



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the Wandoan Aquatic Centre closing?

The Wandoan Aquatic Centre is undergoing a major remediation project to address ageing infrastructure and ensure the facility remains safe, reliable, and compliant for future generations.

The works will replace critical plant infrastructure, refurbish the pools, and upgrade key facility components that have reached the end of their useful life. These upgrades are expected to extend the lifespan of the facility by at least 20 years.

When will the aquatic centre close?

Construction is scheduled to commence in September 2026, with the facility closed throughout the 2026–27 summer season while major works are undertaken.

Council will continue to provide updates on project milestones and anticipated reopening dates as the project progresses.

Project timelines are subject to weather, site conditions, and construction requirements.

Why can't the aquatic centre remain open while works are completed?

The scale of the remediation works requires significant construction activity throughout the facility, including pool refurbishment, replacement of filtration systems, upgrades to underground services, concrete works, and other infrastructure improvements.

For the safety of patrons, staff, and contractors, the facility must be closed during construction.

Why aren't works being undertaken during the winter aquatic centre closure?

Aquatic infrastructure projects are currently in high demand across Australia, with many upgrades and new facilities being delivered ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

WANDOAN AQUATIC CENTRE REMEDIATION

This has created strong demand for specialist contractors, and project timelines are largely dependent on their availability. Council's priority is to undertake the works at the earliest available opportunity to secure the long term future of the facility.

What works are being undertaken?

The project includes:

- construction of a new plant room;
- replacement of filtration systems for the main and toddler pools;
- refurbishment of the 33-metre pool and toddler pool;
- pool heating services;
- new concrete concourse areas and stormwater improvements;
- new shade structures and refurbishment of existing shade structures;
- new retaining walls and fencing;
- landscaping of construction-affected areas; and
- electrical and hydraulic infrastructure upgrades.

Why are these works necessary?

In 2023, Council adopted an Aquatic Facilities Strategy which identified the need for significant investment at the Wandoan Aquatic Centre to address ageing infrastructure and maintain safe operations.

Without these upgrades, the facility would face increasing maintenance requirements and ongoing risks associated with ageing infrastructure.

How much is the project costing?

Council has approved a project budget of approximately \$5.77 million for the Wandoan Aquatic Centre Remediation Project. This includes construction, project management, specialist consultants, and contingency funding.





WANDOAN AQUATIC CENTRE REMEDIATION

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Who is delivering the project?

Following a competitive procurement process, Hines Constructions Pty Ltd has been engaged as the head contractor for the project.

What benefits will the project provide?

The project will:

- extend the life of the facility by at least 20 years;
- improve safety and reliability;
- reduce long-term maintenance requirements;
- deliver modern infrastructure for local families;
- support healthier and more active lifestyles;
- improve accessibility, usability, and visitor experience; and
- support liveability and future growth.

Will there be alternative swimming options while the aquatic centre is closed?

Yes. To support residents during the closure period, Wandoan community members will receive free general admission to any Western Downs Regional Council aquatic facility while construction is underway.

Eligible residents will need to present proof of residency at the aquatic facility they are attending.

Examples of acceptable identification may include:

- Driver licence
- Queensland Photo Identification Card
- Rates notice
- Utility bill

Will Learn to Swim programs be impacted?

Council is working with facility operators and stakeholders to identify alternative options for swimming activities during the closure period.

Facility operators will be in contact with users regarding information on Learn to Swim programs and squad training.

What will the aquatic centre look like when it reopens?

The upgraded aquatic centre will retain its important role within the community while benefiting from modernised infrastructure, upgraded pool systems, improved amenities and enhanced visitor comfort.

The project is focused on improving performance, safety, and reliability while preserving the facility's role as an important recreational asset for Wandoan.

How will Council keep the community informed?

Council will provide regular updates throughout the project via:

- Council's Major Projects webpage
- Media releases
- Social media channels
- Community newsletters
- Customer Service Centres

Council is committed to providing transparent project information and construction updates throughout the delivery of the project.

Where can I find more information?

For the latest project information, visit:
www.wdrc.qld.gov.au/major-projects

Alternatively, contact Western Downs Regional Council on
1300 COUNCIL (1300 268 624).

