additional information such as background and arguments for and against and the question.

The following information is proposed to be included on the ballot paper.

Insignificant alterations have been made to the question replacing the symbol “-” with the words “to” and “and”. The alterations have not changed the question.

The question to be asked is:

Would you support the Shire of Collie proceeding with the construction of an indoor heated pool if:

- all capital costs of \$4.5 million to \$8 million could be externally funded; and
- the ongoing operational and renewal costs were to be met from Shire general revenue which would result in an additional increase in Shire rates of between 5% and 15%?

The proposed purpose to be included on the ballot paper is:

“Poll on whether the electors of the Shire of Collie support the Shire proceeding with the development of an indoor heated pool.”

The proposed background to be included on the Balot Paper is

“At its Ordinary Council Meeting on 8 August 2023, Council resolved to conduct a poll of electors asking if the community would support the Shire proceeding with the construction of an indoor heated pool.

The results of this poll will assist the Council to decide whether to seek the additional funding required for the construction of a pool. The balance of the existing State Government funds allocated to the project is \$1.8m.

A 6 lane 25m pool with an additional program pool is expected to cost up to \$8m. If less capital is raised, a smaller facility could be considered.

The cost to the Shire to run the pool will be between \$363,000 and \$1,090,000 per annum, depending on the size of the facility and the opening hours. The subsequent increase in rates would be between 5% and 15%. This would equate to additional rates of between \$75 and \$225 on an average residential property in Collie. This is in addition to increases required to meet the cost of inflation.

The results of this poll are not binding on the Council.

Further information can be found on the Shire’s website [www.collie.wa.gov.au/indoorpool](http://www.collie.wa.gov.au/indoorpool) “

A summary of the key points proposed as for and against the proposal are:

**“Case for YES:**

- Proven health benefits for; arthritis, asthma, chronic coronary and respiratory diseases, people with acquired brain injuries, physical disabilities and mental health issues
- Swimming helps children reach many developmental milestones earlier
- Availability for year-round fitness, school programs, rehabilitation and recreation
- Opportunity for social engagement, particularly during winter
- Avoids need to travel to use a heated pool out of town, and potentially spend money out-of-town

**Case for NO:**

- Significant ongoing costs to fund two pools – indoor and outdoor
- Additional 5%-15% of rates, on top of usual annual rate increase to meet inflation, to be met by ratepayers
- Limits the ability for the Shire to attract funding for, and meet the costs of, other projects or initiatives.
- Forecasted attendance and revenue from the Pool would be below the nationally recognised standards for aquatic centres based on Collie’s population
- There are 2 indoor heated pools within 60 kilometres of Collie

**7. CLOSE**





Shire of  
**Collie**

**Special Council Meeting  
29 August 2023**

**Appendix 6.1.A  
Draft Ballot Paper**



## SHIRE OF COLLIE

Poll date: 21 October 2023



**Poll on whether the electors of the Shire of Collie support the Shire proceeding with the development of an indoor heated pool.**

### How to vote

Place a tick ☒ in the YES  
or the NO box. Do not make any  
other marks on the ballot paper.

### Question

Would you support the Shire of Collie proceeding with the construction of an indoor heated pool if:

- all capital costs of \$4.5 million to \$8 million could be externally funded; and
- the ongoing operational and renewal costs were to be met from Shire general revenue which would result in an additional increase in Shire rates of between 5% and 15%?

YES ☐

NO ☐

tear here

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At its Ordinary Council Meeting on 8 August 2023, Council resolved to conduct a poll of electors asking if the community would support the Shire proceeding with the construction of an indoor heated pool.

The results of this poll will assist the Council to decide whether to seek the additional funding required for the construction of a pool. The balance of the existing State Government funds allocated to the project is \$1.8m.

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The results of this poll are not binding on the Council.

Further information can be found on the Shire's website  
[www.collie.wa.gov.au/indoorpool](http://www.collie.wa.gov.au/indoorpool)

*Continued overleaf ...*

# BALLOT PAPER

(Please detach before completing)

## Question

Would you support the Shire of Collie proceeding with the construction of an indoor heated pool if:

- all capital costs of \$4.5 million to \$8 million could be externally funded; and
- the ongoing operational and renewal costs were to be met from Shire general revenue which would result in an additional increase in Shire rates of between 5% and 15%?

## THE YES/NO CASE FOR THE INDOOR POOL

Detailed below is a summary of the key points for and against the proposal:

### Case for YES:

- Proven health benefits for arthritis, asthma, chronic coronary and respiratory diseases, people with acquired brain injuries, physical disabilities, and mental health issues
- Swimming helps children reach many developmental milestones earlier
- Availability for year-round fitness, school programs, rehabilitation, and recreation
- Opportunity for social engagement, particularly during winter
- Avoids need to travel to use a heated pool out of town, and potentially spend money out-of-town

### Case for NO:

- Significant ongoing costs to fund two pools – indoor and outdoor
- Additional 5%-15% increase in rates, on top of normal annual rate increase to meet inflation, to be met by rate payers
- Limits the ability for the Shire to attract funding for, and meet the costs of, other projects or initiatives.
- Forecasted attendance and revenue from the Pool would be below the nationally recognised standards for aquatic centres, based on Collie's population
- There are 2 indoor heated pools within 60 kilometres of Collie