BREAK O'DAY AQUATIC FACILITY

Community Update - November 2025

...for your patience and for sticking with us while we do the groundwork. feedback through surveys and meetings has been integral to this process.

Where we're at...

This study looked at what our community needs from a pool, how many people might use it, and the social and economic benefits it could bring. It also examined different design options and estimated how much a centre would cost to build and run. Importantly, it includes financial modelling to show what the preferred option would mean for Council and for our community.

What you told us you wanted



A Year Round Facility



Learn to Swim Classes



One multi-purpose pool for all uses...

While the study shows that an aquatic facility could bring strong health and social benefits — especially through what the report calls "Option 3" — it also makes clear that these benefits come with very high construction and ongoing operating costs. Any future facility would require ongoing Council subsidies, which ultimately come from ratepayers. Because of this, Council must carefully weigh these financial realities, as the impacts would be long-term and could significantly affect Council's budget and future rates.

To see all options and further detail - please read the full report, found on our website.



- Offers the best balance for our community
- Serves the broadest range of users and abilities
- Would be well-utilised year-
- Is a more affordable cost
- Focuses on the core needs of the community

THE KEY FIGURES:

Cost to build the facility in 2025 dollars:

.7 MILLI

Ongoing jobs at the facility:

Full Time Equivalent Staff

Full-time equivalent jobs

created during the build:

Annual operating costs:

\$1.2 MILLION

Projected pool visits per year:

19,000

Financial benefits to the community over 10 years:

Community Inclusion and Leisure benefits

Break O'Day

This update has been compiled using data from the Aquatic Facility Feasibility Study Report (November 2025) with input from the BOD Aquatic Centre Committee.

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Ean the Council and Community afford it?

Option 3 will cost \$21.7 million to build. The make up of grant funding and council contribution will impact the cost to the rate payer. The community will still need to cover the \$1.2 million operational cost (including depreciation) to run the facility each year. Entry fees alone will not cover the cost to keep the facility open.

Grant Funding for Build	Council Contribution to Build	Ongoing cost per property per year
100%	0%	\$178
50%	50%	\$295

Without extra income from increased rates, the running costs would quickly drain Council's savings, and our cash reserves would run out within about seven years. After that, we'd be relying on loans just to keep basic services going — which isn't a responsible or sustainable position for our community.

While the idea of a pool is strongly supported, The decision on whether to build the pool must be a balance between what the community wants and needs as well as what the community and council can afford.



What's next?



Community Engagement: We want your input - read the detailed reports and complete our next survey.



Council Decision: Council will review the community feedback and feasibility findings formally and decide whether to move to Stage 2.



Stage 2: If there is community and council support, a Business Case & Concept Design will be developed.

More info & to get involved:



- **Read the Reports:** The full *Aquatic Facility Feasibility Study Report (November 2025)* is available on Council's website. It contains all the details behind the summary you've read here.
- **Have Your Say:** Your feedback is crucial. Fill out the second Community Feedback survey by the following the links on our website. (If you don't have internet access, hard copy surveys are available at the Council office and local libraries.)
- Visit or Contact Us: You can always reach out to Council with questions or comments. Drop into the Council offices in St Helens for a chat, or call us at (03) 6376 7900. You can also email admin@bodc.tas.gov.au.

Transparency and Due Diligence

Council's due diligence is about making sure we get this right. An aquatic facility is a major intergenerational project – a decision to build and run it will affect us all now and our children and grandchildren. We take that responsibility seriously.

That's why we're doing the homework up front, sharing information publicly, and moving step-by-step.