



Moreland
City Council

Fawkner Leisure Centre redevelopment

As a valued asset to the Fawner community, having first opened as a seasonal pool in 1965, with an indoor facility added in 1987, the time has now well and truly come for the Fawkner Leisure Centre to be revitalised.

A redeveloped Fawkner Leisure Centre will complement existing local services and enhance wellbeing opportunities for residents and visitors accessing local learning, sporting, recreation and community facilities.

It will also meet the needs of a growing community. With 135,000 visits on average per annum¹, Fawkner's population is forecast to grow from 15,280 residents (2019) to over 18,680 (2036)², placing increasing demand on an ageing facility.

A new Fawkner Leisure Centre will not only help to service residents from other parts of Moreland, including Glenroy and Hadfield, but also from broader catchment areas including Campbellfield, Broadmeadows (Hume) and beyond.

Moreland Council is calling for:

- **Federal and State Government investment towards the redevelopment of the Fawkner Leisure Centre to help support health and wellbeing in communities hit hard by COVID-19 and address socio-economic challenges across Melbourne's northern region.**

¹ Moreland Council (2018) [2018 to 2038 Moreland Aquatic Strategy](#) [Online]

² Moreland City Council (2021) ['Estimated and forecast population growth Moreland-February 2021'](#) [Online]

Fawkner

Our ask:

Federal and State Government to invest in the redevelopment of the Fawkner Leisure Centre.

Our aim:

To deliver modern aquatic and recreation facilities that will meet the needs of a growing community and support COVID-19 health, wellbeing and socio-economic challenges across Moreland and Melbourne's growing north, particularly Fawkner.

Fawkner: challenges and opportunities

Whilst Fawkner is a proud, diverse, hardworking and resilient community, it experiences a range of challenges that have been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic including:

- Higher levels of socio-economic disadvantage, a higher concentration of low-income households and higher rates of unemployment.
- In 2019 Fawkner reported the highest instances of food insecurity (13.4%) compared to the Moreland average (4.5%)³.

³ Moreland Council (2020) ['Health and Wellbeing Profile'](#) [Online]

Undertaking a major redevelopment of the Fawkner Leisure Centre can:

- Play a catalyst role in supporting Fawkner to respond to historic socio-economic disadvantage and drive local COVID-19 recovery efforts.
- Provide better aquatic and recreation facilities to engage more women and girls.
- Ensure residents are fairly provided with the modern aquatic, health and wellbeing facilities that a growing Fawkner deserves now, and will need into the future.
- Help to respond to socio-economic and health issues.

As recognised in Council's Aquatic and Leisure Strategy¹, a redeveloped Fawkner aquatic centre can respond to changing community demographics, ensuring:

- Older residents will have greater access to warm water pools to support hydrotherapy and rehabilitation programs.
- Young families and young people demanding greater leisure, adventure and learn to swim activities will have their needs met.
- Suburbs such as Fawkner, with higher levels of disadvantage, can access low-cost and accessible aquatic and leisure activities.

Proposed redevelopment: Stage 1 & 2

Fawkner Leisure Centre's redevelopment is planned over two stages and will support and include:

Stage 1 commencing 2023/24 - \$27.8 million

- new centralised entrance and foyer to other services
- new reception, café and community lounge area promoting social connection
- expanded and upgraded gym facilities enabling 24-hour access

- new group fitness rooms to provide for increased programming including women's only and children friendly programs
- new dry fitness accessible toilets
- new cycle studio
- staff meeting and administration
- new first aid room
- outdoor seating area
- indoor 25m lap pool and learn to swim
- new spa pool
- change rooms and accessible change rooms
- new indoor pool plant and services
- new outdoor pool plant
- refurbished sauna
- new steam room
- new outdoor 50m lap pool with accessible ramp
- new outdoor children's leisure pool
- new outdoor social spaces including additional shading and seating and BBQ area

Stage 2 commencing post 2026/27 - \$8.7 million (plus escalation)

- new health and consulting suites, meeting room and prayer room
- refurbished administration areas
- new family change village
- additional change facilities
- new indoor warm water program pool with accessible ramps

The Fawkner Leisure Centre is part of Fawkner's Sport and Education Precinct at CB Smith Reserve, which encompasses the John Fawkner Secondary College, Darul Ulum Islamic College, the Fawkner Soccer Facility, Fawkner Maternal and Child Health Centre, Fawkner Library, Fawkner Senior Citizens Centre Fawkner Community Sports Hall, Yooralla and the Fawkner Neighbourhood (Community) House.

To find out more:

If you would like further information on this project, or would like to request a briefing, please contact:

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