

<b>Subject:</b>	Haslingden Swimming Pool	<b>Status:</b>	For Publication
<b>Report to:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Full Council	<b>Date:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> June 2013 17 July 2013
<b>Report of:</b>	Chief Executive and General Manager of Leisure Trust	<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Regeneration, Tourism and Leisure
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forward Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General Exception <input type="checkbox"/>	Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Equality Impact Assessment:</b>	Required:	Yes	Attached: Yes
<b>Biodiversity Impact Assessment</b>	Required:	No	Attached: No
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<b>1.</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION(S)</b>
1.1	That members note the work done to date in order to identify a solution for Haslingden Pool and note the detailed consultation undertaken.
1.2	That members note the expressions of interest received and that there now remains one expression of interest developing a full business case for consideration. A further report will be presented confirming if the process has been successful.
1.3	That members recommend that should a preferred partner not be confirmed as noted in 1.2, that Haslingden pool will close at a date to be confirmed and agreed by Full Council.
1.4	That members recommend the sum of £200k to support either of the chosen options.

## 2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of the report is to update Members regarding Haslingden Swimming Pool and for work to continue identifying a preferred partner and should this be unsuccessful for the pool to close at a date to be confirmed by Rossendale Leisure Trust.

## 3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- 3.1 The matters discussed in this report impact directly on the following corporate priorities:
- **Regenerating Rossendale:** This priority focuses on regeneration in its broadest sense, so it means supporting communities that get on well together, attracting sustainable investment, promoting Rossendale, as well as working as an enabler to promote the physical regeneration of Rossendale.
  - **Responsive Value for Money Services:** This priority is about the Council working collaboratively, being a provider, procurer and a commissioner of services that are efficient and that meet the needs of local people.
  - **Clean Green Rossendale:** This priority focuses on clean streets and town centres and well managed open spaces, whilst recognising that the Council has to work with communities and as a partner to deliver this ambition.

## 4. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Undertaking appropriate consultation on potential service changes is essential to enable informed decision making and to mitigate the risk of challenge. Importantly, this also reinforces a culture of engagement and empowerment.

## 5. BACKGROUND AND OPTIONS

5.1 Cabinet considered a paper on the Medium Term Financial Strategy in June 2012 and gave approval for officers to work with Rossendale Leisure Trust in identifying potential savings and efficiencies in order to support the overall reduction in Council funding. One key aspect of this work related to Haslingden Swimming Pool. A further report was presented to Cabinet in September 2012, updating Members on progress to date and a report in November 2012 to both Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny was received. This latter report gave authority to commence a 12 week consultation period in relation to either transferring responsibility for the pool to another organisation or closing the pool and considering site disposal options.

5.2 In order to support the consultation, an expression of interest process commenced in March 2013, with the aim of inviting organisations to submit their interest for managing the pool.

### 6.0 Haslingden Swimming Pool

6.1 The work carried out identifying potential savings and efficiencies with Rossendale Leisure Trust can be categorised as follows:

- Review of the Leisure Trust's information technology systems.
- Review of back office transactions with Rossendale
- Review of loss making/high subsidy activities within the Trust with specific focus on Haslingden Pool.

6.2 Work has now been completed in relation to the review of information technology. In addition agreement has been reached with the Leisure Trust in relation to the delivery of payroll and financial transactions and all have now been successfully implemented.

6.3 Of the three facilities operated by the Leisure Trust, the area which remains of significant concern and which requires revenue and capital investment is Haslingden Swimming Pool. Due to the importance of understanding the options surrounding the pool, a swimming pool panel was formed comprising representatives from swimming forums across the Borough, the Borough Council, Rossendale Leisure Trust and Members. The pool panel is not a decision making body, but have been prepared to give their time to understand the possible options surrounding the pool and will form part of the consultation process. The pool panel have met regularly throughout the review process.

6.4 The key stages (all of which have now been completed) in terms of the options appraisal for the pool comprised:

- Stage 1 - determine options available in relation to the pool
- Stage 2 - confirm criteria for assessing options
- Stage 3 - develop community impact assessments for each option
- Stage 4 - assess options (first stage assessment)
- Stage 5 - consult on options which meet the criteria
- Stage 6 - assess consultation feedback (second stage assessment)
- Stage 7 - report to enable preferred option to be confirmed

6.5 **Stage 1** - The options identified to date in relation to Haslingden Pool are:

- 1) For the pool to continue as is
- 2) Reduce costs, increase revenue and identify capital programme (it was recognised

by the pool panel that this option needs to be expanded to demonstrate different variables)

- 3) Build an alternative pool
- 4) To close the pool and consider site disposal options
- 5) Transfer responsibility for the pool to another organisation
- 6) Other options identified as part of the consultation process

6.6 **Stage 2** - Development of appropriate equality impact assessments which will assist the assessment and final decision making stage.

6.7 **Stage 3** Each option has been assessed and the criteria for assessing each included:

- Fit with Council Priorities (supports a healthy and successful Rossendale and supports the Medium Term Financial Strategy
- Risk Assessment assessing against
  - Timescales
  - Deliverability
  - Market
  - Sustainability
  - Funding
  - Equality assessment

6.8 **Stage 4** – An assessment panel has met comprising Rossendale Leisure Trust Officers, Board member, Rossendale Council Officers and Members to identify which options were viable and able to go forward for public consultation. Two options were identified for public consultation. The assessment panel used the evidence which has been reviewed and considered by the pool panel and all information was also submitted to overview and scrutiny and Cabinet in November 2012.

6.9 **Stage 5** – A consultation process commenced in January 2013 until the end of March 2013. In particular, focus groups working with equality groups potentially affected by either recommendation have been undertaken as well as:

- citizen panel questionnaire
- use of borough and leisure trust web site
- key stakeholders such as educational establishments, Rossendale’s clinical commissioning group and Lancashire County Council have all been contacted
- use of questionnaires/posters at key locations

6.10 **Stage 6** – Assessment of Consultation. Key information which can be derived from the consultation is as follows including a summary of the completed equality assessments.

6.11 Consultation findings summary  
Consultation told us that:

- Of all respondents, over half that responded said they did not use HSP to swim. Of those that did, the majority used it on a weekly basis and accessed the pool by car.
- 41% of swim session respondents said that they would not attend any identified swim time at an alternative facility. But just under half would.
- The majority of disabled users feel closure of the pool would impact on them, but the majority also said they would attend alternative sessions elsewhere if their water time could be re-provided.
- The majority of disabled users access HSP by car.
- Just over half of women respondents said they use HSP weekly and the majority felt that closure of the pool would impact on them. Half of women said that they still

would not go to alternative sessions if water time could be re-provided elsewhere, but nearly half said that they would.

- Of the schools that responded, nearly half felt that they would not be able to access another pool to swim. However, the majority did wish to be considered when looking at re-programming of water time.
- The majority of older people (50+) who responded said that they did not use HSP to swim. Of those that did, the majority use it weekly and access it by car. However, just over half of them said they would not attend other alternative sessions if water time could be re-provided elsewhere, but nearly half said they would. The majority of older people said they felt the closure of the pool would impact on them.
- There are still a reasonable proportion of HSP users who responded to the consultation that access the pool by walking or bus. It is recognised that these users would be affected should Option 2 (closure be pursued). This is identified as a cross cutting travel/cost impact factor.

As part of the consultation we asked a number of open questions to obtain an understanding of the impact people felt either of the options being considered would have on them.

Some of the main commonly occurring issues arising in relation to *impact* were:

- Financial impact
- Public Transport/Travel (accessibility & time)
- Health and wellbeing impacts (physical, social and mental)
- Other inconveniences
- Loss to the area

6.12 Members should note that if Option 1 (transfer to another organisation) is pursued, a further report will be presented detailing the impact once this is known.

6.13 Members should note that if Option 2 (closure) is pursued, all activities / swim sessions will be re-provided via a re-programming exercise. Some existing users/customers would not be fully accommodated in the re-programming as identified within the EIA and highlighted below. RLT will continue to work with individuals/groups on this as far as is reasonably practical.

Further, there have been cases highlighted during consultation which identifies that some individuals would struggle to travel to any other location at all and/or could not use public transport for health or financial or time convenience related issues and no mitigating actions aside from the pool remaining open would reduce this impact.

It should also be noted that regardless of the extent of impact or not, some current users of HSP would choose not to use another facility at all.

Member's attention is drawn to acknowledging the possible negative impact a decision to close HSP could have. Given the Council's financial situation it has been unable to put in place any further mitigation.

6.14 Equality Impact Assessment Summary

*Option 1 – Transfer responsibility for the pool to another organisation*

No specific adverse impact can be identified for any protected equality group at this stage in relation to Option 1. More detailed consideration to the positive and negative impact on equality would have to be undertaken as part of the due diligence and negotiation process

with any transferring organisation.

*Option 2 – Closure of the pool and to consider site disposal options*

Negative impacts on various equality groups have been identified in relation to Option 2. Specifically a potential negative impact is identified for; older people, children and young people, BME, disability and women, the detail of which is set out in the EIA. Further, there is a general cross cutting impact in relation to costs and travel across all group/current users regardless of protected characteristic. However, the Council and Leisure Trust have sought to put mitigating actions in place to reduce the impact on these groups as far as possible, including looking at re-programming swim time allocations at Marl Pits to re-accommodate those that wish to. Some discussions are still on-going. This might require RLT liaising with neighbouring pool facilities to agree alternative accommodation where possible/appropriate.

Nonetheless, it is recognised that some groups or individuals will be impacted on as a result of Option 2 should the pool have to close. In particular there are three disabled users who live outside the borough and it is unlikely they can be accommodated with individual water time at Marl Pits. However, signposting to private swimming providers has been provided to help them identify alternative facilities within their local authority areas or elsewhere including the possibility of Whitworth Pool.

There are two special needs schools from outside of the Borough that currently use HSP on a weekly basis as part of the set school sessions programme. Weekend water time access has been offered at Marl Pits as an alternative to the special needs schools. However, this is not compatible with their desire to keep swimming within the mainstream education programme for its pupils. Therefore, RLT cannot re-provide for the two current school users. However, signposting to private swimming providers has been provided to the schools to help them identify alternative facilities within their local authority areas or elsewhere.

Dive club (1 hour per week for 10 weeks per year) have been notified of alternative venues that can support diving.

Haslingden Swim Club – a joint solution is being explored with all three Borough swimming clubs in order to maximise use of swim time. This will continue and is being led by RLT.

We are still awaiting full confirmation from all Borough schools who use HSP as to whether they wish to book water time for the year ahead. Once the schools have clarified their demand to RLT, reprogramming can be completed in discussions with the schools directly to determining timings. The Trust is confident that it will be able to accommodate all schools within the new schedule.

## 6.15 **Assessment of Expression of Interest**

Two expression of interest have been received from the private sector as a result of advertising the operational brief. In addition an expression of interest has been received via the Community Asset Transfer procedure from Friends of Haslingden Baths.

A panel consisting of cross party members considered the expressions of interest and determined that all three expressions should be contacted to submit detailed business cases with a deadline submission date of 9 August. A due diligence process will take place to assess the viability of bids thereafter. In addition, it was agreed to put forward a

recommendation to Members that a budget of £200k be allocated to support the delivery of option 1 or 2. Should the process to identify a preferred partner be unsuccessful it is recommended that the pool will close at a date to be determined in consultation with the Leisure Trust.

The two private sector expression of interest applications have now withdrawn from the process leaving one group working on a business case for submission by 9 August.

#### 6.16 **Internal Audit Assessment in relation to the process followed**

A review of public consultations has been undertaken by the Internal Audit service as part of the 2012/13 Internal Audit Plan which involved assessing a sample of consultation exercises against the consultation principles set out by the Government and the Council's internal practices and procedures. A draft report is due to be issued in May 2013 for management consideration and the results of this review will be reported to members upon finalisation of the report.

Overall, the system of internal control over public consultations has adequate controls to achieve its control objectives and the controls are generally operating effectively in the areas covered by the internal audit review. The internal audit assessment of the consultation exercise surrounding Haslingden Pool has not identified any significant issues for actioning by management and it was confirmed that the process followed is in line with the established best practice principles and internal procedures.

### 7. **COMMENTS FROM STATUTORY OFFICERS:**

#### 7.1 **SECTION 151 OFFICER**

The cost of closing the pool would be c£80k redundancy costs plus £15- 20k to secure the site. There would be a continuing revenue cost to ensure the site is secure until such time as a permanent solution is identified. This is estimated to be £20k per annum. Should the decision be made to close the pool it is recommended the site be referred to Council's regeneration company RTB (Rossendale, Together and Barnfield) for formal site appraisal option work to commence.

It is unknown at this moment what the financial implications, if any, would be should the pool transfer to another provider and this would need to be determined via the due diligence phase and would be reported to members as part of decision making should this be successful.

#### 8. **MONITORING OFFICER**

8.1 Advice is being provided in relation to the options identified.

#### 9. **POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT**

9.1 There are staffing implications for the Leisure Trust in relation to Haslingden Pool. Rossendale Leisure Trust are leading the staff consultation and will be responsible for undertaking the correct human resource process.

9.2 The Equality Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard in the exercising of its functions to three considerations. The need to :

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.

Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected

characteristic and people who do not share it.

- Foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it.

- The amount of regard that is “due” is set out in the Act and will depend on the circumstances of the case.

Under the general equality duty there is a requirement to engage with people with protected characteristics and to have an adequate evidence base for Council decision-making.

9.3 The Council is under a Duty to Consult representatives of a wide range of local people; this should include local voluntary and community organisations and small businesses in such consultation.

9.4 Rossendale Leisure Trust, Pool Panel and Rossendale Borough Council have been consulted. Citizen panel has been utilised. In addition, wider community engagement and specific focus groups were utilised as detailed in the consultation plan. Staff and employee consultation has commenced and is being led by Rossendale Leisure Trust.

## 10. CONCLUSION

10.1 The process identifying savings with the Leisure Trust has been undertaken in an open and transparent manner. Savings have been identified in relation to IT and back office transactional services and it is now recommended the Council moves to the final stage of determining the preferred option for the swimming pool.

### Background Papers

Document	Place of Inspection
Report to Cabinet on MTFs – June 2012	Rossendale Borough Council Website
Report to Cabinet – Sept 2012	Rossendale Borough Council Website
Report to Overview and Scrutiny and Cabinet – November 2012	Rossendale Borough Council Website
Expression of Interest to Manage Haslingden Pool	Rossendale Borough Council Website
Consultation Plan	Rossendale Borough Council Website

Appendix 1 - Equality Impact Assessments

Appendix 2 - Evidence for EIA

Appendix 3 - Consultation Report

## FULL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

<b>Name of Policy, Decision, Strategy, Service or Function, Other: (please indicate)</b>	<b>Haslingden Pool Options:</b> 1. <b>Transfer responsibility for the pool to another organisation</b> 2. <b>To close the pool and consider site disposal options</b>	
<b>Lead Officer Name(s):</b>	Helen Lockwood and Martin Kay	
<b>Job Title &amp; Location:</b>	Chief Executive of the Council and General Manager of Rossendale Leisure Trust	
<b>Department/Service Area:</b>	-	
<b>Telephone &amp; E-mail Contact:</b>	01706 252428 helenlockwood@rossendalebc.gov.uk	
<b>Date Assessment:</b>	<b>Commenced:</b> May 2012	<b>Completed:</b> Ongoing

**We carry out Equality Impact Assessments to analyse the effects of our decisions, policies or practices. The EIA should be undertaken/started at the beginning of the policy development process – before any decisions are made.**

### 1. OVERVIEW

<b>The main aims/objectives of this policy<sup>1</sup> are:</b>
A number of options have been considered by the Council and Rossendale Leisure Trust to reduce the costs of leisure provision in the valley.
This impact assessment considers the impact on protected equality groups should either of the following options be pursued: Option 1: Transfer responsibility for the pool to another organisation.  Option 2: To close the pool and consider site disposal options.
This EIA has been carried out in accordance with the evidence available at this current time and has been informed by the outcome of the consultation process, to inform final decision making.

Is the policy or decision under review (please tick)

New/proposed

Modified/adapted

Existing

<b>The main intended people or groups that will be most affected by this policy are:</b>
Current users of the Haslingden Pool facility (including the health suite), this includes local residents, schools, and specific swim session groups. Details are set out in the EIA Evidence Appendices.

<sup>1</sup> Policy refers to any policy, strategy, project, procedure, function, decision or delivery of service.

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Current users of Marl Pits might also be affected as a result of possible reprogramming of water time as a consequence of either option.

GP referrals currently using Haslingden Pool may also be affected as they may have travel issues in relation to accessing the nearest alternative.

## 2. FINDINGS / EVIDENCE

<b>FINDINGS/EVIDENCE: The following information/data has been considered in developing this policy/decision (including any consultation or engagement):</b>			
<b>Information/data obtained and/or Consultation/engagement carried out (please state who with)</b>	<b>What does this tell us? / What does it say?</b>		
<b>Please note that the full details of the evidence used is set out in the Evidence Appendices – summary points of which had been highlighted here as follows:</b>			
<p>Haslingden Swimming Pool Options Consultation. The consultation ran from January to end of March 2013.</p> <p>Respondents can be identified into three types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- General HSP user / other interested parties (635)</li> <li>- HSP swim session users (114)</li> <li>- Schools (15)</li> </ul> <p>784 consultation questionnaire responses received, including 18 comments received from Marl Pits users via the specific comments form at this facility.</p> <p>In addition, 5 individual responses have been submitted to the council outside of the consultation questionnaire. These have been noted and responded to where appropriate/required.</p> <p>Sent to: [see consultation plan via the Council's website] 769 Citizen's Panel members Neighbourhood Forums Key partners / stakeholders 34 schools Awareness raising generally throughout RBC/RLT websites</p>	<p>Key messages / headline points – overview of all respondents:</p> <p><b>General HSP swim users / other interested parties (635 - 83.1%)</b> Of the general users who responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The majority use only HSP to swim</li> <li>• 72% use it at least weekly</li> <li>• 66% travel to the pool by car</li> <li>• 39% also use other leisure facilities in the borough to swim</li> <li>• 80% of users or over support Option 1 (transfer)</li> <li>• 52% of users believe that Option 1 would have a direct impact on them, positive and negative                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mainly that the pool will stay open but that prices may increase</li> </ul> </li> <li>• There is a willingness to accept small changes to prices, water time allocation and opening times</li> <li>• 72% of respondents felt that they would be affected by Option 2 closing the pool (9% for non users)</li> <li>• 36% would be able to use another pool nearby                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 46% would not</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><u>Feedback from general user/interest parties also identified the following:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensure the new owners have a clause to state the hours of opening and the costs cannot go over a certain % within a set length of time.</li> <li>- Impact on current concession passes for uses? What provision has been / will be put in place as part of the transfer agreement.</li> <li>- Consider a community project for running the pool.</li> <li>- Give some financial help to any new owners</li> <li>- Have conditions in relation to prices and opening hours</li> <li>- Any transfer should include a 'none worsening' clause in the contract.</li> </ul> <p><b>Swim session group users (114 - 14.9%)</b> Of the swim session users who responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 80% use the pool only (19% use the pool and health suite)</li> <li>• 98% use the pool at least weekly</li> <li>• 62% travel to the pool by car</li> </ul>		
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and posters in the borough in key community facilities.

- 20% also use other leisure facilities in the borough to swim
- 84% agree with Option 1 (transferring ownership)
- 55% believe Option 1 would have a direct impact on them, positive and negatives are identified
  - Mainly that it would ensure that they could continue swimming but that costs may increase
- There is a willingness to accept changes to opening times and water time allocation, but lower willingness to accept price increases
- 89% would be highly affected by closing the pool
- 21% would be able to use another pool nearby
  - 58% would not
- 41% would/could not attend any alternative swim time arranged for them at Marl Pits

### **Schools (15 - 2%)**

Of the Schools who responded:

- 82% travel to the pool by bus
- 33% use other Leisure Trust facilities in the borough to swim
- 80% support Option 1 (transfer of ownership)
- 53% believe that Option 1 would have a direct impact on their school
  - Mainly due to increased costs and reduced availability of time slots
- There is a willingness to accept changes to opening times but a lower willingness to accept changes to prices and water time allocation
- 80% of schools would be affected by closing the pool
- 40% would be able to use another facility nearby
  - 33% felt they would not
- The majority (11 schools) would like the council to re-arrange their swim sessions if the pool was to close. Only 3 schools did not want to be considered in re-programming of water time. One school did not answer.

### **Marl Pits users (18 comments forms responses received)**

- Strong preference to keep Haslingden pool open to avoid over-crowding at Marl Pits.
- Concerns about impacts of existing Marl Pits' school and children's lessons
- Bring sauna and steam room facilities to Marl Pits
- Sell the pool to a developer and build a new pool in Haslingden with the money raised.

### **General consultation findings (784 total number of respondents)**

- Fairly even split of male/female respondents
- Largely the age range of respondents was similar to the borough actual, except for the under 30s for whom we had a lower response rate.
- The percentage of disabled respondents was proportionate with the profile of the borough. 18% identified as disabled.
- The majority of respondents were White British. BME respondents only accounted for 2%. This is below the percentage of the boroughs BME population.
- The majority of respondents (38%) were in full time work, followed by 29% being retired. Only 2% were unemployed and 3% identified as a carer or unable to work.

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- The majority travel to HSP by car, with schools travelling by bus. However between 18-30% across all three respondent types walk to the facility.
- The majority do not use any other facilities.
- The majority across the board agreed with Option 1 (transfer). Although about half did say that this option would have an impact on them, the impacts identified were both positive and negative.
- The majority said that they would support possible small changes opening times, price and water time allocation for Option 1. Although schools were generally less inclined to support price changes.
- A high percentage of the general public and swim session users said that Option 2(closure) would have a 'high' impact on them. But only 47% of schools said it would have a 'high' impact on them. 7% of school said it would impact on the 'not at all'.
- In relation to Option 2 (closure) a third of schools said they would not be able to use another facility but 40% said they would. Over half of swim session users said that they would not be able to use another facility nearby, but a fifth said yes, they could. For general users, just under half said that they could not use another facility nearby, although just over a third said yes, they could use another facility.
- The geographical location / spread of general public respondents identified 1%, were from outside of the borough. The majority of general public respondents were from Helmsore, Greenfield and Longholme.
- Of all respondents, over half said they did not use HSP to swim. Of those that did use HSP, 80% use it for the pool only, 19% for the pool and health suite and only 2% for the health suite.
- 18% of swim session users said that helping to find them alternative water time would 'not at all' reduce the impact on them.
- 48% of current users would still use other alternative facilities if they could be accommodated.
- 41% of swim session users would not attend any identified swim time as an alternative facility if option had to be pursued. This is higher for women aged 50-59 and users without a disability.
- 58% of swim session users said that they would not be able to use another facility nearby if Option 2 had to be pursued; this is higher for users with a disability. However, when asked whether trying to re-accommodate users at alternative facilities would reduce the impact on them, over half of swim session users said yes. This is higher for men aged under 30 and for users with a disability.

### Key findings from equality groups

It should be noted that some data when broken down by equality group are small numbers, with common impact themes which include travel, additional costs and the suitability / capacity of Marl Pits to accommodate those impacted on at HSP.

BME (9): Despite efforts to engage the Asian community, and in particular Asian women by attending local groups, the response rate was very small, therefore the statistical validity of the findings need to be considered in light of small number of responses.

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Of those BME residents that did respond, the majority were male .The majority of BME users access the pool by car. Half of BME respondents said they also use other RLT facilities too. A third of BME respondents said they would be able to use another facility nearby to swim, the same proportion said that they would not and did not know if they could use another facility. This suggests there is a need for further awareness raising/ signposting support with this group should Option 2 have to be pursued. Consultation also identified the need to ensure the needs of Asian women were taken into account when considering re-programming and/or transfer of ownership.

Women (424): Half of women respondents said they used HSP once a week with 28% using it most days. The majority (68%) access HSP by car and 29% walk, 3% use the bus. 66% of women users said they only use HSP, while a third of women said that they did use other facilities to swim too. 81% of women said that it would impact on them 'a lot' if HSP was to close. Just over half said they would not be able to use another pool facility, but 29% said that they could use another facility. 17% felt that they did not know if they would be able to use another facility. This suggests there is a need for further awareness raising/ signposting support with this group should Option 2 have to be pursued. Over half of women said that it would help reduce the impact 'a lot or 'a little' if the Council / Trust tried to help find an alternative pool facility / water time. 24% of women felt that this would not reduce the impact at all. Half of women respondents said they still would not go to alternative sessions if we could look to re-provide, but 48% said they would.

Disability\* (128): There is a fairly even split of male/female disabled respondents. 50% of disabled respondents use HSP once a week and 29% said they use the pool most days. The majority (46%) of disabled users access HSP by car. Just under a third walk and a fifth by bus. The majority of disabled respondents (77%) only use HSP, just over a fifth do use other facilities. 85% of disabled users said that closure of the pool would impact on them 'a lot'. While over half of disabled respondents said that they would not be able to use another facility, about a fifth said they would be able to use another facility, and another fifth said they didn't know. This suggests there is a need for further awareness raising/ signposting support should Option 2 have to be pursued. Over half of disabled users said that help from Council/Trust to try to find alternative facilities/ water time would reduce the impact on them 'a lot'. The majority of disabled respondents said they would attend alternative sessions elsewhere if we could look to re-provide, however 37% said they would not. Feedback from special needs schools identified that 'any changes should be kept to a minimum and that swimming time should be made available in the week time as it is part of the children's education'.

\*NB: it should be noted that this accounts for respondents who identified themselves as disabled within the equality monitoring section of the consultation questionnaire.

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GP referrals: RLT are not able to provide details in relation the number of users at HSP from GP referrals. Therefore with the information available it is not possible to identify the level of potential impact option 1 or 2 might have on this group. However, it is recognised that there may be a cross cutting impact in relation to travel and cost impacts on this group.

Schools (Children & Young People): Of the 34 schools directly contacted during the consultation, only 15 formal responses to the consultation questionnaire were received (two did not provide the school name). One fifth of schools who did respond, said they currently walk to HSP. A third said that they also use other RLT facilities already. Where schools identified concerns with Option 1 and 2, the main reasons where due to concerns about increased costs, staffing changes, reduced availability of time slots and increased time out of school travelling to an alternative.

27% of schools still didn't feel they knew what the impact would be on them if HSP had to close. While nearly half the schools that responded felt they would be impact 'a lot' if HSP had to close, a third said while they would be affected by the closure, they would be able to find a way of using an alternative facility. Further, despite a third also saying they felt that they could/would not be able to access another pool nearby, the majority (11 of the 14) of schools that responded confirmed that they would like to be considered in the re-programming review. Work with RLT and schools is on-going to determine actual school demand for swimming in the year ahead to complete re-programming. Awaiting confirmation from schools.

Feedback from schools and parents was to 'keep costs the same; provide free transport; set up 'double lessons' to justify the additional time and cost of travel; ensure private swim times; have later after school swimming sessions to take account of extra travel time needed'.

Older people 50+ (464):

The majority of older respondents were female (56%). The majority of respondents said that they did not use HSP to swim (67%). Of those that do use HSP 43% use it once a week and 38% use it most days. The majority access HSP by car, a third walk and 6% use the bus. The majority of older people who responded only use HSP to swim, but 30% said that they use other facilities to swim too. 54% felt that Option 1 (transfer) would still have an impact on them, while 46% felt that it would not. 82% of older people felt that Option 2 (closure) would impact on them 'a lot'. While over half said they would not be able to use another facility should Option 2 have to be pursued, 26% said they could use somewhere else. 17% of older respondents didn't know if they would be able to use somewhere else. This suggests there is a need for further awareness raising/ signposting support with these groups should Option 2 have to be pursued. Just over half of older respondents felt that it would help reduce the impact on them if the Council / Trust tried to help them find an alternative facility / water time. A fifth said that this would not help them at all. 53% said they would not attend other sessions elsewhere if we could look to re-provide, however

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46% would.

### **Cross cutting factors /impacts**

There are a number of factors identified throughout the consultation that are recognised as cross cutting impacts.

#### Transport / Travel & Costs

It is recognised that if Option 2 (closure) was to be pursued, transport/travel and associated cost issues to alternative locations/facilities could have an impact for some current user groups.

If users had to move to Marl Pits (MP) suggestions arising from consultation include:

- Providing free transport / bus transfer to MP
- Reduce the cost of swimming at MP to compensate for additional travel costs.
- Improve transport connections to MP
- Possible discussions with Rossendale Transport to support an improved bus service to MP from Haslingden?
- Provide subsidised transport

#### Cost of travel and access to swimming / price increases

- Extra costs for RLT members to use a pool locally that isn't part of their membership fee as run by someone else
- Wouldn't be able to use smyl card
- Increased costs for those on low/tight incomes – wouldn't be able to swim

#### Other facilities becoming busier / customer satisfaction

Consultation identified concerns about possible effects on how busy other facilities would become and customer satisfaction.

It is recognised that if the Option 2 (closure) was to be pursued, a potential impact could be that the relocation of users to other locations, namely Marl Pits, could become much busier/full and have an impact on customer satisfaction / service provision to existing customers. However, it should be noted that this is not specifically in relation to impacting on a particular protected equality group that we are aware of currently.

The consultation identified that both HSP users and Marl Pits users were concerned about the capacity at Marl Pits and not being able to accommodate everyone from MPs. Suggestions include extending the opening hours of MPs to help accommodate increased demand.

### **Options for disposal – overview**

All respondents were asked to consider what they felt should be done with the site should the option to close the pool have to be pursued: aside from the desire for the pool to either remain open or a new pool to be built on the same site or at HSC. There is a diverse perspective on what should be done with the site if Option 2 was pursued, responses include

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	<p><u>Ideas of future use of the site</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A sports field for all</li> <li>- Keep the site sports related</li> <li>- Swap with HPS field on St. Peter's Avenue</li> <li>- Another sports facility that is cheaper to run</li> <li>- Affordable housing / community / social housing</li> <li>- Adventure playground</li> <li>- Facility for local recreational use</li> <li>- An alternative type of privately owned leisure facility</li> <li>- Green area</li> <li>- Community garden / meeting place / vegetable patch</li> <li>- Demolition and clearance of site would be expensive...sell site 'as is' for redevelopment</li> <li>- Car parking for Haslingden Primary School</li> <li>- Further health beneficial equipment/area suitable for all the family</li> <li>- Low level bungalows</li> <li>- Housing for older / vulnerable people</li> <li>- Replace with a community centre for the local area</li> <li>- Utilise for some sort of leisure from a private organisation – e.g. soft play, climbing centre, lazer quest etc.</li> <li>- Astra turf surface for ball games</li> <li>- Sell it and use the money to help build a new one at HSC.</li> <li>- Make sure the money from sale goes into the community of Haslingden nowhere else.</li> <li>- Skate park</li> <li>- Something beneficial to the local community / people of Haslingden</li> <li>- Just leave as an open space</li> <li>- Something for young people / Haslingden youth</li> <li>- Community centre with children's playground</li> <li>- Something for women and children like a community centre with reasonable rates</li> <li>- A cultural facility</li> <li>- Site should still have physical activities available for the local community</li> <li>- Sports hall or community centre for young people</li> </ul> <p><u>Concerns / things people do not want to see done.</u></p> <p>Don't allow it to become vandalised  Don't just leave it boarded up  Anything but another piece of tarmac like the Valley Centre  No more housing or takeaways  No pubs or off licences  Not a supermarket  Do not sell for private development  For full details of consultation response see HSP Options Consultation Report in background documents.</p>
Health bodies – consultation feedback	As part of the consultation, feedback was received from Lancashire County Council (LCC) and NHS East Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Both responses concluded while there were health benefits of swimming activity, they would not be able to support future funding to support continued operation of Haslingden Swimming Pool. They also stated that Haslingden Swimming Pool was

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	not considered a high public health / CCG priority at the moment.
Expressions of Interest received for Option 1 – Transfer responsibility for the pool to another organisation	<p>In order to support the consultation process, in particular to facilitate / support Option 1, during March – April 2013 the opportunity for interested parties to submit expressions of interest to take over the management/operation of Haslingden Swimming Pool was opened up.</p> <p>Two expression of interest were received and one Community Asset Transfer Expression of Interest was received. All parties have been asked to submit a detailed business case by 9<sup>th</sup> August 2013.</p> <p>The consultation identified that there a majority of those that responded, 80% or more across all types of respondents, agreed with option 1 (transfer of ownership). Although about half of all types of respondents felt that Option 1 would still have some kind impact on them, the qualitative responses indicate both positive and negative impacts were identified as identified in the EIA and Evidence Appendices.</p> <p>When asked if, in order to keep the pool open via a third party organisation, would people support a small increase in price, changing of opening times and changes water time allocation, the majority said they would support small changes to these aspects.</p> <p>It should be noted that schools were less inclined to support a change to price and water time allocation and specific swim session users were a less inclined to support prices changes.</p>
Appendix 1 Haslingden Swimming Pool background information	<p>A 25 by 8 yard 4 lane swimming pool built in 1936.</p> <p>Currently used by disabled users, however there are restrictions; specifically there is no accessible toilet or changing facilities nor adequate access to the spectator area. Any further accessibility works is not currently economically viable.</p> <p>There is assigned disabled parking.</p>
Appendix 2 Facility usage data (provided by Rossendale Leisure Trust (RLT)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overall usage</li> <li>- Break down of user groups</li> </ul>	<p>Tables and usage figures year on year for Haslingden Swimming Pool.</p> <p>A steady decline since 2007/08. The 2012-13 headcount shows a slight increase. This is due to Marl Pits being closed for refurbishment for six weeks during the summer of 2012.</p> <p>Table 2 shows that general swimming aside, the top 3 highest head count on a weekly basis is:</p> <p>Children's Lessons – 416 pw  Primary Schools – 300 pw  Swimming Club – 220 pw</p>
Appendix 3 User groups potentially affected and mitigating actions considered / alternatives considered	<p>From ongoing discussions between the Borough Council and Leisure Trust, the Trust have identified if it is likely that the majority of the current user groups for specific swim sessions at HSP could be accommodated at other facilities/locations. However it is recognised that as far as is reasonably possible, it will not be possible to re-accommodate all current users as detailed below. Other cross cutting impacts such as travel/costs/inconvenience are also noted. See above.</p>

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In particular the following is recognised:

Confirmed displaced

- 3 disabled users (1 hour per week, per user)
- 2 special needs schools from outside the Borough (1 hour per week per school)

There are 3 disabled users from outside the borough who currently access one to one swimming sessions at HSP on a weekly basis who would be impacted on should the pool have to close. All need the sole use of the pool to accommodate their specific needs.

- 2 children with various conditions who use the pool on a weekly basis weekly
- 1 adult who is blind and has learning/ behavioural difficulties

Consultation has been undertaken with these users and their carers to understand their needs. Currently Rossendale Leisure Trust cannot re-provide for these disabled one-to-one user within Trust facilities due to their specific need for whole facility use. Discussions are being had with CLAW to see if Whitworth Pool can accommodate these user's needs. Further discussions are needed between RLT, the users and the relevant Social Services to determine whether suitable alternatives could be found and sign posting to private swimming providers has been shared with these users.

There are two special needs schools from outside of the Borough that currently use HSP on a weekly basis as part of the set school sessions programme, they are:

- Linkway House Residential School, Burnley
- Oswaldtwistle School

Rossendale schools, Belmont School and Tor View School are now accommodated at other facilities within the Borough.

With re-programming, weekend water time access has been offered at Marl Pits as an alternative to the special needs schools, however this was not compatible with their desire to keep swimming within the mainstream education programme for its pupils. Therefore, RLT cannot re-provide for the two current school users. However, signposting to private swimming providers has been provided to the schools to help them identify alternative facilities within their local authority areas or elsewhere. Discussions are also being had with CLAW to see if Whitworth Pool can accommodate these user's needs.

Possibly displaced

- Dive club (1hour per week for 10 weeks per year) \*not a protected equality group

The minimum depth for diving training is not specified but some of the training components need a minimum depth. The diving club has advised that 2.5m (depth of Haslingden Pool) is just enough to achieve this. Therefore, unfortunately the dive club could not be accommodated at Marl Pits Pool. Many diving clubs train in pools of 3m depth.

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RLT will continue to support this group in their efforts to find an alternative venue, as far as is reasonably possible. Possible alternative for this group have been identified at Bury Pool, Hyndburn Pool and Padiham Pool. All host diving clubs and signposting information has been shared with the clubs for them to consider.

- Haslingden Swimming Club (7 hours per week) \*not a protected equality group

Haslingden swimming club are the largest of the Rossendale Swimming clubs and currently have significant pool time at HSP. Discussions are continuing with the borough's 3 swimming clubs via the swimming forum to find the most effective way to accommodate the clubs. A joint solution is being explored for one club rather than 3 separate clubs in order to make maximum use of the limited time available within the programme for club swimming. The outcome of this will also have an impact on what other swim sessions can be accommodated in the re-programming.

- Some children's lessons (up to 52 x 1 hour per week )

Children's lessons are available at other alternative locations: Marl Pits, Ramsbottom, Whitworth and Hyndburn pool, so these user groups could be accommodated at other locations. As of November 2012, Whitworth Swimming operates swimming lessons for 23 hours per week. As of November 2012 Ramsbottom Swimming Pool are operating 20 hours per week.

Scheduling of more swimming lessons at Marl Pits pool to accommodate the children's lessons would need to be considered. This is still being explored and it is depended on a joint solution being identified for the borough's 3 swimming clubs.

- Some schools(up to 12 x 1 hour per week)

School lessons are available at both Marl Pits and Hyndburn pool as alternatives. Work to determine the capacity in the pool re-programming is still under development by the Leisure Trust in close consultation with all schools who currently use RLT facilities to swim.

We are still awaiting full confirmation from all schools as to whether they wish to book water time for the year ahead. Once the schools have clarified their demand to RLT, reprogramming can be completed in discussion with the schools directly to determining timings. The Trust is confident that it will be able to accommodate all schools can be re-provided for.

It should be noted that there has been a slight reduction in school bookings due to their own efficiency savings challenges.

Where other protected equality groups identified as a possible impact mitigating actions have been explored /put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for these groups. Full details of other affected groups and mitigating actions considered are explored in the EIA Evidence Appendices.

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	<p><b>General cross cutting factors to take into account are (or see above):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Difficulties in accessing alternative facilities</li> <li>- Transport/travel issues to alternative locations</li> <li>- Increase costs</li> <li>- Possible affect on how busy other facilities would become and customer satisfaction.</li> <li>- Health and wellbeing (physical, social and mental) impacts</li> </ul>
<p>Appendix 4 details of Schools using Haslingden Pool (Provided by RLT)</p>	<p>9 primary schools use HSP for weekly school swimming sessions, for which 12 separate swim sessions are run weekly.</p> <p>In addition, 2 secondary schools use the pool on an ad hoc basis largely for swimming galas. RLT would be able to accommodate this at other RLT facilities within the re-programming. In addition, as an alternative if needed, school lessons are available at both Marl Pits and Hyndburn pool. It may be necessary for RLT to liaise with Hyndburn, Ramsbottom and Whitworth pools to assess whether those pools have any capacity for additional school swimming lessons if needed.</p>
<p>Appendix 5 comparison of services available at each swimming pool facility within Rossendale (Provided by RLT)</p>	<p>If a decision was taken to close Haslingden Swimming Pool, this information would be utilised to raise awareness and signpost customers to services at alternative facilities/services within Rossendale. In addition, actions to support the current user groups to be accommodated at alternative venues or find alternative sessions would be undertaken.</p>
<p>Appendix 6 Alternative pool facilities within Rossendale and neighbouring areas (Provided by RLT)</p>	<p>There are a number of swimming pools serving the community, both within Rossendale and the neighbouring areas:</p> <p>Marl Pits, Rawtenstall - 2.7 miles  Ramsbottom – 4.2 miles  Hyndburn Leisure Centre, Hyndburn – 5.7 miles  Shadsworth Leisure Centre, Blackburn – 7 miles  Mercer Hall Leisure Centre, Hyndburn - 7.8 miles  Padiham Leisure Centre, Burnley – 8.3 miles  Castle Leisure Centre Bury - 8.8 miles  Whitworth Leisure Centre (CLAW), Whitworth – 9.3 miles  St Peters Leisure Centre, Burnley - 9.3 miles</p>
<p>Appendix 7 bus routes information to local facilities and location of swimming pool users – 2006 survey by PM consulting.</p>	<p><u>Bus route data:-</u>  Data is not available to determine what proportion of current HSP users use public transport in order to determine a specific impact. However it is recognised that any decision to close HSP might impact on public transport users and/or those without access to a car.</p> <p>Bus route data indicates that additional bus journeys would be required should Option 2 to close Haslingden Swimming Pool be pursued.</p> <p>Bus route journey details and sample fare information is set out in Appendix 7 of the EIA Evidence Appendices.</p> <p>This data tells us that current users of HSP who do not have access to a car would be required to take either one bus and a walk up an incline</p>

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	<p>between Peel Street and Marl Pits; or two buses direct to Marl Pits. Journeys via public transport to other alternative facilities would also require one or more business journeys of anything between 21 minutes to just over one hour.</p> <p>It is recognised that Option 2 would have a cost and travel time impact for some users with and without protected equality characteristics.</p> <p><u>The survey on location of pool users:-</u> While the majority of Haslinden pool users live in Haslingden, data usage suggests that there is some cross over between Marl Pits and Haslingden Pool sites i.e. customers for who Haslingden is most local, may use Marl Pits and vice versa. Based on this information, should Haslingden pool close it is likely that some customers may start to use Marl Pits.</p> <p>This suggests that Marl Pits is a viable alternative for some users to be relocated / accommodated at, as some people already use both facilities or live in Haslingden but use Marl Pits.</p>
Appendix 10 Local ethnicity data	<p>This data show that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The majority of the population across Rossendale and more locally within the Haslingden area is White British.</li> <li>• Haslingden has one of the highest BME populations within the Borough.</li> </ul> <p>HSP do not offer BME users specific sessions therefore with the information available it is not possible to determine the level of potential impact of option 1 or 2 for this group. However, consultation has been undertaken with a very small number of BME Haslingden Swimming Pool users - see above.</p>
RLT Membership & passport to active living and smyl scheme	<p>Rossendale Leisure Trust currently operates two discounted / concessionary membership passes; passport to active living and the smyl card scheme. There are 1,456 members / subscriptions to these. It is recognised that these would be affected should Option 1 to transfer ownership be pursued.</p> <p>As a membership based organisation, RLT membership holders, regardless of whether the have a protected equality characteristic or not, would also no longer be able to access HSP should ownership be transferred to another third party organisation.</p>

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3. EQUALITY IMPACT

OPTION 1: TRANSFER RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE POOL TO ANOTHER ORGANISATION

Equality		Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts or reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
Age	Older people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	At this stage no significant adverse impact has been identified for any protected equality group. This would need to be considered further as part of the due diligence and negotiation process with any transferring organisation before a decision is made.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Younger people and children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disability	Physical/learning/mental health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gender Reassignment	Transsexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and Maternity		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Race (Ethnicity or Nationality)	Asian or Asian British people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Black or black British people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Irish people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	White British	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Chinese people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Gypsies & Travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Other minority communities not listed above (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belief or Religion		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gender	Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Men	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sexual Orientation	Lesbian women, gay men and bisexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marriage and Civil Partnership (employment only)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contribution to equality of opportunity		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Potential positive impact by enabling all groups to continue to utilise the facility.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contribution to fostering good relations between different groups (people getting on well together – valuing one another, respect and understanding)		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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Equality	Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
<b>Human Rights</b> <a href="http://intranet/site/scripts/documents_info.php?categoryID=86&amp;documentID=251">http://intranet/site/scripts/documents_info.php?categoryID=86&amp;documentID=251</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any Council decisions will be undertaken in line with the Human Rights Act 1998.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**OPTION 2: TO CLOSE THE POOL AND CONSIDER SITE DISPOSAL OPTIONS**

Equality		Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
<b>Age</b>	Older people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Negative impact on this group has been identified however the over 50s swim sessions could be accommodated at Marl Pits or other locations. There are other Health Suites outside of RLT facilities within and outside of the Borough.</p> <p>Possible cross cutting travel /cost impact in relation to the nearest alternatives.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group. Recognise that we cannot completely remove all impacts to this group.</p> <p>Appendix 3 sets out possible mitigating actions.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Younger people and children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Negative impact on this group has been identified - parent and toddlers / children's swim sessions and school swim sessions. With re-programming it is likely that all schools and some of the	<input type="checkbox"/>

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				<p>children’s lessons could be accommodated. Work with RLT and schools is on-going to determine actual school demand for swimming in the year ahead to complete re-programming. Awaiting confirmation from schools.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible.</p> <p>Possible cross cutting travel /cost impact in relation to the nearest alternatives.</p> <p>Recognise that we cannot completely remove all impacts to these groups.</p> <p>Appendix 3 sets out all possible mitigating actions.</p>	
Disability	Physical/learning/mental health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Negative impact on this group has been identified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 disabled users (1 hour per week, per user)</li> <li>• 2 special needs schools from outside the Borough (1 hour per week per school)</li> </ul> <p>There are 3 disabled users from outside the borough. All need the sole use of the pool to accommodate their specific needs.</p> <p>Consultation has been undertaken with these uses and their carers to</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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			<p>understand their needs. Currently Rossendale Leisure Trust cannot re-provide for these disabled one-to-one user within Trust facilities due to their specific need for whole facility use. Discussions are also being had with CLAW to see if Whitworth Pool can accommodate these user's needs. Further discussions are needed between RLT, the users and the relevant Social Services to determine whether suitable alternatives could be found and sign posting to private swimming providers has been shared with these users.</p> <p>There are two special needs schools from outside of the Borough that currently use HSP on a weekly basis as part of the set school sessions programme, they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linkway House Residential School, Burnley</li> <li>• Oswaldtwistle School</li> </ul> <p>Rossendale schools, Belmont School and Tor View School are now accommodated at other facilities within the Borough.</p> <p>With reprogramming, weekend water time access has been offered at Marl Pits as an alternative to the special needs schools, however this was not compatible with their desire to keep swimming within the mainstream education programme for its pupils.</p>	

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Equality		Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
				<p>Therefore, RLT cannot re-provide for the two current school users. However, signposting to private swimming providers has been provided to the schools to help them identify alternative facilities within their local authority areas or elsewhere. Discussions are also been had with CLAW to see if Whitworth Pool can accommodate these user's needs.</p> <p>Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been considered and/or put in place as far as is possible. Recognise that we cannot completely remove all impacts to these groups.</p>	
<b>Gender Reassignment</b>	Transsexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	No information identified to suggest an adverse impact on this protected equality group. Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Currently no aqua natal sessions offered at Haslingden Pool, therefore no impact has been identified for this group. No information has been identified to suggest an impact on this group. Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Race (Ethnicity or Nationality)</b>	Asian or Asian British people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ethnicity data of customers at HSP is not collected. Consultation with a very small number of BME (Asian/Asian British)	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Appendix 1

Equality	Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
			<p>users despite efforts to engage this group. The majority of BME users that did respond, said they access the pool by car. Half of BME respondents said they also use other RLT facilities too. A third of BME respondents said they would be able to use another facility nearby to swim.</p> <p>Consultation also identified the need to ensure the needs of Asian women were taken into account when considering re-programming and/or transfer of ownership.</p> <p>Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.</p> <p>Recognise that we cannot completely remove all impacts to these groups.</p>	
Belief or Religion			No information identified to suggest an adverse impact on this protected equality	☒
	Black or black British people	<input type="checkbox"/>	No information identified to suggest an adverse impact on this protected equality group. Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.	☒
	Irish people	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above	☒
	White British	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above	☒
	Chinese people	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above	☒
	Gypsies & Travellers	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above.	☒
	Other minority communities not listed above (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>	As above	☒

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Equality		Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
				group. Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.	
<b>Gender</b>	Women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Negative impact has been identified for this protected equality group. However, the ladies only swim sessions could be accommodated at Marl Pits or other facilities as an alternative.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been considered and/or put in place as far as is possible.</p> <p>Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.</p> <p>Appendix 3 sets out possible mitigating actions.</p> <p>Recognise that we cannot completely remove all impacts to this group.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Men	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Negative impact identified for this protected equality group. No current men's only swim sessions are provided. However, alternative adult only, early bird or general public swim sessions are available at Marl Pits and other locations.</p> <p>Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been considered and/or put in place as far as is possible.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Appendix 1

Equality	Positive Impact (It could benefit)	Negative Impact (It could disadvantage)	Reason and any mitigating actions already in place (to reduce any adverse /negative impacts <u>or</u> reasons why it will be of positive benefit or contribution)	No Impact
			Appendix 3 sets out possible mitigating actions.  Recognise that we cannot completely remove all impacts to this group.	
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Lesbian women , gay men and bisexual people	<input type="checkbox"/>	No information identified to suggest an adverse impact on this protected equality group. Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnership (employment only)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Contribution to equality of opportunity</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	A potential impact on equality of opportunity in relation to access to swimming services. However, as far is as reasonably possible, alternatives have been provided/signposted to.  Possible cross cutting travel/cost impact issues in relation to the nearest alternatives.  Recognise that we cannot completely remove all impacts to all groups.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Contribution to fostering good relations between different groups (people getting on well together – valuing one another, respect and understanding)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Human Rights</b> <a href="http://intranet/site/scripts/documents_info.php?categoryID=86&amp;documentID=251">http://intranet/site/scripts/documents_info.php?categoryID=86&amp;documentID=251</a>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Any Council decisions will be undertaken in line with the Human Right Act 1998.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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## 4. OUTCOME OF EIA – COURSE OF ACTION TO BE TAKEN

What course of action does this EIA suggest you take? More than one of the following may apply	Please indicate
<p><b>Outcome 1: No major change required.</b> The EIA has not identified any potential for discrimination or adverse impact and all opportunities to promote equality have been taken.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Outcome 2: Adjust the policy</b> to remove barriers identified by the EIA or better promote equality. Are you satisfied that the proposed adjustments will remove the barriers identified? If there is a negative impact identified, you must consider (and evidence/record) what mitigating actions you have or will put in place to reduce the negative impact where/if possible, and to enhance the positive impact. This might include any partnership discussions/working that needs to be undertaken. Complete EIA Action Plan as appropriate.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Outcome 3: Continue the policy despite potential for negative impact</b> or missed opportunities to promote equality identified. You will need to ensure that the EIA clearly sets out the justifications for continuing with it. You should consider whether there are sufficient plans to reduce the negative impact and/or plans to monitor the actual impact. This might include any partnership discussions/working that needs to be undertaken. Complete EIA Action Plan as appropriate.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <p><b>The Council recognises the potential impacts based on the options being considered and has/will as far as is possible put in place mitigating actions to reduce this. However, it recognises that it cannot completely remove all impacts.</b></p>
<p><b>Outcome 4: Stop and rethink</b> the policy when the EIA shows actual or potential unlawful discrimination or significant negative impact that can not be justified or mitigated against.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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## 5. EIA ACTION PLAN & REVIEW

**Based on the impact assessment, findings/evidence and outcomes identified above, please complete the Action Plan below – these should be actions arising as a result of undertaking the EIA.**

The Action Plan should address (not exhaustively):-

- Any gaps in findings/evidence research including any consultation or engagement regarding the policy and its actual/potential affects.
- How you will address any gaps.
- What practical changes/action will help reduce any negative impacts that you have identified.
- What practical changes/action will help enhance any positive contributions to equality.

**Further Actions Required:** Yes  No

### EIA Action Plan

Issue	Action required	Lead officer	Timescale
<b>Option 1 (transfer)</b>			
Understand the equality impact of transfer	Clarify / confirm the positive and negative impacts of transfer as a consequence of the due diligence and negotiation process	Helen Lockwood	August/ September 2013
<b>Option 2</b>			
Impact of closure on current users	RLT to clarify/confirm alternative facilities / re-programming for current users potentially affected (awaiting confirmation of schools and swimming clubs);	RLT	July
	RLT to identify current users who require support identifying alternative facilities / signposting	RLT	
	Communication of closure to users	RLT & RBC	TBC
Impact on immediate community if closure pursued	Ensuring that the building is safe and secure.	RBC	TBC
	Communication about this with the local community is vital.	RBC	
	Consideration of disposal	RBC	
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	options would need to be taken into account and possibly a further impact assessment undertaken.		
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Please add more rows if required.

***Actions arising from the Impact assessment should form part of the business planning process for service areas.***

### **Monitoring & Reviewing the Effect of the Policy**

Please state how you will monitor the impact and effect of this policy and where this will be reported:

The impact assessment has been updated following consultation and will be sued by Elected Members to inform their decision making.

---

Date of Review<sup>2</sup>: Ongoing while options are being consulted on to inform a final decision.

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<sup>2</sup> This date will be set on an annual basis as default for review unless otherwise specified by you.

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## Haslingden Pool Options EIA Evidence Appendices

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## **Appendix 1 Background and overview information about Haslingden Swimming Pool**

### **Background Information**

Haslingden Swimming Pool was built in 1936. The building houses one 25 yard by 8 yard 4 lane swimming pool and a health suite. The health suite comprises a sauna box, steam room and spa pool. There is a small car park to the front of the pool with 19 car parking spaces, two of which are designated disabled parking.

The pool is accessible to disabled users, however there are restrictions. Disability access at Haslingden Swimming Pool consists of a ramp to the front entrance, Trixy Lift to transport people from a wheelchair to the pool side, and a hoist to lower them in and out of the pool, with handrails in the toilets and shower area.

There are currently no handrails along corridors, no disabled/accessible toilet facilities, no designated disabled changing room with changing bed and suitable seating; no disabled/accessible shower area, no stair-lift enable disabled people access to the spectator area.

Consideration of reasonable adjustments should take into account:

- how effective the change will be in avoiding the disadvantage
- its practicality
- the cost
- the organisation's resources and size
- the availability of financial support.

Based, on this any further accessibility works is not currently economically viable.

## Appendix 2 Facility usage data

The following tables set out usage data provided by Rossendale Leisure Trust:

- Table 1&2: Overall usage
- Table 3: Break down of current user groups

Table 1: Haslingden Swimming Pool level of use:

Year	Use
2012/13	81,478 visits
2011/12	78,300 visits
2010/11	83,017 visits
2009/10	83,547 visits
2008/09	91,190 visits
2007/08	98,788 visits
2006/07	79,701 visits

Source: Provided by RLT. Figures correct as at April 2013

The 2012-13 headcount shows a slight increase. This is due to Marl Pits being closed for refurbishment for six weeks during the summer of 2012.

Table 2: Break down of user group usage

User Group	Session Details	Approximate Head Count per Week
Over 50's	3 x 1 hour sessions per week	140
Ladies Only	2 x 1 hour sessions per week	45
Adult Only	3 x 1 hour sessions per week	120
Disabled 1 to 1	3 x 1 hour sessions per week	3
Parent & Toddler	1 x 1 hour sessions per week	6
Children Lessons	52 x 1hour sessions per week	416
1 to 1 Lessons	5 x 1 hour sessions per week	5
Children's Fun	2 x 1 hour sessions	70
Primary Schools	12 x 1 hour sessions	300
Specials Schools	2 x 1 hour per week	10
High Schools	As required	Ad hoc
Swimming Club	7 hours per week	220
Diving Club	1 hour for 10 weeks per year	24
Aqua Fit Lite	2 x 1 hour sessions	30
Aqua Fit / Aqua-cise	2 x 1 hour sessions	34
Early Bird Public swim	4 x 1¼ hours + 1 x 1 hour per week	84
Lunch Time Swim	5 x 1¼ hours per week	75
General Public Swim	33½ hours per week	Variable

Source: Provided by RLT. Figures correct as at April 2013

### Appendix 3 User groups potentially affected and mitigating actions considered / alternatives considered

User Group	Session Details	Approximate Head Count per Week	Mitigating actions to reduce impact considered
Over 50's	3 x 1 hour sessions per week	140	<p>Sessions at HSP are on a Monday/ Wednesday and Friday. Alternate sessions are available one hour later at Marl Pits on Monday and Friday, however there is no alternate session on a Wednesday. There are no equivalent sessions at Hyndburn pool.</p> <p>The over 50's session has no coach or instructor and is very similar to lane swimming or a public swim. There are daily swimming sessions at all pools available for the over 50's to swim.</p> <p>Ramsbottom Swimming Pool as at November 2012, are not offering any specific ladies only sessions nor over 50's.</p> <p>Whitworth Swimming Pool as at November 2012, are offering 2 x 1 hour over 50's sessions.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Ladies Only	2 x 1 hour sessions per week	45	<p>Sessions at HSP are on a Monday afternoon and Tuesday evening. An equivalent session is held at Marl Pits on a Monday morning.</p> <p>The ladies only session has no coach or instructor and is very similar to lane swimming or a public swim. There are daily swimming sessions at all pools available as an alternative to the ladies only swim.</p> <p>Ramsbottom Pool as at November 2012 are not offering and ladies only sessions.</p> <p>Whitworth Swimming Pool as at November 2012 is offering 1 x 1 hour ladies only session.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>

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Adult Only	3 x 1 hour sessions per week	120	<p>There are significantly more adult only swims at a wider variety of times at Marl Pits pool giving an excellent range of equivalent sessions and alternatives.</p> <p>Whitworth Pool as at November 2012 are offering 2 sessions 1x 1 hour and 1 x 2 hour session.</p> <p>Ramsbottom Swimming Pool are offering 3 x 1 hour sessions and 5 x 1 ¾ hour sessions (early bird sessions).</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Disabled 1 to 1	3 x 1 hour sessions per week	3	<p>There are 3 disabled users from outside the borough who currently access one to one swimming sessions at HSP on a weekly basis who would be impacted on should the pool have to close. All need the sole use of the pool to accommodate their specific needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 children with various conditions who use the pool on a weekly basis weekly</li> <li>- 1 adult who is blind and has learning/ behavioural difficulties</li> </ul> <p>Consultation has been undertaken with these users and their carers to understand their needs. Currently Rossendale Leisure Trust cannot re-provide for these disabled one-to-one user within Trust facilities due to their specific need for whole facility use. Discussions have been had with CLAW to see if Whitworth Pool can accommodate these users needs. Further discussions are needed between RLT, the users and the relevant Social Services to determine whether suitable alternatives could be found and sign posting to private swimming providers has been shared with these users.</p>
Parent & Toddler	1 x 1 hour sessions per week	6	<p>There is an alternative parent and toddler session at Marl Pits as well as an extensive small pool programme ideal for parents and their children.</p> <p>At Ramsbottom as of November 2012 they offer 1 x 1 hour.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Children Lessons	52 x 1 hour sessions per week	416	<p>Children's lessons are available at other alternative locations:</p> <p>Marl Pits, Ramsbottom, Whitworth and Hyndburn pool, so these user groups could be accommodated at other locations.</p> <p>As of November 2012, Whitworth Swimming operates swimming lessons for 23 hours per week.</p>

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			<p>As of November 2012, Ramsbottom Swimming Pool are operating 20 hours per week.</p> <p>Scheduling of more swimming lessons at Marl Pits pool to accommodate the children's lessons would need to be considered. This is still being explored and it is dependent on a joint solution being identified for the Borough's three swimming clubs. If not, it is unlikely that there will be enough free water time to accommodate this group at other RLT facilities. But alternative sessions are available at other locations.</p>
1 to 1 Lessons (adults)	5 x 1 hour sessions per week [NB: this water time is on a demand basis]	5	<p>These could be accommodated at Marl Pits or offered places in the normal group learn to swim lessons.</p> <p>As of November 2012, Ramsbottom are no longer offering one to one swimming lessons.</p> <p>As one-to-one adult lesson are usually block booked ad hoc, this water time is allocated on a demand basis. Therefore it is considered that currently no one would be displaced as a result should the pool have to close.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Children's Fun	2 x 1 hour sessions	70	<p>There are alternative fun sessions at Marl Pits as well as an extensive small pool programme ideal for parents and their children.</p> <p>Ramsbottom swimming pool are offering 2 x 1 hour sessions.</p> <p>Whitworth Pool are offering 1 x 1/2 hours.</p> <p>Both Ramsbottom and Bury operate holiday clubs.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Primary Schools	12 x 1 hour sessions	300	<p>School lessons are available at both Marl Pits and Hyndburn pool. Work to determine the capacity in the pool re-programming is still under development by the Leisure Trust in close consultation with all schools who currently use RLT facilities to swim.</p> <p>We are still awaiting full confirmation from all schools as to whether they wish to book water time for the year ahead. Once the schools have clarified their demand to RLT, re-programming can be completely in discussions with the schools directly to determining timings. The Trust is confident that it will be able to accommodate all schools that can be re-provided for.</p> <p>It should be noted that there has been a slight reduction in school bookings due to their own efficiency savings</p>

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			<p>challenges.</p> <p>It may be necessary to liaise with Hyndburn, Ramsbottom and Whitworth pools to assess whether those pools have any capacity for additional school swimming lessons as an alternative.</p>
Specials Needs Schools	2 x 1 hour per week	10	<p>Marl Pits has the better facilities out of the Rossendale pools to accommodate both children and adults with disabilities.</p> <p>There are two special needs schools from outside of the Borough that currently use HSP on a weekly basis as part of the set school sessions programme, they are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Linkway House Residential School, Burnley</li> <li>- Oswaldtwistle School</li> </ul> <p>Rossendale schools, Belmont School and Tor View School are now accommodated at other facilities within the Borough.</p> <p>With re-programming, weekend water time access has been offered at Marl Pits as an alternative to the special needs schools, however this was not compatible with their desire to keep swimming within the mainstream education programme for its pupils. Therefore, RLT cannot re-provide for the two current school users. However, signposting to private swimming providers has been provided to the schools to help them identify alternative facilities within their local authority areas or elsewhere. Discussions with CLAW are also being had.</p>
High Schools	As required		<p>Currently, the 3 high schools that use HSP do so on an ad-hoc basis, largely for swimming galas. RLT would be able to accommodate for this at other RLT facilities.</p> <p>In addition, as an alternative if needed, school lessons are available at both Marl Pits and Hyndburn pool. It may be necessary for RLT to liaise with Hyndburn, Ramsbottom and Whitworth pools to assess whether those pools have any capacity for additional school swimming lessons if needed.</p>
Swimming Club	7 hours per week	220	<p>Haslingden swimming club are the largest of the Rossendale Swimming clubs and currently have significant pool time at HSP. Discussions are continuing with the borough's 3 swimming clubs via the swimming forum to find the most effective way to accommodate the clubs. A joint solution is being explored for one club rather than 3 separate clubs in order to make maximum use of the limited time available within the programme for club swimming. The outcome of this will also have an impact on what other swim sessions can be accommodated in the re-programming.</p>
Diving Club	1 hour for 10 weeks per year	24	<p>The minimum depth for diving training is not specified but some of the training components need a minimum depth. The diving club has advised that 2.5m (depth of</p>

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			<p>Haslingden Pool) is just enough to achieve this. Therefore unfortunately could not be accommodated at Marl Pits Pool. Many diving clubs train in pools of 3m depth.</p> <p>RLT will continue to support this group in their efforts to find an alternative venue, as far as is a reasonably possible. Possible alternative for this group have been identified at Bury Pool, Hyndburn Pool and Padiham Pool, who all host diving clubs and signposting information shared with the club for them to consider arrangements.</p>
Aqua Fit Lite	2 x 1 hour sessions	30	<p>Alternative Aquafit sessions are held at Marl Pits, however these are held on different days.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Aqua Fit	2 x 1 hour sessions	34	<p>One Aquafit session is held at Marl Pits, however this is held on a different day.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Early Bird Public swim	4 x 1¼ hours + 1 x 1 hour per week	84	<p>There are alternative early bird swims at Marl Pits as well as an extensive public swimming programme.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Lunch Time Swim	5 x 1¼ hours per week	75	<p>There are alternative/equivalent lunch time swims at Marl Pits as well as an extensive public swimming programme. However, Haslingden have a general public swim at lunchtime, but Marl Pits is Adult Only. This will mean reducing the current amount of public swim time for children at Marl Pits.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Health Suite (spa and sauna)	Open all hours	92	<p>In addition to swimming, based on RLT staff knowledge, there is likely to be an impact on older people or those with specific health conditions, who are currently the majority users of the HSP health suite.</p> <p>There is no other health suite within the Leisure Trust facilities. There is no health suite provision at Ramsbottom or Whitworth Swimming Pool. However there is the Riverside Health Club who have a small health suite in Rawtenstall. There is also health suite provision at Hyndburn Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
Adult lessons	Adhoc blocks of lessons during the year	<1	<p>Due to limited water time we only programme Adult Lessons in during the Summer Holidays when swimming clubs are not using our facilities.</p> <p>If Haslingden pool were to close Marl Pits would be able to accommodate these lessons. Mitigating actions have been</p>

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			put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.
Spectators	N/A	321	There are spectator facilities at Marl Pits and likely to be spectator facilities at some other facilities. No mitigating actions required.
General Public Swim	33½ hours per week	Variable	<p>There are alternative &amp; equivalent public swimming sessions at Marl Pits and other pools within the valley as well as an extensive small pool programme ideal for parents and their children.</p> <p>As a membership basis organisation, it will be important that re-provision is considered as far as is practically possible, whilst maintaining a balanced programme for the public and existing customers.</p> <p>Mitigating actions have been put in place as far as possible to provide as alternative sessions for this group.</p>
GP referrals	n/a	Variable	<p>Currently, specific to the GP referral clients, are the existing aqua fit lite and aqua cise /aqua fit sessions (an approximate weekly head count of 30 and 34 respectively). These classes are not exclusively for GP referrals.</p> <p>Alternative GP sessions are available at both Marl Pits and Whitworth.</p>

Source: Provided by RLT. Correct as at April 2013.



## Appendix 4 Details of schools using Haslingden Pool

September - March						
Day	School	Arrive	In Pool	Out Pool	Depart	Phone No
Tuesday	Helmshore Primary	9.25	9.30	10.00	10.10	
	Helmshore Primary	9.55	10.00	10.30	10.40	
	Stonefold	10.45	10.50	11.20	11.30	
	St James' C of E	11.15	11.20	11.50	12.00	
LUNCH BREAK						
	Haslingden Primary	1.25	1.30	2.00	2.10	
	Haslingden Primary	1.55	2.00	2.30	2.40	
	St Veronica's	2.20	2.30	3.00	3.10	
Wednesday	Stubbins	1.10	1.15	1.45	1.55	
	Broadway Primary	1.40	1.45	2.15	2.25	
	Edenfield C of E	2.10	2.15	2.45	2.55	
Thursday	Linkway House		1.30	2.30		
Friday	Oswaldtwistle School		1.3	2.3		
6 Weeks only	St. Mary's					

Source: Provided by RLT. Correct as at April 2013.

Other schools that use the pool for part of the year on an ad hoc basis include:

- Haslingden High School
- Fearn Community Sports College
- Hollins School

## Appendix 2

### Appendix 5 Comparison of services currently available at each swimming pool facility within Rossendale

	Marl Pits Pool	Haslingden Pool	Whitworth Leisure Centre
Monday	7.00 am – 9.30 pm	7.00 am – 9.30 pm	7.30 am- 8.00 pm
Tuesday	12.00 pm – 9.00 pm	7.00 am – 9.00 pm	10.00 am -7.00 pm
Wednesday	7.00 am – 9.30 pm	9.00 am – 9.15 pm	9.00 am – 7.00 pm
Thursday	7.00 am – 9.00 pm	7.00 am – 9.30 pm	7.30 am – 8.00 pm
Friday	7.00 am – 9.00 pm	7.00 am – 9.00 pm	10.00 am – 8.00 pm
Saturday	8.00 am – 3.00 pm	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	9.00 am – 2.00 pm
Sunday	9.00 am – 3.00 pm	8.00 am – 12.30 pm	9.00 am – 2.00 pm

Session	Marl Pits Pool	Haslingden Pool	Whitworth Leisure Centre
Early Birds Swim	✓	✓	✓ (Wake Up Whitworth)
Ladies Only Swim	✓	✓	✓
Over 50's Swim	✓	✓	✓
Lunch Time Swim	✓	✓	✓
Pool Pilates	✓	✓	X
Public Swimming	✓	✓	✓
Bacup Swim Club	✓	x	X
Haslingden Swim Club	x	✓	X
Rawtenstall Swim Club	✓	X	X
Rays Swim Club	✓	x	x
Adult Lessons	✓	x	✓
Adult Only	✓	✓	✓
Aqua Aerobics	✓	✓	✓ (Aqua Fit)
Aqua Mobility	✓	X	X
Aqua Aerobic Lite	✓	✓	✓ (Aqua Fit)
Parent & Toddler	✓	✓	✓
Aqua Natal	✓	X	X
Laned Swimming	✓	✓	X
Fun/Kids Session	✓	✓	✓ (Kids Hour)
Family Fun	X (Fun Session)	X (Fun Session)	✓
Under 5's & Accompanying Adults in Small Pool	✓	x	x
Drop Off – Dip In	X	✓	X
Schools	✓	✓	✓
Pool Parties	✓	✓	✓
Health Suite	X	✓	✓
Junior Lessons	✓	✓	✓

## Appendix 2

Sub Aqua	x	✓	x
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Source: Provided by RLT. Correct as at April 2013.

## Appendix 6 Alternative pool facilities within Rossendale and neighbouring areas

The nearest alternative swimming pool facilities from Haslingden Swimming Pool are:

1. Marl Pits, Rawtenstall - 2.7 miles
2. Ramsbottom – 4.2 miles
3. Hyndburn Leisure Centre, Hyndburn – 5.7 miles
4. Shadsworth Leisure Centre, Blackburn – 7 miles
5. Mercer Hall Leisure Centre, Hyndburn - 7.8 miles
6. Padiham Leisure Centre, Burnley – 8.3 miles
7. Castle Leisure Centre Bury - 8.8 miles
8. Whitworth Leisure Centre (CLAW), Whitworth – 9.3 miles
9. St Peters Leisure Centre, Burnley - 9.3 miles

NB: this data has been obtained from google maps (August 2012) web based journey planner and denotes the distance by car only.

Appendix 2

**Appendix 7 Bus routes information to local facilities & location of swimming pool users**

**Bus route data**

Please note that bus route data has been obtained via Transport Direct web based public transport journey planner (April 2013)

Test Time 9am (or nearest first bus)

POOL LOCATIONS	MARL PITS, BB4 7SN	HASLINGDE N POOL, BB4 6NX	WHITWORTH POOL, OL12 8BT	RAMSBOTTOM POOL, BLO 0PT	ST. PETER'S LEISURE CENTRE, BURNLEY, BB11 2EF	SHADSWORTH LEISURE CENTRE, BLACKBURN BB1 2HT	HYNDBURN LEISURE CENTRE, BB5 4EP	HYNDBURN MERCER LEISURE CENTRE BB6 7AL	CASTLE LEISURE CENTRE, BURY, BL9 0EZ	PADIHAM LEISURE CENTRE, BURNLEY, BB12 8ED
USER START LOCATION (AREAS NEAR TO HSP)										
RAWTENSTALL BB4 7NG	1. Walk <sup>1</sup> 0.8miles 2. 483 (est. 15 mins)	1. 464 (est. 12 mins)	1. 464 (est. 38 mins)	1. 482 & 472 (est. 25 mins) 2. 273 (est. 17 mins) 3. 483 + 472 (est. 30 mins)	1. X43 (est. 33 mins) 2. 484 (est. 33 mins)	1. 244 & (est. 35 mins) 2. 464 & 14 (est. 1hr 7 mins)	1. 464 & 41 (est. 47 mins) 2. 244 (est. 35 mins) 3. 464 (est. 47 mins) 4. 464 + 46 (est. 45 mins)	1. 464 & 7 (est. 1hr 5 mins) 2. 464 + 231 (est. 53 mins)	1. 482 (est. 42 mins) 2. 483 (est. 41 mins) 3. 483 + 48b (est. 40 mins)	1. 464 + 24 (est. 1hr 6 mins) 2. X43 + 23 (est. 1hr) 3. 464 + 521 (est. 1hr) 4. X43 + 152 (est. 1hr) 5. 483 + 27 (est. 1hr)
EDENFIELD BLO 0JZ	482 (est. 24 mins)	1. 482 & 464 (est. 29 mins) 2. 484 (est. 18 mins)	1. 482 & 464 (est. 54 mins) 2. 483 & 464 (est. 52 mins)	1. 482 & 472 (est. 17 mins) 2. 273 (est. 10 mins) 3. 484 (est. 10 mins)	1. 482 & 464 & 46 (est. 1hr 12 mins) 2. 484 & 41 (est. 1hr) 3. 483 & 244 & 7 (1hr 7 mins)	1. 483 & 244 (est. 51 mins) 2. 482 & 464 & 14 (est. 1hr 24 mins) 3. 484 & 6 (est. 1hr 12 mins)	1. 482 & 464 & 16 (est. 1hr 1 mins) 2. 484 & 61 (est. 51 mins) 3. 482 & 464 & 40 (est. 1hr 1 mins) 4. 484 & 21 (est. 53 mins) 5. 483 & 464 & 7 (est. 1hr)	1. 484 & 14 (est. 1hr 5 mins) 2. 482 & 464 & 7 (est. 1hr 15 mins) 3. 483 & 464 & 7 (est. 1hr 11 mins) 4. 484 & 46 & 231 (est. 1hr 10 mins)	1. 482 (est. 34 mins) 2. 483 (est. 34 mins) 3. 484 (est. 39 mins) 4. 483 & 486 (est. 33 mins)	1. 482 & 464 & 7 & 152 (est. 1hr 23 mins) 2. 484 & 521 (est. 1hr 7 mins) 3. 482 & 464 & 24 (est. 1hr 15 mins) 4. 483 & 27 (est. 1hr 9 mins)

<sup>1</sup> It is noted that this route requires a walk from Peel Street to Marl Pits, which is a steep incline, 483 is an alternative but would require a change at Rawtenstall bus station and including waiting would lengthen the journey time to an hour or more. 63c and 63a are on an hourly service.

## Appendix 2

							11mins) 6. 483 & 464 & 41 (est. 1hr 3mins)			
HASLINGDEN BB4 5QJ	1. 464 <sup>2</sup> (est. 26 mins) 2. 464 & 63c/63a (est. 30 mins)	1. Walk >0.5 miles (est. 8 mins)	1. 464 (est. 51 mins)	1. 484 (est. 23 mins) 2. 464 & 273 (est. 36 mins)	1. X41 & 512 (est. 1hr 2 mins) 2. 464 & 483 (est. 57 mins) 3. 484 (est. 51 mins)	1. X41 & 6 (est. 51 mins) 2. 244 (est. 25 mins)	1. X41 (est. 36 mins) 2. 464 & 6 (est. 40 mins) 3. X41 & 6 (est. 33)	1. X41 & 7 (est. 57 mins) 2. 464 & 7 (est. 54 mins)	1. 484 & 15 mins walk (est. 52 mins)	1. X41 & 521 (est. 48 mins) 2. 464 & 24 (est. 59 mins) 3. 484 & 521 (est. 53 mins) 4. 464 & 23 (est. 1hr 1 min)

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<sup>2</sup> As above.

## Appendix 2

### Test Time 5pm (or nearest first bus)

POOL LOCATIONS	MARL PITS, BB4 7SN	HASLINGDEN POOL, BB4 6NX	WHITWORTH POOL, OL12 8BT	RAMSBOTTOM POOL, BL0 0PT	ST. PETER'S LEISURE CENTRE, BURNLEY, BB11 2EF	HYNDBURN LEISURE CENTRE, BB5 4EP	SHADSWORTH LEISURE CENTRE, BLACKBURN BB1 2HT	HYNDBURN MERCER LEISURE CENTRE BB6 7AL	CASTLE LEISURE CENTRE, BURY, BL9 0EZ	PADIHAM LEISURE CENTRE, BURNLEY, BB12 8ED
USER START LOCATION (AREAS NEAR TO HSP)										
RAWTENSTAL BB4 7NG	1. Walk <sup>3</sup> 0.8miles (est. 15 mins) 2. 464 (est. 13mins) 3. 482 (est. 13mins) 4. 11 (est. 14 mins) 5. 65 (est. 13 mins)	1. 464 (est. 12 mins)	1. 464 (est. 38 mins)	1. 483 & 472 (est. 25 mins) 2. 273 (est. 17 mins) 3. 464 + 484 (est. 39 mins) 4. 483 + Walk (est. 30 mins)	1. X43 (est. 32 mins) 2. 8A (est. 31 mins) 3. 483 (est. 33 mins)	1. 464 & 6 (est. 45 mins) 2. 464 + 24 Min Walk (est. 52 mins)	1. 244 (est. 35 mins) 2. 464 & 6 (est. 1hr 5 mins)	1. 464 & 14A (est. 1hr 1 min) 2. 464 + X41 (est. 57 mins) 3. 464 + X40 (est. 55 mins) 4. 464 + 7 (est. 1hr 8 mins)	1. 8 (est. 34 mins) 2. 484 + 15 Min Walk (est. 41 mins) 3. 273 + 472 (est. 48 mins) 4. 482 + 486 (est. 40 mins) 5. 482 + 15 Min Walk (est. 41 mins)	1. X43 & 27 (est. 54 mins) 2. X43 + 152 (est. 1hr) 3. 8A + 127 (est. 1hr 2 mins) 4. X43 + 22 (est. 53 mins)
EDENFIELD BL0 0JZ	1. 482 (est. 24 mins)	1. 482 & 464 (est. 29 mins)	1. 483 & 464 (est. 54 mins)	1. 483 & 17 min walk (est. 23)	1. 482 & x43 (est. 50)	1. 464 & 6 (est. 56 mins)	1. 482 & 244 (est. 52 mins)	1. 483 & 464 & 7 (est. 1hr)	1. 482 & 486 (est. 41 mins)	1. 482 & x43 & 152

<sup>3</sup> As above, footnote 1.

## Appendix 2

	2. 483(es t. 24 mins) 3. 482 & 63c (est. 23 mins)	2. 484 (est. 18 mins) 3. 483 & 464 (est. 28 mins)	2. 483 & 464 (est. 52 mins)	mins) 2. 482 & 472 (est. 17 mins) 3. 483 & 472 (est. 17 mins)	mins) 2. 483 (est. 44 mins) 3. 273 & x43 (est. 46 mins)	2. 484 & 41 (est. 57 mins)482 & 464 & 24 min walk (est. 1hr 9 mins)	2. 483 & 464 & 6 (est. 1 hr)	24 mins) 2. 484 & x41 (est. 1hr) 3. 484 & x40 (est. 1hr)	33 mins) 2. 483 & 15 min flat walk (est. 34 mins) 3. 273 & 472 (est. 41 mins)	(est. 1hr 17 mins) 2. 483 & 22 (est. 1hr 8 mins) 3. 484 & 23 (est. 1hr)
HASLINGDEN BB4 5QJ	1. 464 <sup>4</sup> (est. 26 mins) 2. 11 (est. 21 mins) Both include walks	1. Walk >0.5 miles (est. 8 mins)	1.464 (est. 51 mins)	1. 484 (est. 23 mins) 2. 464 & 482 & 472 (est. 48 mins)	1. 484 (est. 51 mins) 2. 464 & X43 (est. 58 mins) 3. 464 & 483 (est. 57 mins) 4. 484 & 9 (est. 57) 5. 11 & X43 (est. 44)	1. 464 & 6 (est. 38 mins) 2. 484 & 463 & 6 (est. 1 hr) 3. X40 + X41 (est. 39) 4. 464 & 30 min walk (est. 45 mins) 5. X41 & 41 (est. 35 mins)	1. 244 (est. 25 mins) 2. 464 & 6 (est. 58 mins)	1. X40 (est. 37 mins) 2. X41 (est. 37 mins) 3. 464 & 14A (est. 54 mins) 4. 464 & 7 (est. 1hr 1min)	1. 464 & 482 & 486 (est. 1hr 4 mins) 2. 484 (est. 52 mins)	1. X40 & 152 (est. 55 mins) 2. 464 & 23 (est. 1hr 1 min)

### Sample Bus fares

Haslingden BB4 5QJ to Whitworth Pool OL12 8BT - £4.40 Single Fare

Rawtenstall BB4 7NG to Whitworth Pool OL12 8BT £4.40 Single Fare

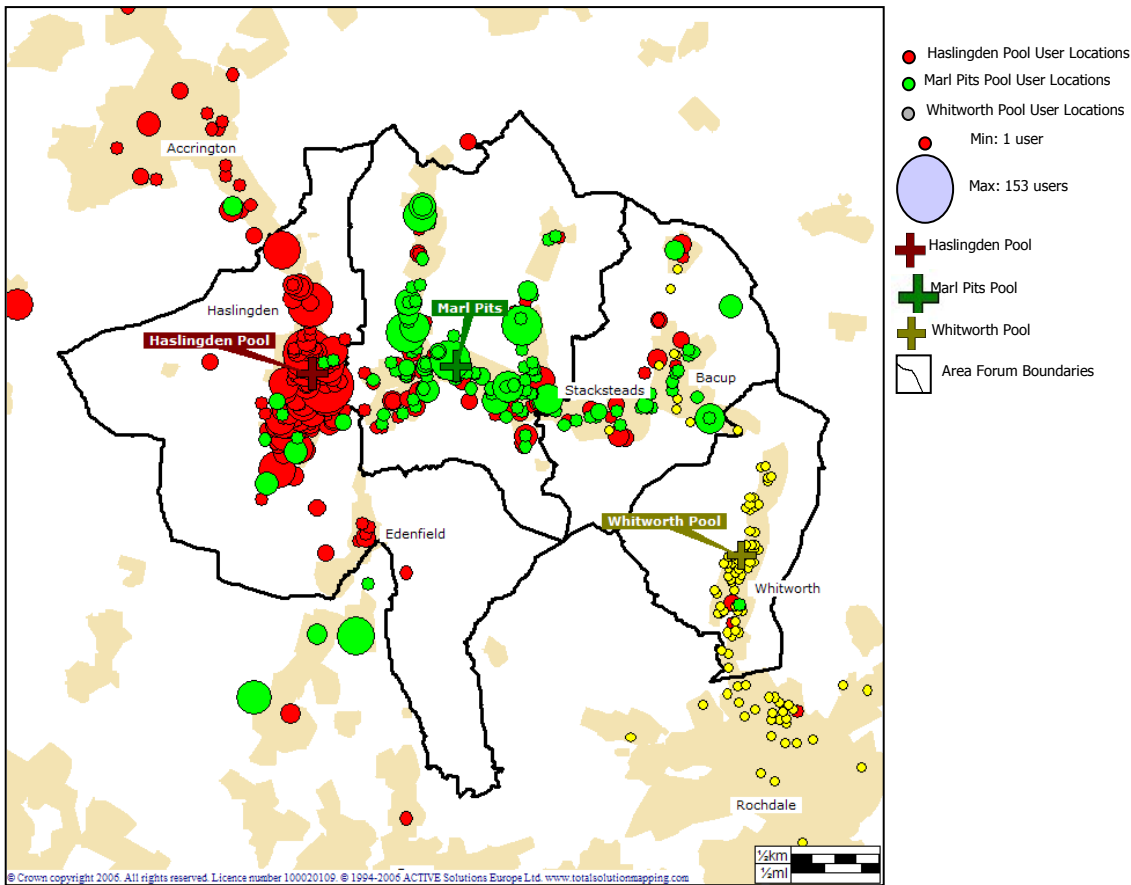
Haslingden BB4 5QJ to Ramsbottom Pool BL0 0PT £3.60 Single Fare

Day Rover = £4.70

<sup>4</sup> As above, footnote 1.

### Location of swimming pool users

This shows that of those surveyed, most people in Haslingden use Haslingden pool. However, there is some cross over with Marl Pits.



Source: PMP Consultancy presentation, showing the residential location of swimming pool users surveyed in Spring 2006.



## Appendix 8 Local ethnicity data

Currently no equality monitoring is undertaken by RLT of its customers at Haslingden Swimming Pool in order to determine any significant impact on ethnicity as a protected equality group. Consultation with some BME users was undertaken. The data presented below is based upon the recently released 2011 census data.

### Rossendale:

Percentage of total number of people in each ethnic group in 2011:

Ethnic Group Category	% of population	Notes
White (inclu.Irish)	93.8	
Mixed	0.9	BME estimated population based on the figures in this table is approximately 6.2%.
Asian or Asian British	5.0	
Black or Black British	0.2	
Chinese or other	0.1	

Based on a population of 67,982

Source: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

### Wards in/around Haslingden area

Wards in Haslingden area & population	Eden (Pop:3,520)	Greenfield (Pop: 5,726)	Helmshore (Pop: 5,805)	Worsley (Pop: 6,034)
Ethnic Group Category %				
White (inclu. Irish)	97.9	88.1	96.9	80.7
Mixed	0.5	1.4	0.6	1.1
Asian or Asian British	1.4	10.1	1.9	17.4
Black or Black British	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3
Chinese or other	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.6
Estimated BME population total	2.1	11.8	3.1	19.4

Source: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>



# **Haslingden Swimming Pool Options Consultation Report 2013**



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## 1 Executive Summary

The latest Rossendale Council citizen's survey was undertaken with residents across the entire borough. The aim of the survey was to determine views on two specific options that the Council has identified to help solve a funding shortfall with the leisure facilities. These views will be used to help influence the final outcome.

A six page survey was posted to 380 members of the citizens' panel in Rossendale, and a further 389 panel members were sent an electronic invitation, on 16 January 2013. A reminder was sent out in late February to 524 panel members. The survey was also promoted on the Council's website and across several community groups. Fieldwork ended on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013. In total 784 responses were received (including 18 Marl Pits users comments forms and two unknown respondent types).

The following is based on those that responded to the consultation, which reached wider than just citizen panel members. Percentages are based on the number of respondents that answered each question. Respondents may not have answered all questions and this is reflected in the 'base' number at the bottom of each chart.

### 1.1 General HSP swim users/other interested parties (635)

- 46% of the general swim users currently use Haslingden pool to swim
- 72% use it at least weekly
- 66% travel to the pool by car
- 39% currently use other leisure facilities in the borough to swim
- 81% of non users support option 1 (transfer of ownership)
- 80% of users support option 1
- 52% of users believe that option 1 would have a direct impact on them
  - Mainly that the pool will stay open but that prices may increase
- Willingness to accept small changes to prices, water time allocation and opening times
- 72% of users would be highly affected by closing the pool (9% for non users)
- 36% would be able to use another pool nearby
  - 46% would not

### 1.2 Swim session group users (114)

- 80% use the pool only (19% use the pool and health suite)
- Children's swimming lessons are the most popular group
- 98% use the pool at least weekly
- 62% travel to the pool by car
- 20% use other leisure facilities in the borough to swim
- 84% agree with option 1 (transferring ownership)
- 55% believe option 1 would have a direct impact on them
  - Mainly that it would ensure that they could continue swimming but that costs may increase
- Willingness to accept changes to opening times and water time allocation but lower willingness to accept price increases
- 89% would be highly affected by closing the pool
- 21% would be able to use another pool nearby
  - 58% would not
- 41% would not/ could not go to any alternative swim time arranged for them at Marl Pits

### 1.3 Schools (15)

- 82% travel to the pool by bus
- 33% use other Leisure Trust facilities in the borough to swim
- 80% support option 1 (transfer of ownership)
- 53% believe that option 1 would have a direct impact on their school
  - Mainly due to increased costs and reduced availability of time slots
- Willingness to accept changes to opening times but a lower willingness to accept changes to prices and water time allocation
- 80% of schools in the area would be affected by closing the pool
- 40% would be able to use another facility nearby
  - 33% would not
- 79% (11 of 14 schools) would like the council to re-arrange their swim sessions if the pool was to close. One did not answer.

### 1.4 Marl Pits users (18)

- Strong preference to keep Haslingden pool open to avoid over crowding at Marl Pits

## 2 Background and Methodology

### 2.1 Background

Councils all over the country are in the midst of streamlining and even cutting many of their services. One such decision for Rossendale is about the future of the leisure provision.

To help make the decision about how the future provision of leisure should operate, Rossendale Council commissioned a survey to gather residents' views on two specific options that have been previously identified by the Council. These are:

- 1) Transfer ownership of Haslingden Swimming Pool
- 2) Closing Haslingden Swimming Pool

The information from the survey will be used to help the Council make the most appropriate decision.

### 2.2 Objectives

The specific objectives of the survey are as follows:

- Understand users and non users views on the above two options;
- Understand the impact on users and how they could be potentially accommodated
- Understand the impact on neighbouring pool users such as Marl Pits;
- Understand the impact on schools and how they might best be potentially accommodated;

### 2.3 Methodology

The citizen's survey was sent by post to 380 citizens' panel members on 16 January 2013 (389 additional panel members were invited to complete the survey online via an e mail invitation). A reminder was sent on 18 February to 524 panel members, with a final closing date of 31 March.

The citizens' panel is a list of local residents from across the borough who have registered their interest in community engagement. As a result, they are an active audience who respond well. This approach also ensures that associated survey costs are kept to a minimum.

However, citizens' panels do have their weaknesses, namely that they can become 'conditioned' and also that they are not representative of the wider population. To help offset these drawbacks, invitations to take part in the survey were sent to pool users, and various community groups. The survey was also promoted in the public domain on the Council's website and via the Council's facebook page. The data has also been weighted to ensure that the results are more representative of the borough population.

## 2.4 Robustness of the data

How well the sample represents the population is gauged by two important statistics – the survey's margin of error and confidence level. For example, this survey has a margin of error of plus or minus 3.5% at a 95 percent level of confidence. This means that if the survey was conducted 100 times, the data would be within 3.5 percentage points above or below the percentage reported in 95 of the 100 surveys (see figure 2.1 below). Typically 3% is considered to be a 'good' margin of error.

**Figure 2.1: Margins of error at 95% confidence**

Survey Sample Size	Margin of Error Percent
784	+/- 3.5%
700	+/- 3.7
500	+/- 4.4
250	+/- 6.2
100	+/- 9.8

## 3 Demographic composition

### 3.1 Gender

The un-weighted split of male and female respondents was slightly biased towards females. The impact of weighting the data has ensured that the split is much more even and in line with the composition of the borough.

**Figure 3.1: Gender**

Gender	Un-weighted	Weighted	Borough actual
Male	40%	49%	49%
Female	60%	51%	51%

Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q23

### 3.2 Age

Given the low numbers of younger respondents, it was not possible to weight the under 30 age group in line with the actual borough percentage (having done so would have led to unreliably high weightings being applied to a small group of respondents). As a result, after the weighting, the youngest age group account for just over a fifth of all responses whilst the influence of the 60-69 age group has been suppressed to 18%. The impact of the weighting here has ensured that the analysis by age is much more reliable (as the weighted column is much closer to the actual borough column).

**Figure 3.2: Age**

Age group	Un-weighted	Weighted	Borough actual
Under 30	7%	15%	22%

## Appendix 3

30-49	29%	35%	35%
50-59	19%	18%	16%
60-69	30%	18%	15%
70+	15%	14%	12%

Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q24

### 3.3 Disability

Encouragingly the un-weighted split of disabled and non disabled respondents was very close to the actual borough split. The impact of weighting the data was simply to ensure that adjusting for gender age and ethnicity did not have a detrimental impact on the table below.

**Figure 3.3: Disability**

Disability	Un-weighted	Weighted	Borough actual
Yes	18%	18%	19%
No	82%	82%	81%

Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q25

### 3.4 Ethnicity

Very few responses were received from residents from a BME ethnic background. The data has been weighted slightly to give BME respondents a greater influence but given the very small numbers this group could not be weighted enough to get close to the borough actual.

**Figure 3.4: Ethnicity**

Ethnicity	Un-weighted	Weighted	Borough actual
White	99%	98%	94%
BME	1%	2%	6%

Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q27

### 3.5 Employment status

The data was not weighted by employment status but in most cases in the table below, the impact of the weighting has had a positive effect. FT work is much closer to the borough % whilst those classified as retired has also fallen closer to the borough % after the weight has been applied.

**Figure 3.5: Employment status**

Status	Un-weighted	Weighted	Borough actual
FT work	32%	38%	40%
PT work	13%	14%	14%
Self employed	7%	6%	10%
Govt scheme	0%	0%	n/a



## Appendix 3

FT education	3%	8%	3%
Unemployed	1%	2%	4%
Carer	4%	3%	n/a
Unable to work	2%	3%	5%
Retired	39%	29%	15%
Looking after the home	4%	4%	4%
Not answered	1%	1%	n/a

Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q3

## 4 Results comparison

This section is designed to provide an 'at a glance' comparison of those questions that were asked of all three of the following respondent types:

- General HSP swim users / other interested parties
- Swim session users
- Schools

The detailed results for each of these respondents types can be found in sections 5-7 below.

Question	General HSP users / other interested parties	Swim session	Schools
How do you usually travel to Haslingden pool?	66% - car 30% - walk 5% - bus	62% - car 24% - walk 15% - bus	82% - bus 18% - walk
Do you use any other facilities?	61% - no 39% - yes	80% - no 20% - yes	67% - no 33% - yes
Do you agree or disagree with option 1 (transfer of ownership)?	80% agree	84% agree	80% agree
Will option 1 have a direct impact on you?	52% - yes	55% - yes	53% - yes
Acceptability of price increases	86% support	75% support	58% support
Acceptability of changes to opening times	92% support	93% support	92% support
Acceptability of changes to water time allocation	88% support	90% support	77% support
What impact would option 2 (closing the pool) have on you?	72% - high 3% - not at all	89% - high 0% - not at all	47% - high 7% - not at all
Would you be able to use another pool facility nearby?	46% - no 36% - yes	58% - no 21% - yes	33% - no 40% - yes

## 5 Detailed Research Findings – general HSP swim users / other interested parties

General Haslingden Swimmign Pool (HSP) user and any other interested parties (to be referred to as ‘general users’) were invited to have their say on the proposals being explored for the future of Haslingden swimming pool. Anyone could take part, regardless of whether you used the pool or not. However, much more detailed questions were asked of those who use the pool as these people will be the most affected and will be the ones that will make any transfer of ownership successful. In total, 635 members of the general users took part in the consultation.

The table below highlights the geographic location of these 635 general user’s responses.

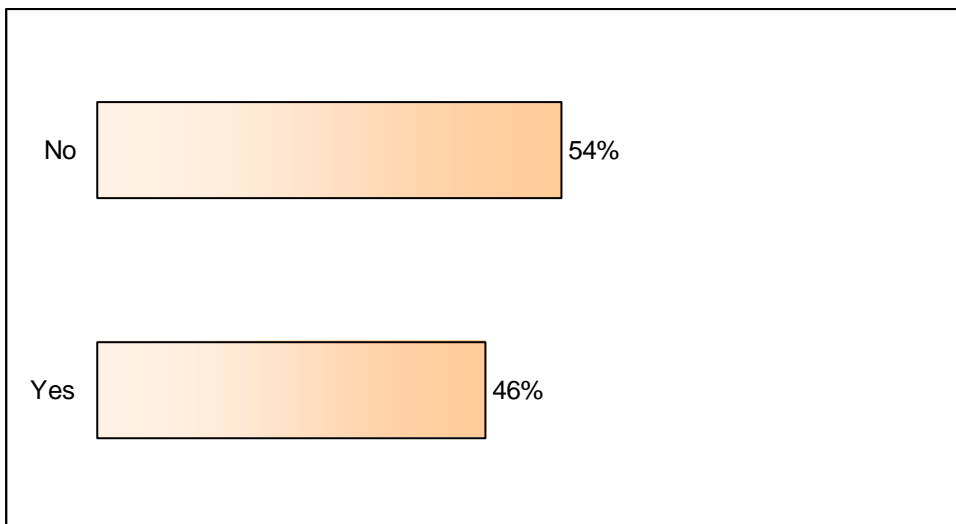
Ward	% of general user responses
Baxenden	0.4%
Cribden	5.4%
Eden	5.1%
Facit and Shawforth	3.2%
Goodshaw	5.3%
Greenfield	16.5%
Greensclough	5.6%
Hareholme	7.2%
Healey and Whitworth	3.5%
Helmshore	18.0%
Huncoat	0.2%
Irwell	3.0%
Longholme	9.3%
Milnshaw	0.2%
Peel	0.2%
Stacksteads	3.3%
Whitewell	4.0%

## 5.1 Pool usage

### Q1 – Do you currently use the Haslingden swimming pool (HSP) to swim?

Just under half of those who responded from the general user category currently use the pool to swim. This is higher for women and those aged under 50.

**Figure 5.1: Usage of HSP**



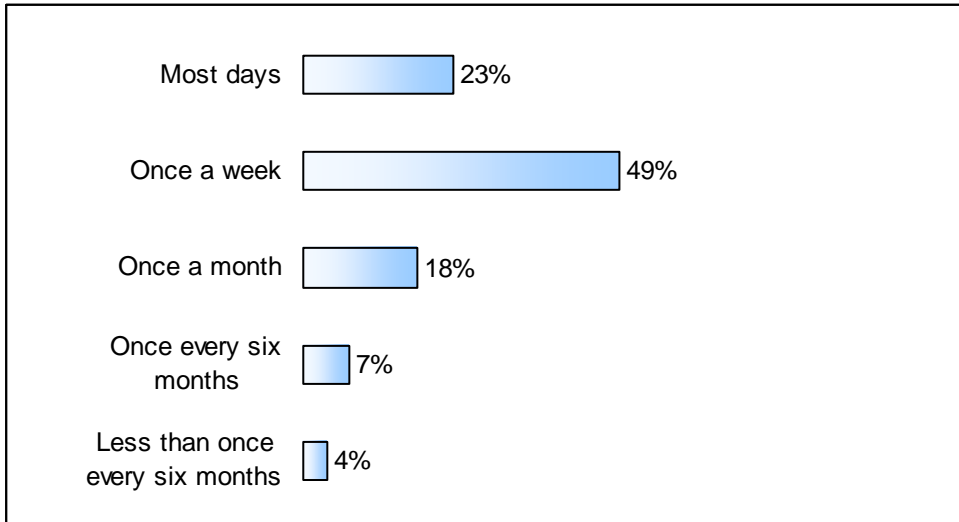
Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q1 Base: 551

### Q2 – How frequently would you say that you use the pool in Haslingden?

Of those who use the pool, 72% use it at least once a week. Very few residents use the pool less than monthly.

**Figure 5.2: Frequency of use**

### Appendix 3

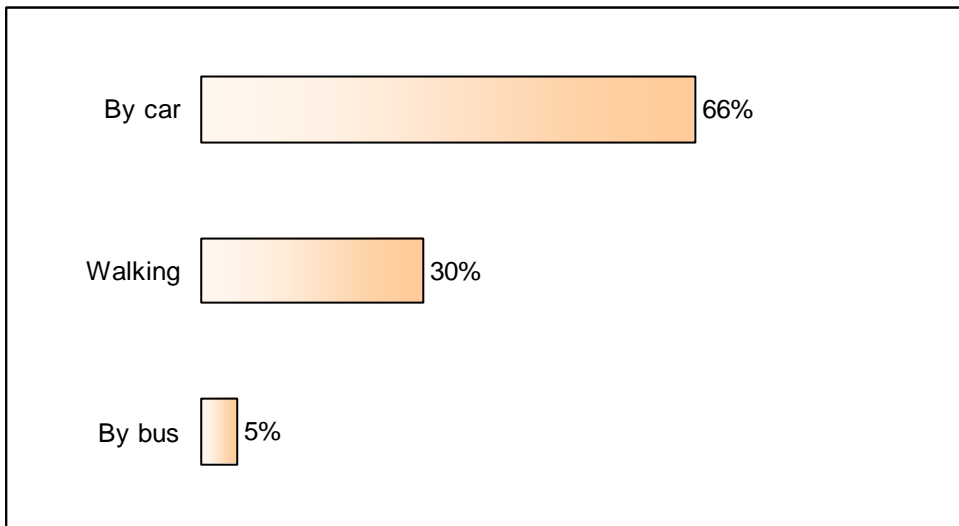


Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q2 Base: 247

#### Q6 – How do you usually access/ travel to HSP?

Two thirds of those who use Haslingden pool use their car to transport them (lower for those aged 70+ but higher for those aged 30-49). Walking is also a popular means of transport, accounting for 30% of all visits (higher for those aged 70+). Bus accounts for very few visits to the pool.

Figure 5.3: Means of accessing HSP

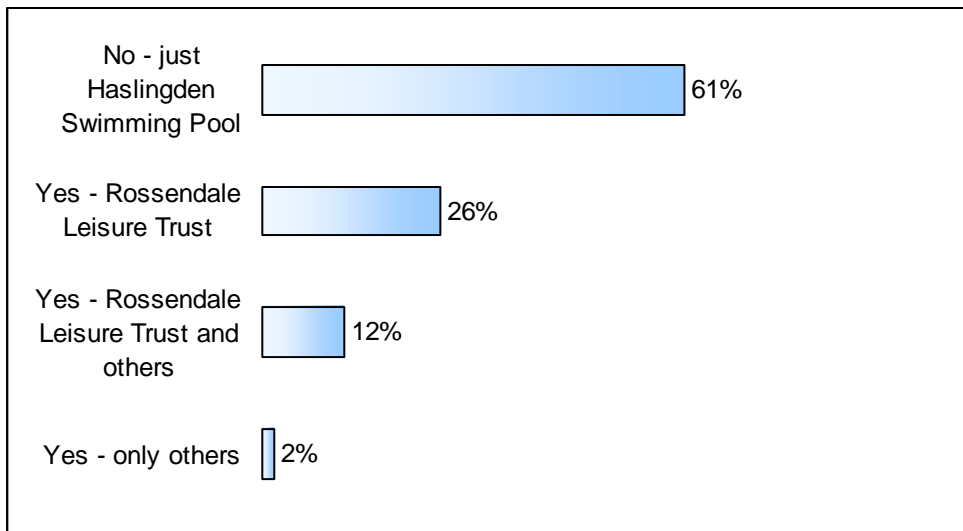


Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q6 Base: 231

#### Q7 – Do you use any of the other Rossendale Leisure Trust facilities in the valley, or other leisure facilities nearby, to swim?

The vast majority of HSP users stated that the only use Haslingden pool – 61% use only Haslingden pool to swim. There is some usage of wider Rossendale Leisure Trust facilities but beyond this, usage of other facilities is low.

**Figure 5.4: Wider use of leisure facilities**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q7 Base: 245

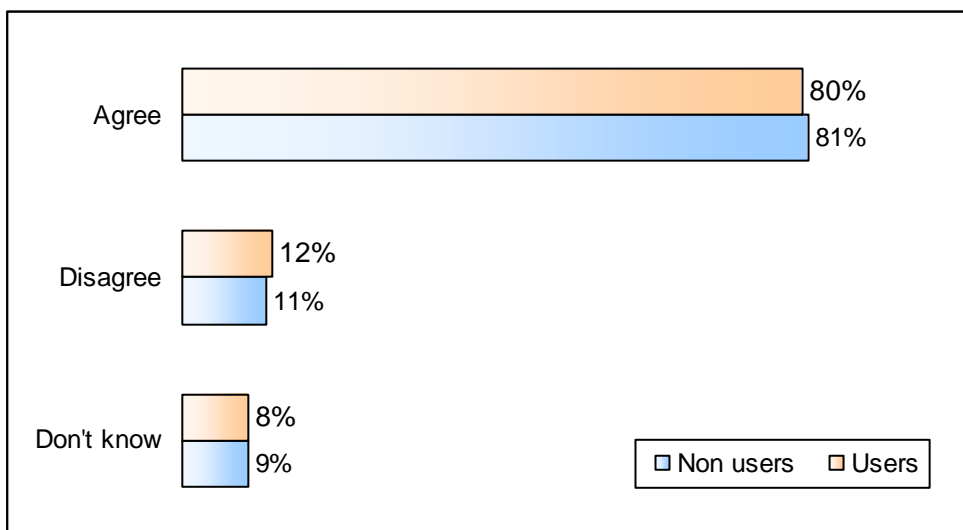
## 5.2 Option 1 – transferring ownership

As part of the consultation, respondents were presented with two options that the Council has identified as potential solutions to the funding shortfall. The first of these is to transfer ownership of Haslingden pool to another party.

### Q8 – One option being considered is to look at transferring ownership/ responsibility of HSP. Do you agree or disagree with this option if it meant that the pool remained open?

If it meant that the pool remained open, 80% of users and 81% of non users would agree with transferring ownership. This is favoured more for those aged 30-59 but less for those aged 70+. Few people seem to disagree with the option with a small proportion not being able to decide wither way.

**Figure 5.5: Level of agreement with option 1**



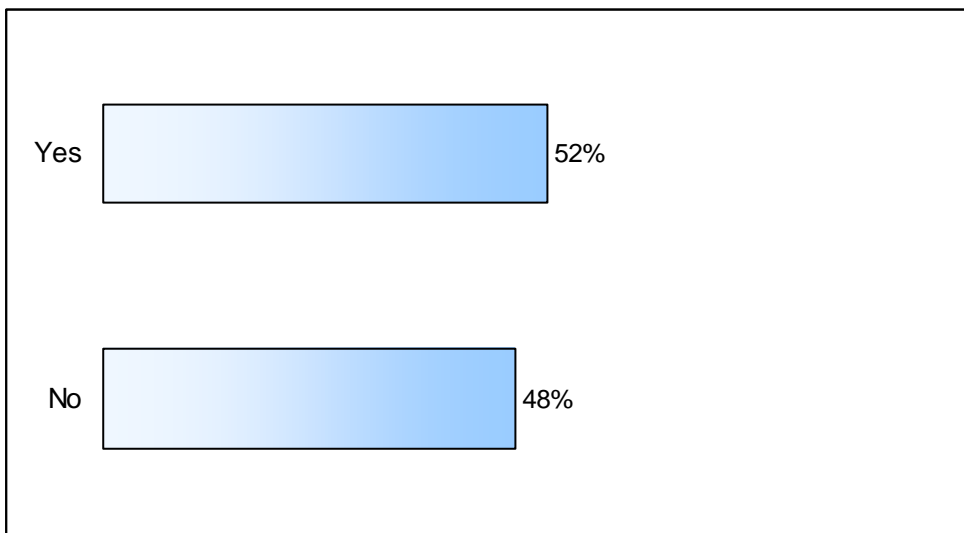
Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q8 and Q3 Base (users): 248 Base (non users): 298

**Q9 – Do you feel that option 1 (transferring ownership) would directly impact on you?**

Just over half are of the opinion that transferring ownership will have a direct impact upon them. The reasons for this include:

- Greater feeling of longer term security (positive)
- It will mean that the pool remains open in some guise (positive)
- Likely result in increased charges (negative)
- Uncertainty around changes and the impact on current membership (negative)
- May have to travel further to use other pools (negative)

**Figure 5.6: Whether transferring ownership would have an impact**

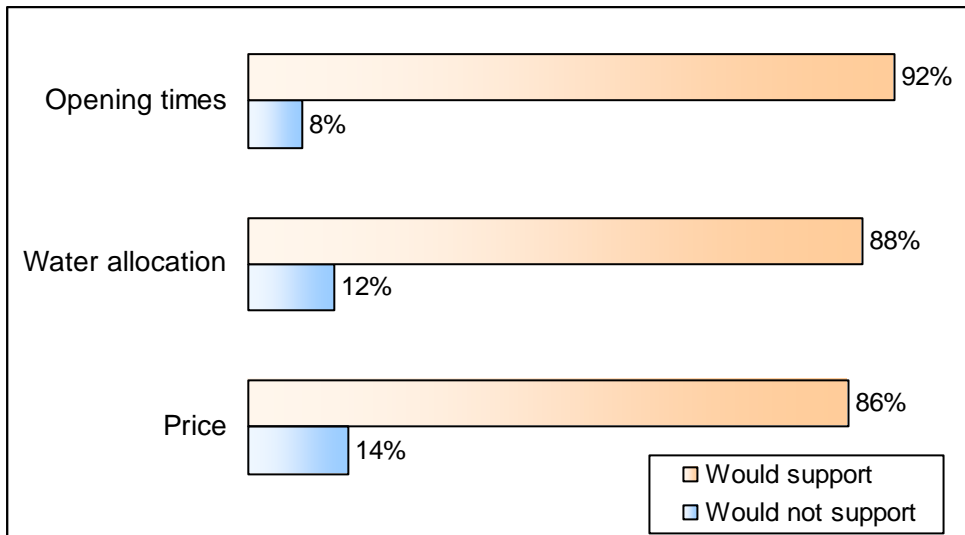


Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q9 Base: 244

**Q11 – If a transfer to a third party was pursued and some changes were necessary to ensure that it was sustainable/ financially viable, please tell us which of the following you would support.**

As already alluded to under Q9 above, there is a strong degree of flexibility if it means that local residents retain access to their pool. The vast majority would accept small changes to the price, opening hours and water time allocation if it meant that the pool did not close down.

**Figure 5.7: Acceptability of potential changes**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q11 Base: 243

**Q11 – What might we be able to practically do to reduce the impact of option 1 on you?**

The most common response to this question was to keep the pool open. Clearly the Council will endeavour to do this as far as is reasonably possible. A few other suggestions to help reduce the impact include:

- Fund raise to try and keep it open
- Improve the local bus service to help people get to and from Marl Pits
- Discuss the options in greater detail with the pool users
- Provide transitional funding to any new owners
- Look into making better use of corporate sponsorship

**5.3 Option 2 – closing Haslingden pool**

**Q14 – If Haslingden pool had to close and you were no longer able to use the pool there, to what degree would this impact on you directly?**

As you would expect, the impact of closing the pool would be at its greatest for those who currently use the facility. 72% of pool users would be impacted a lot by any potential closure. This impact is at its highest for those aged 50-59 whilst for those aged under 30 the impact is relatively lower. So why would the closure of the pool have such a large impact?

- It would be difficult to access alternative pools
- Concern that Marl Pits would be unable to cope with the additional demand
- Cost of time of accessing other pools
- Health of the local area would suffer

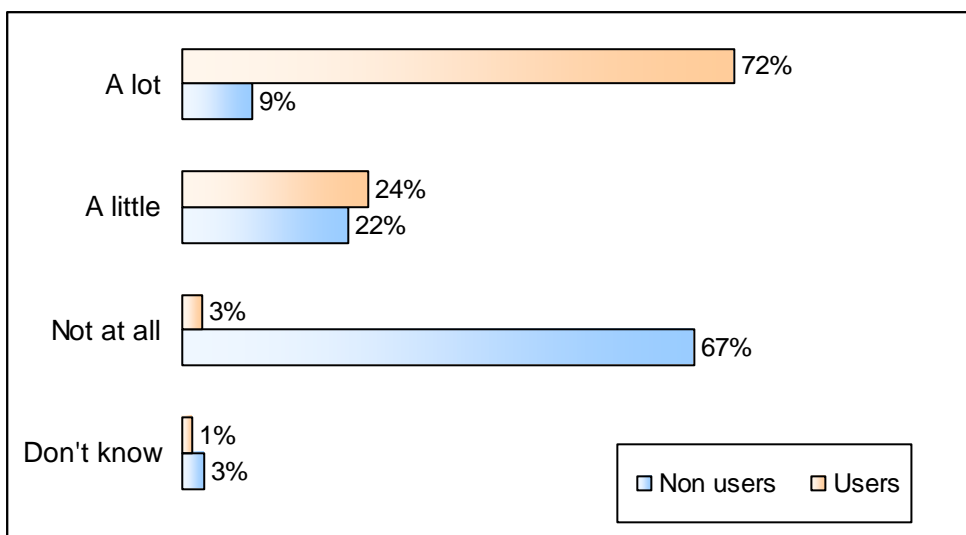
### Appendix 3

- Marl Pits is seen to be too 'play' like and too shallow at one end for proper swimming
- There is no venue in the valley with the same facilities as Haslingden pool

That said, over 30% of non users would also be affected in some way by any potential pool closure. Here are the reasons why:

- Users of Marl Pits fear that their pool will suddenly become extremely busy
- Fear that children and grandchildren will lose an important local facility and that many children will grow up without a vital life skill
- Many non users intend to use their local pool in the future when their timetable and/or health permits it
- There is no health suite available anywhere else in the valley
- The pool helps to keep children fit and active and away from the television
- Seen to have an impact on wider family members, including older members who might struggle to access alternative venues

**Figure 5.8: Impact of closing Haslingden pool**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q14 Base (users): 250 Base (non users): 297

**Q16 – Would you be able to use another pool facility nearby?**



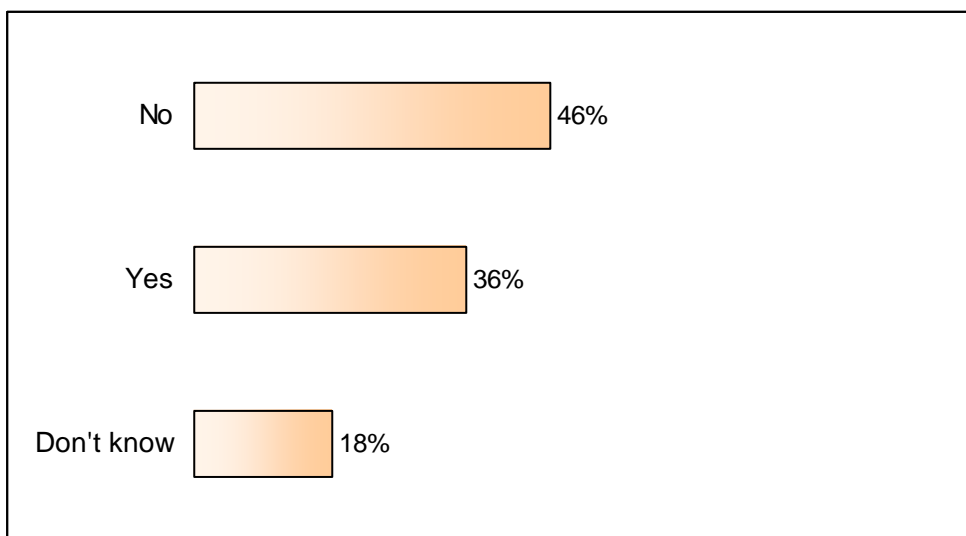
### Appendix 3

This is an important question for understanding the impact of a potential closure and 36% state that they would be able to use another facility. This is higher for those aged 50-59 but considerably lower for those aged 70+.

However, the greatest proportion (46%) of respondents state that they would be unable to use another facility nearby. This is predominantly an issue for those aged 60+. So what is it that affects the ability to use an alternative pool?

- Difficulties in accessing other pools
- Cost of travel too high
- Time of travel an issue (irregular buses)
- Not enough available swim time at Marl Pits

**Figure 5.9: Usage of alternative local pool facilities**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q16 Base: 244

**Q18 – What might we be able to practically do to reduce the impact of option 2 on you?**

Here are the main actions that residents identified as helping to reduce the impact of option 2:

- Keep the pool open
- Build a new pool at Haslingden sports centre
- Ensure swim lessons carry on as normal
- Extend the opening hours of Marl Pits
- Put on a (free) bus transfer to Marl Pits
- Reduce the cost of swimming at Marl Pits to compensate for the cost of getting there

## **6 Detailed Research Findings – user groups**

Along with general HSP swim users, those who attend specific swim groups at Haslingden pool were invited to have their say. Colleagues at the Leisure Trust were promoting the consultation during January – March 2013 and encouraged people to complete a paper questionnaire. In total, 114 residents who attend a specific swim session took part in the consultation.

The map below provides a visual representation of where each of the swim group respondents are geographically located.

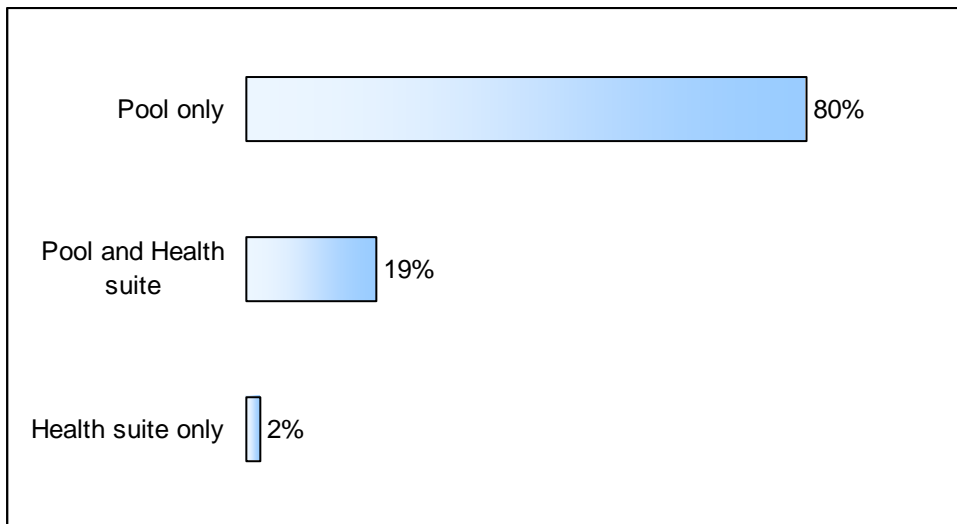


### 6.1 Pool usage

#### Q1 – What facilities do you currently use at Haslingden pool?

The vast majority (80%) of those who attend a specific swim session tend to use the pool only. This is higher for those aged under 30. Just under a fifth tend to use both the pool and the health suite. This is higher for those aged 50-59 and 70+.

**Figure 6.1: Usage of Haslingden pool**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q1 Base: 97

#### Q2 – Please tell us which of the following you attend?

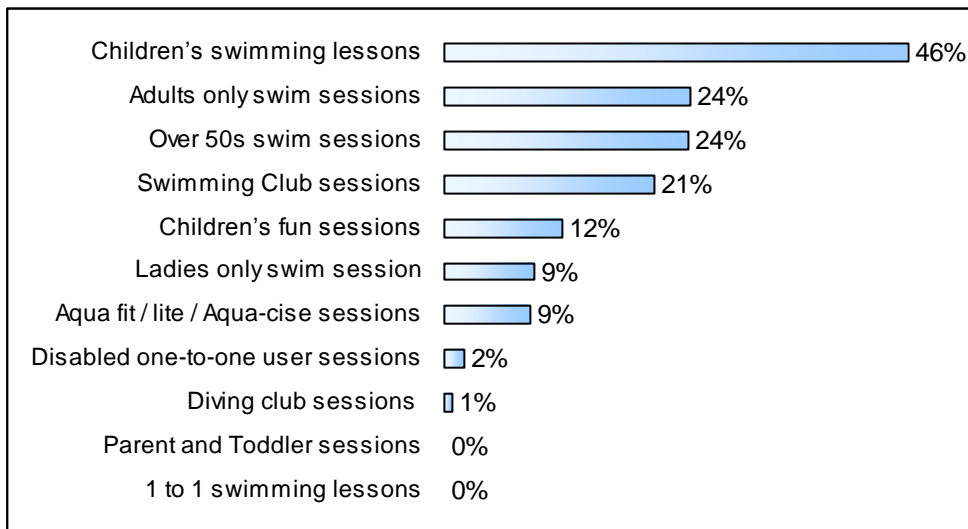
The most popular swim session seems to be the children’s swimming lessons. 46% of respondents make use of this service, and the percentage is higher for those aged under 50.

Both the adult only and over 50s swim sessions are also popular, with just under a quarter of respondents taking part in these sessions. The latter is more popular for those aged 50-59 and for residents without a disability whilst the latter is more popular for the 60-69 age group.

## Appendix 3

Trying to retain these popular swim sessions will be important for the community and a challenge for the Council, regardless of which option is ultimately chosen.

**Figure 6.2: Specific sessions attended**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q2 Base: 95

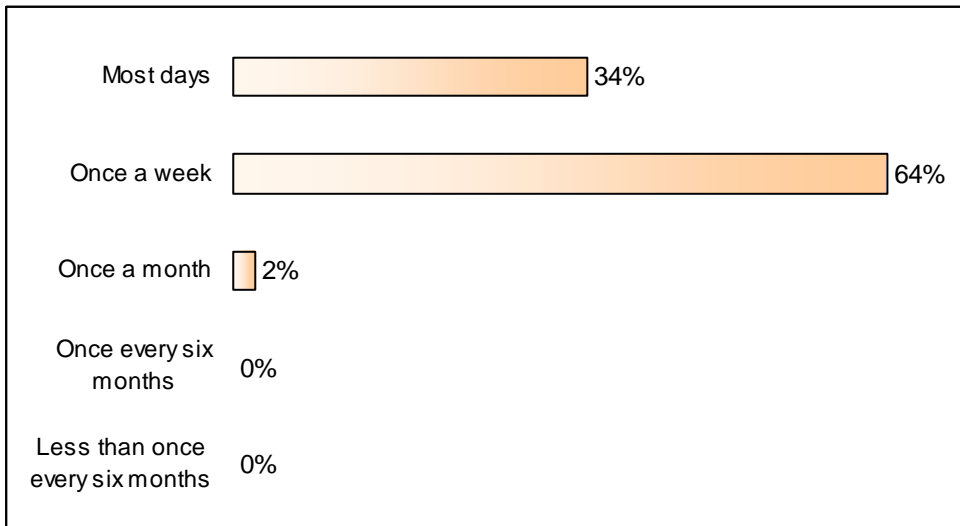
### Q3 – How frequently would you say you use Haslingden pool?

The evidence suggests that if you attend a swim session, you will attend at least once a week. 98% of current swim session users attend at least on a weekly basis. Attendance seems to be more frequent for those aged 50+ and for residents without a disability.

It interesting to note that for those who use the pool but not the specific swim sessions, frequency of use falls to 72% at least weekly (see figure 4.2 above). Clearly, this has implications for the Leisure Trust – if efforts can be made to advertise swim sessions and to encourage people to attend, revenues should increase as well as customer loyalty.

**Figure 6.3: Frequency of use**

### Appendix 3

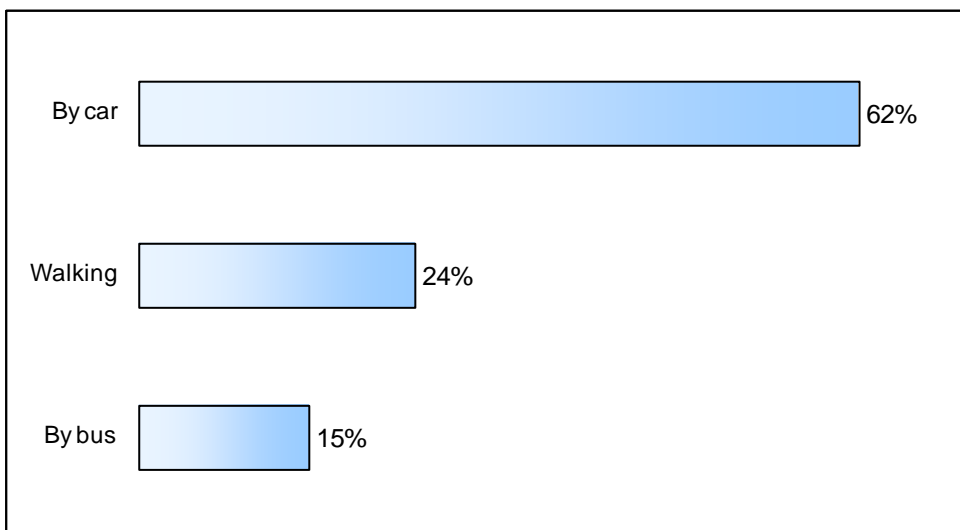


Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q3 Base: 100

#### Q4 – How do you usually access/ travel to Haslingden pool?

62% of swim session users get to Haslingden pool via a car. This is higher for women, those aged 30-49 and residents without a disability. Walking is a more popular choice for those aged 70+ whilst public transport is more popular amongst those under 30 and residents with a disability.

**Figure 6.4: Means of transport**

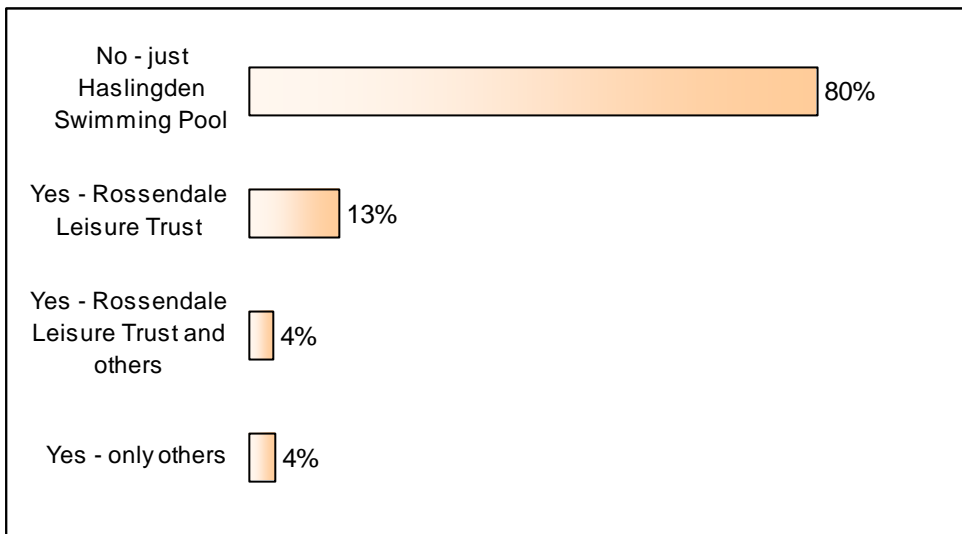


Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q4 Base: 93

#### Q5 – Do you use any other Rossendale Leisure Trust facility in the valley, or other leisure facilities nearby to swim?

For swim session users, use of Haslingden pool only is extremely high. 80% use only Haslingden pool, higher for residents with a disability.

**Figure 6.5: Wider use of leisure facilities**



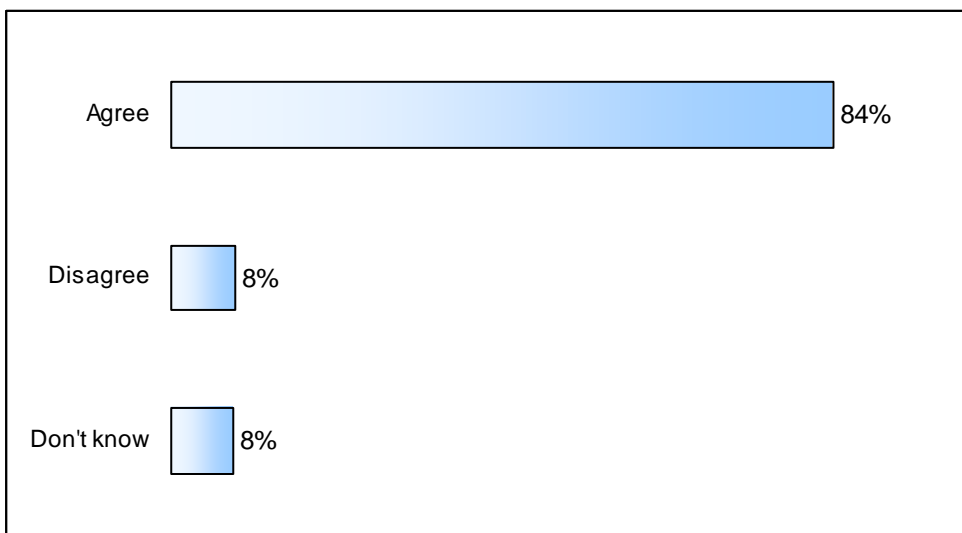
Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q5 Base: 99

## 6.2 Option 1 – transferring ownership

**Q6 – One option being considered is to look at transferring ownership/ responsibility of Haslingden pool. Do you agree or disagree with this option if it meant that the pool remained open?**

84% of swim session users agree with the proposal to transfer ownership if it means that the pool remains open. This is higher for men and those under the age of 30.

**Figure 6.6: Level of agreement with option 1**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q6 Base: 99

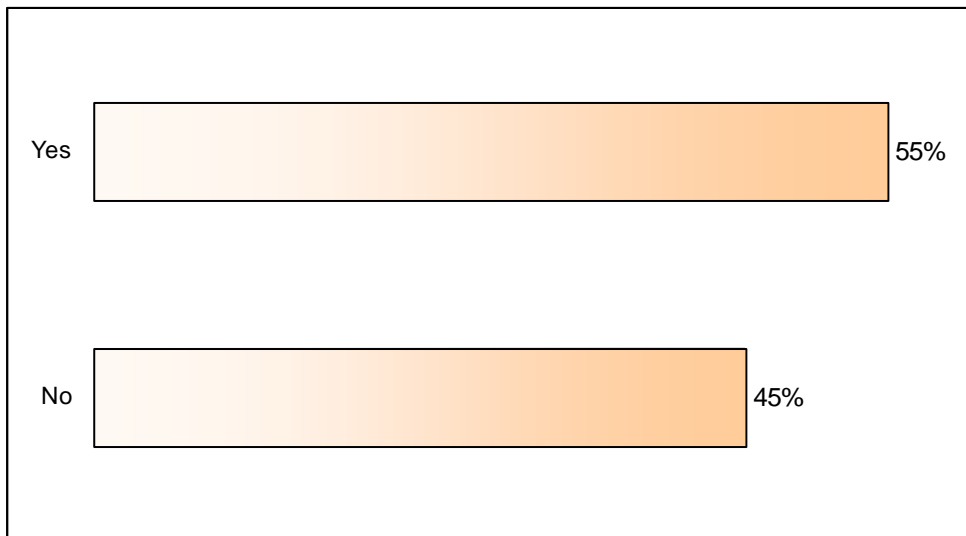
**Q7 – Do you feel that option 1 (transfer of ownership) would directly impact on you?**

55% believe that transferring ownership will directly impact upon them. This is higher for those aged under 30 and for residents with a disability.

Here are the reasons why:

- Costs may increase
- Could continue swimming
- Jobs would be kept
- New owners might be able to improve the facility

**Figure 6.7: Whether option 1 will have a direct impact**



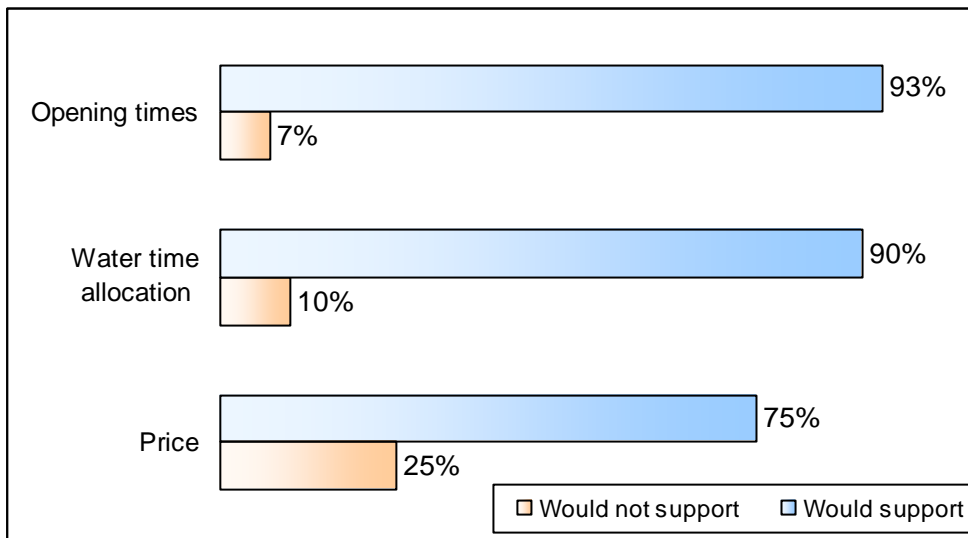
Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q7 Base: 96

**Q9 – If a transfer to a third party was pursued and some changes were necessary to ensure that it was sustainable/ financially viable, please tell us which of the following you would support.**

Most swim session users would support changes to opening times and water time allocation if it meant that the pool remains open. 93% would support changes to opening times (lower for those aged 50-59) whilst 90% would support changes to water time allocation.

However, price changes would be met with greater resistance, despite 75% of respondents supporting this potential change (lower for those aged under 30 and for residents with a disability).

**Figure 6.8: Level of support for potential changes**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q9 Base: 99

**Q11 – What might be able to practically do to reduce the impact of option 1 on you?**

Here are some of the main suggestions that were provided:

- Keep the pool open
- Build a new pool
- Minimise any changes to terms and conditions (i.e. prices, opening hours)
- Give new owners some financial help
- Improve transport connections to Marl Pits

**6.3 Option 2 - closing Haslingden pool**

**Q12 – If Haslingden pool had to close and you were no longer able to use the pool there, to what degree would this impact on you directly?**

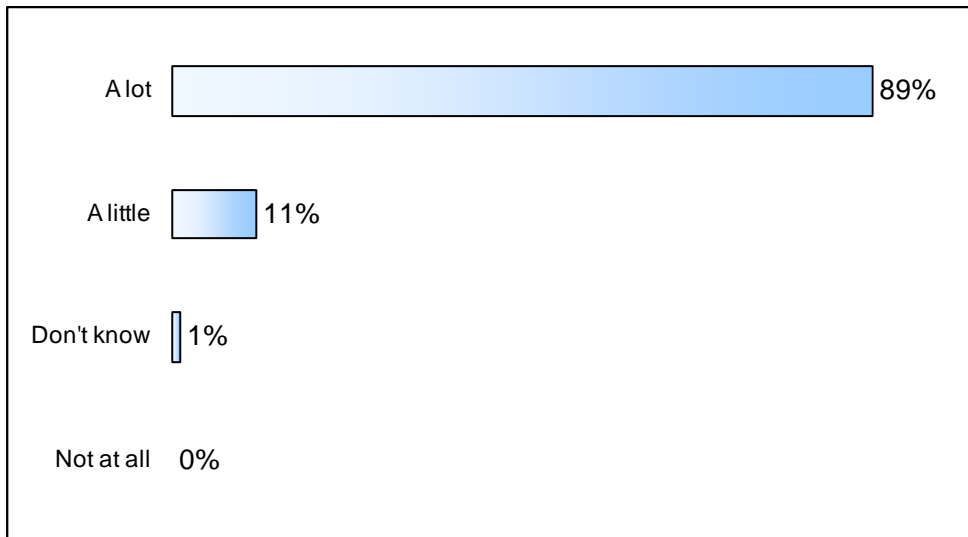
89% of swim session users would be directly impacted if Haslingden pool had to close. This is higher for those with a disability.

Here are the main reasons why it would have an impact:

- Would no longer be able to swim
- Would lose out on the social aspect of swimming
- Additional cost and time or trying to get to alternative facilities
- Health would deteriorate



**Figure 6.9: Impact of potentially closing Haslingden pool**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q12 Base: 100

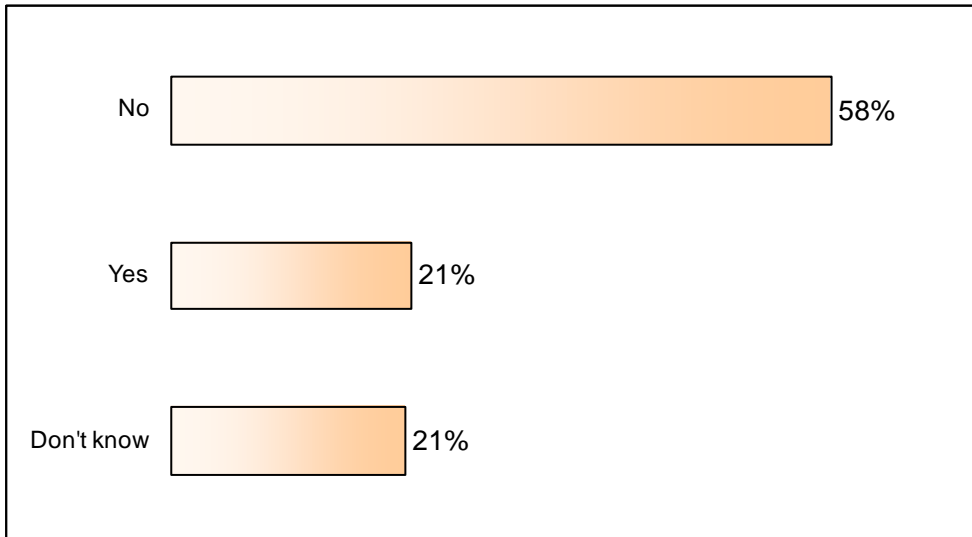
**Q14 – Would you be able to use another pool facility nearby?**

58% of swim session users would not be able to use another pool facility nearby. This is higher for residents with a disability.

Why would users not be able to access an alternative pool?

- Feel other pools are already full to capacity
- Time and cost required to get to another pool
- There is no health suite at Marl Pits
- Difficult to access Marl Pits by bus

**Figure 6.10: Access to other pool facilities**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q14 Base: 98

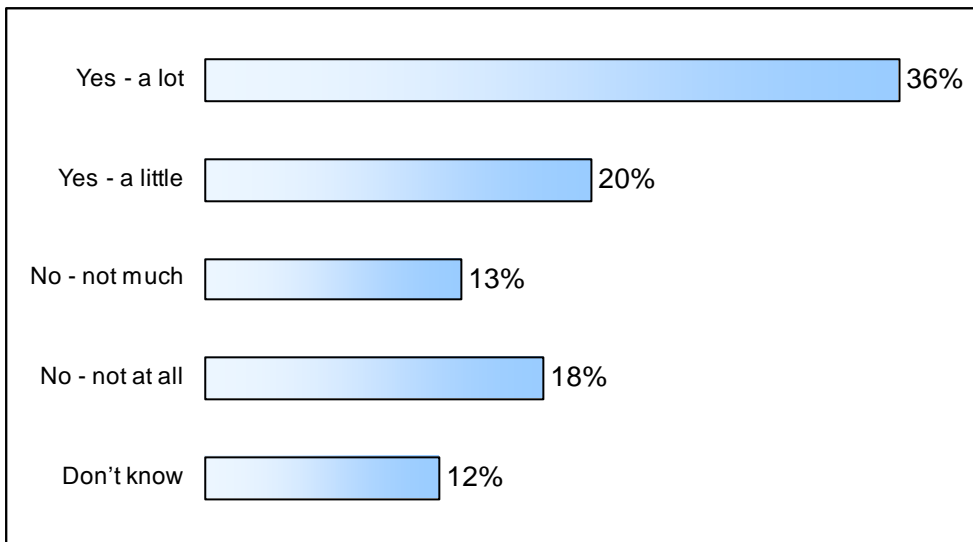
**Q15 – The Council/ Rossendale Leisure Trust would try to help you find an alternative pool facility/ water time that meets your needs. If we are able to do this, to what extent would this reduce the impact that potential closure of the pool would have on you?**

56% of swim session users believe that finding an alternative venue/ water time that meets their needs would reduce the impact of Halsingden pool potentially closing. This is higher for men, those aged under 30 and for residents with a disability.

For the 31% who stated that it wouldn't reduce the impact, here are the main reasons:

- Would struggle to meet the additional cost and time restraints
- Simply cannot access another pool in the area
- Another pool might not be able to cope with the additional demand
- Public transport is not reliable enough

**Figure 6.11: Extent to which finding alternative water time would reduce impact**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q15 Base: 95

**Q16 – If we were able to provide water space/ time for you during the possible swim time reprogramming at Marl Pits or in discussions with other leisure facilities, would you still go?**

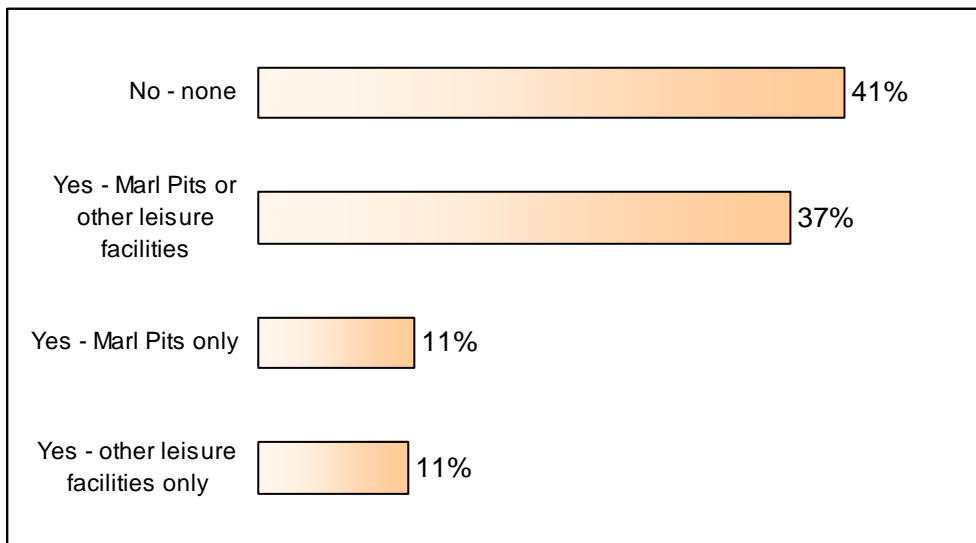
41% of swim session users would not attend any identified swim time at an alternative facility. This is higher for women, those aged 50-59 and residents without a disability.

The main reasons for not wanting to attend alternative venues are:

- No transport
- Pool might be too busy to swim properly
- Would take too long to get there and back
- Inaccessible in bad weather
- Unreliable public transport

However, 48% of current users would still go. Uptake is higher amongst men, those aged under 30 and for residents with a disability.

**Figure 6.12: Uptake of swim time at Marl Pits or other leisure facilities**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q16 Base: 95

**Q17 – If the pool did have to close, are there any specific factors that you would like us to consider so that, as far as practically possible, we can continue to accommodate your needs?**

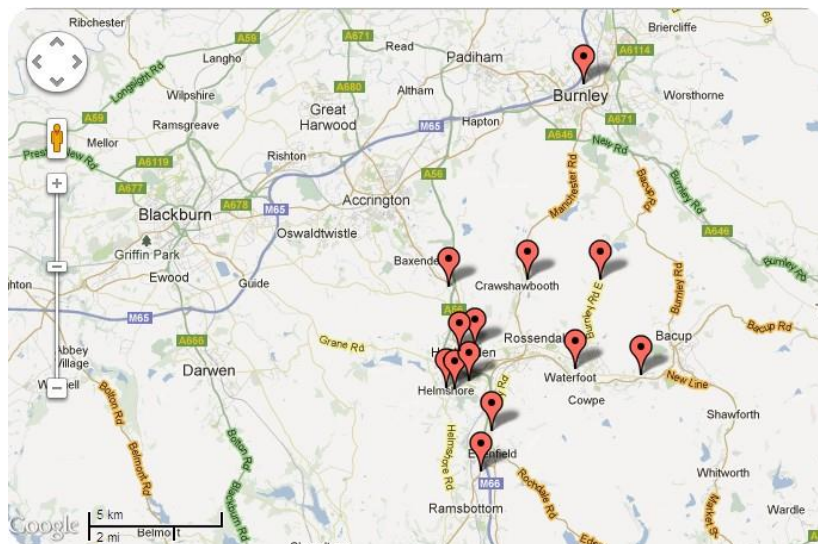
Here are some of the main suggestions that were put forward:

- Retain the existing swim session groups
- Build a new pool
- Build a new health suite
- Provide space for Haslingden swimming club to continue

## 7 Detailed Research Findings – local schools

As part of the consultation it is extremely important to understand the thoughts of local schools and how the proposed options may affect them. 34 schools were invited to take part. In total, 15 responses were received.

The map below provides a visual representation of where each of the schools are geographically located.



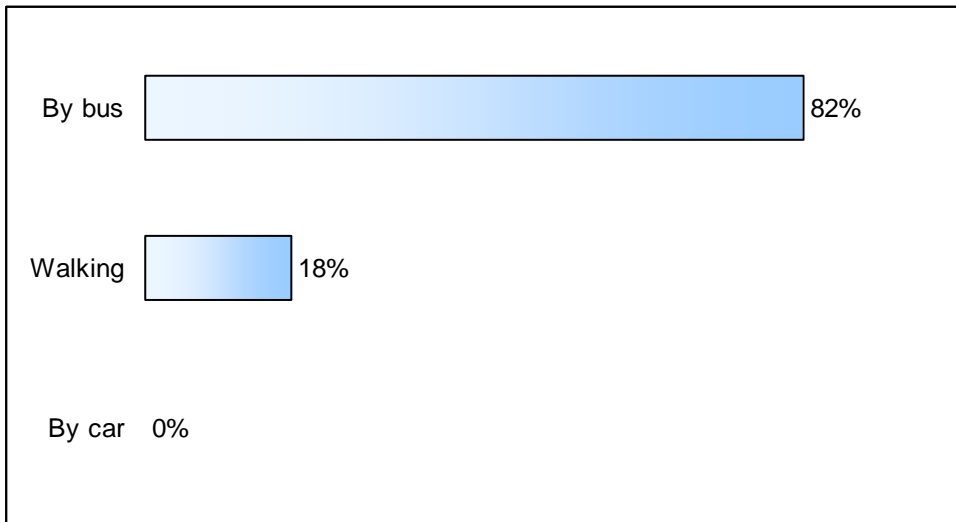
### 7.1 Pool usage

#### Q1 – How does your school usually access/ travel to Haslingden pool?

82% of schools who use Haslingden pool travel there by bus. 18% walk to the pool.

**Figure 7.1: Means of transport**

## Appendix 3

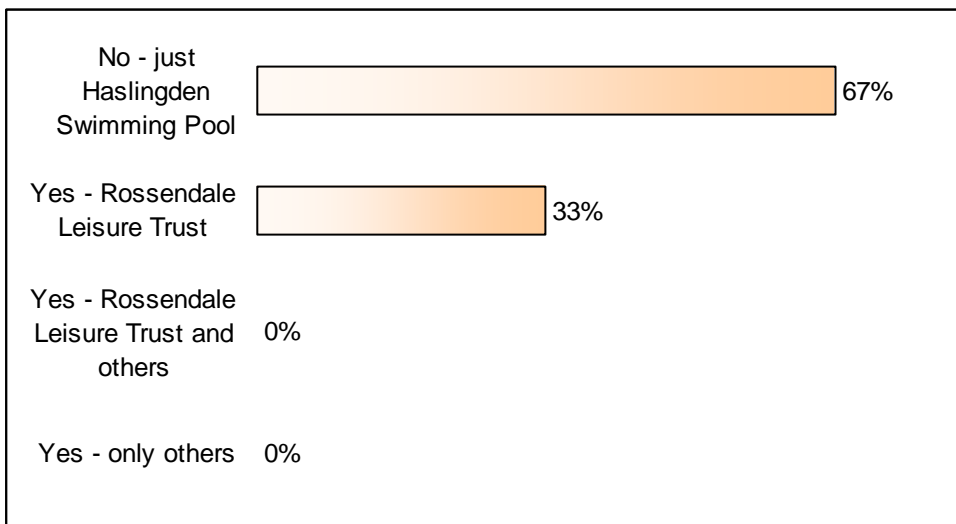


Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q1 Base: 11

### Q2 – Does your school use any of the other Rossendale Leisure Trust facilities in the valley, or other leisure trust facilities nearby, to swim?

Two thirds of schools tend to use only Haslingden pool for their swimming needs. One third also use other Leisure Trust provided facilities.

**Figure 7.2: Use of other facilities**



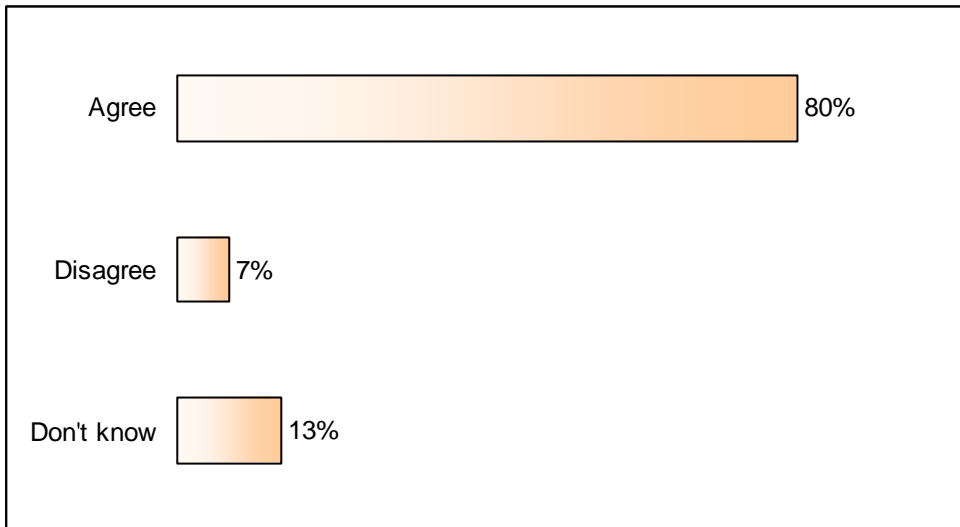
Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q2 Base: 15

## 7.2 Option 1 – transferring ownership

### Q3 – One option being considered is to look at transferring ownership/ responsibility of Haslingden pool. Do you agree or disagree with this option if it meant that the pool remained open?

80% of schools agree with the proposal to transfer ownership.

**Figure 7.3: Level of agreement with transferring ownership**



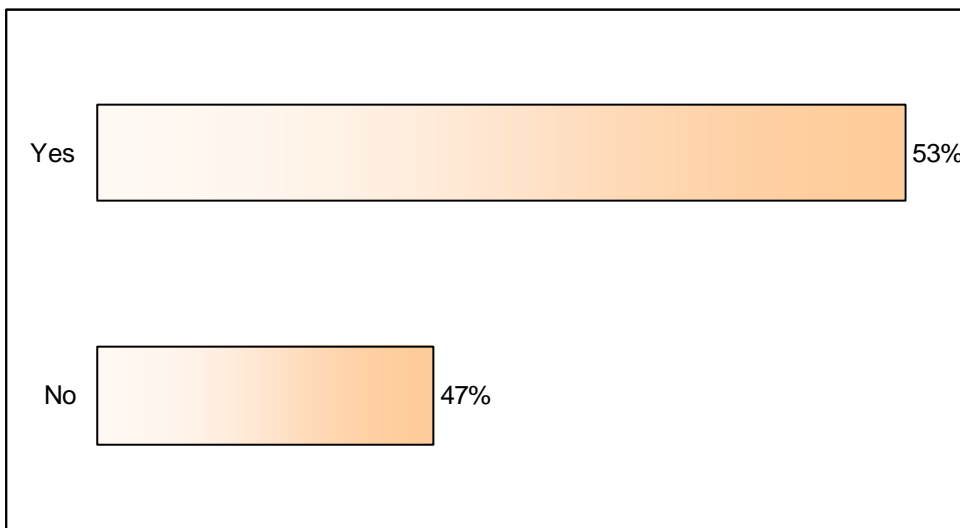
Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q3 Base: 15

**Q4 – Do you feel that option 1 (transfer of ownership) would directly impact on your school?**

Just over half of schools believe that option 1 will have a direct impact upon them. Here are the reasons why:

- Increased costs
- Reduced availability of time slots
- Staffing changes
- Increased time out of school travelling to an alternative facility

**Figure 7.4: Whether option 1 would have a direct impact**

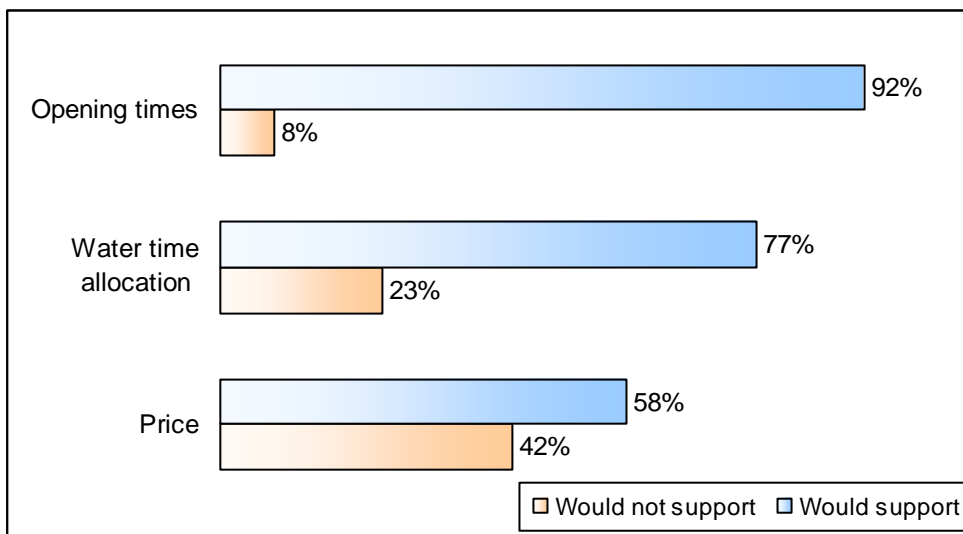


Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q4 Base: 15

**Q6 – If a transfer to a third party was pursued and some changes were necessary to ensure that it was sustainable/ financially viable, please tell us which of the following you would support?**

Schools have little preference with regard to opening times but any changes to price and water time allocation are much more sensitive to their needs.

**Figure 7.5: Level of support for potential changes**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q6 Base: 13

**Q8 – What might we be able to practically do to reduce the impact of option 1 on your school?**

Here are the suggestions that were made:

- Guarantee no price increases for a set time period
- Keep the pool open
- Ensure no changes to swimming lessons (cost, staff, timetable)
- Offer subsidised transport
- Ensure private swim times with a quiet pool

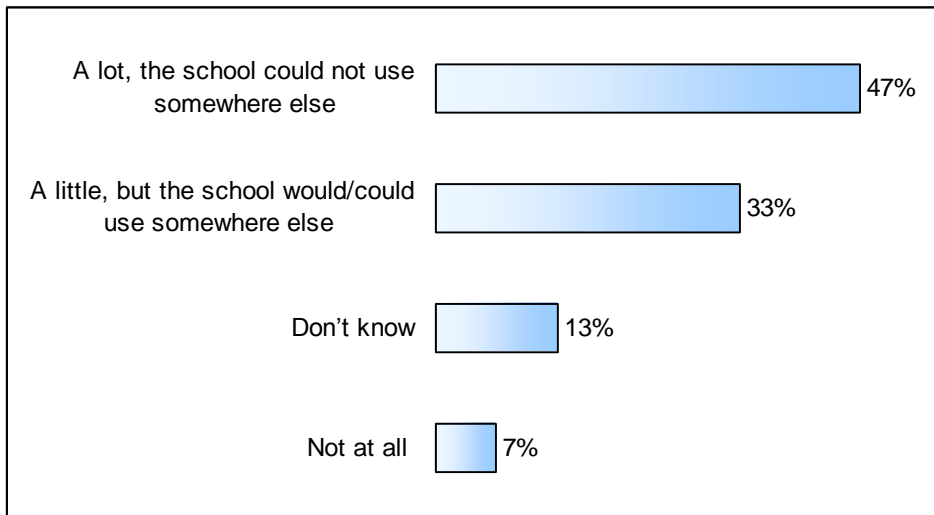


### 7.3 Option 2 – closing Haslingden pool

#### Q9 – To what degree would the potential closure of Haslingden pool impact on your school?

Of the 15 schools that responded, nearly half felt that closure of Haslingden pool would impact on them ‘a lot’, while a third felt that they would be affected ‘a little’ but they would/could use an alternative facility elsewhere.

**Figure 7.6: Impact of potential closure**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q9 Base: 15

#### Q10 – Would you be able to use another pool facility nearby?

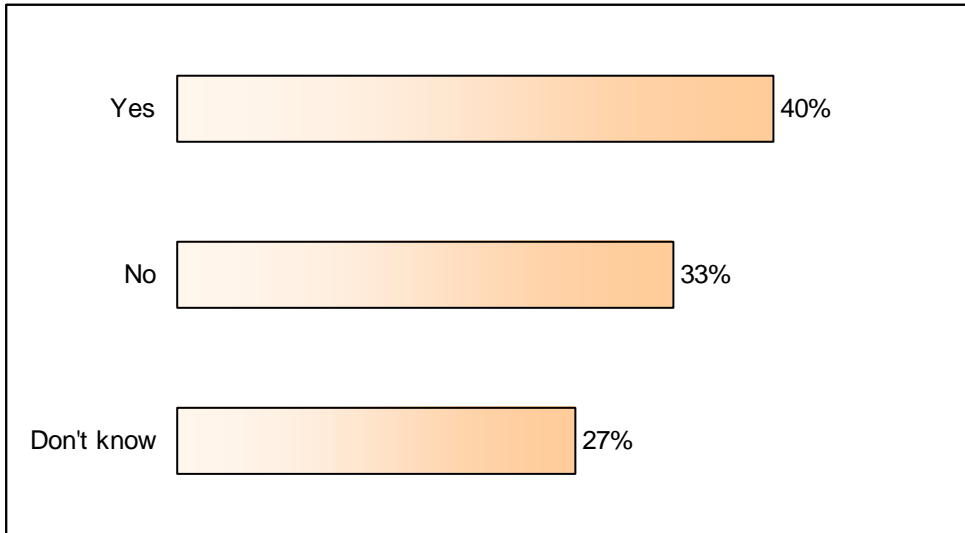
When schools were asked to think about whether they would be able to use another pool facility nearby if they could no longer use Haslingden Pool; of the schools that responded, 40% said ‘yes’ they would be able to use another pool facility nearby. However, a third of respondents felt that they would be unable to use another pool and a further 27% are not sure at this stage.

Here are the reasons why schools would not be able to access a nearby pool:

- Increased costs
- Nearby pools unable to cope with the demands
- Over crowded pools
- Increased journey times

**Figure 7.7: Ability to access another pool nearby**

### Appendix 3



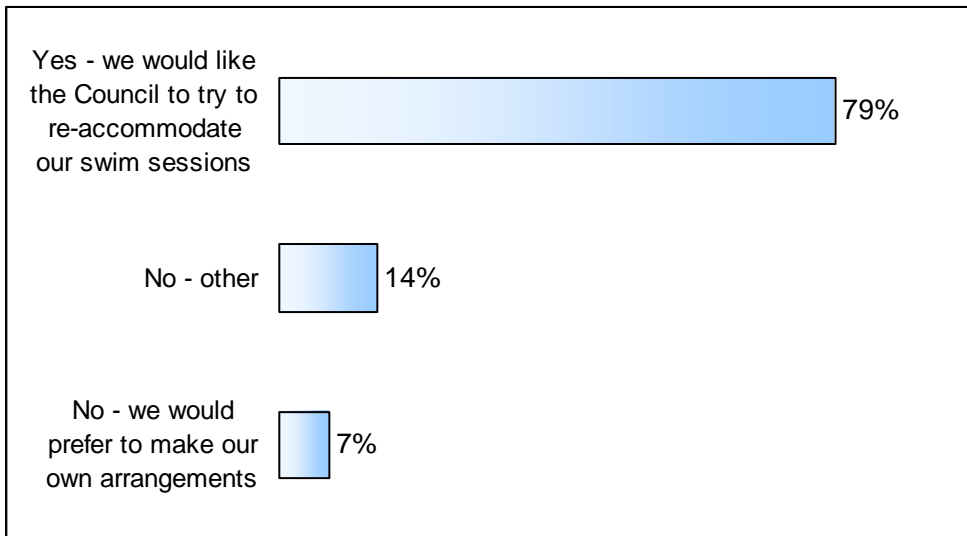
Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q10 Base: 15

**Q12 – If Haslingden pool did have to close, we would look at reprogramming swimming time availability for schools at Marl Pits, or in discussion with other leisure facilities. Would you want us to take your requirements into account when trying to re-accommodate swim time availability for schools, or would you be happy to make your own alternative arrangements yourself?**

Despite a third of schools that responded saying they could not use another facility nearby, 11 of the 14 schools that responded would like the Council to deal with re-arranging their swim time. Only 3 schools said they did not want to be considered in reprogramming. One did not answer.

Work with Leisure Trust and schools is on-going to determine actual school demand for swimming in the year ahead to complete re-programming, which is currently awaiting confirmation from schools. The Leisure Trust is confident that it will be able to accommodate all schools can be re-provided for.

**Figure 7.8: Preference for rescheduling swim time availability**



Source: Rossendale Leisure Review 2013, Q12 Base: 14

**Q14 – What might we be able to practically do to reduce the impact of option 2 on your school?**

Here are the suggestions that were made:

- Keep the pool open
- Build a new pool
- Ensure Marl Pits can cope with the additional demand
- Set up ‘double lessons’ to justify the additional time and cost of getting there
- Utilise the best staff from Haslingden pool
- Provide free transport
- Keep the costs the same

## 8 Marl Pits users

Several of the responses to the consultation came in from users of Marl Pits swimming pool. Although it is not possible to filter the data by those who use Marl Pits, some of the open ended comments made it clear that the main feeling amongst Marl Pits users is the fear of overcrowding if Haslingden pool was to close.

As a result of this, users of Marl Pits were invited to have their say via a short ‘comments’ form that was located in the reception area. 18 responses were received and here is what they told us:

- Keep Haslingden pool open to avoid over crowding at Marl Pits
- Preference is for option 1 (transfer of ownership)
- Bring the sauna/ steam room facilities across to Marl Pits
- Many people may struggle to access Marl Pits from Haslingden
- Impact on schools and demand for schools if it closes
- Sell the pool to a developer and build a new pool in Haslingden with the money raised