

Glass House Pool Access Report

Members of the Community Association Assets Subcommittee together with Estate Management staff have investigated a number of available pool access facilities on the market.

The Committee agreed that no permanent fixed access facility should encroach further into the pool than the existing ladders due to the risk of swimmers swimming into them.

RESULTS

DEMOUNTABLE UNITS: There is a large assortment of access facilities which are suitable to be stored outside of the pool and installed on an “as-needs” basis. All of these units however require varying degrees of expertise to transport and locate them in the pool and remove them after use. Due to the unavailability of suitable staff to satisfactorily achieve this and the OH&S issues they would raise, they were all rejected by the Committee.

MODIFY EXISTING LADDER: Several options were investigated.

A number of stainless steel fabricators were approached for recommendations to extend the width of the treads on the existing ladders using stainless steel bolt-on extension treads. All fabricators recommended against this as the treads would project beyond the ladder supports making it dangerous for swimmers swimming past.

Rubber, plastic and fibreglass covers on the steps were considered. However all were rejected due to the corrosive (chlorinated) environment which would affect the rubber making it slippery and dangerous. The need for custom-made moulds to be fabricated for plastic and fibreglass and the difficulties in securing these materials to the existing steps was considered prohibitively expensive.

The existing steps are stainless steel 55cm wide x 8 cm deep with rounded edges and a raised non-slip pattern on the surface of the tread. The steps are typical of many installed in pools where minimum encroachment into the pool is a major design criterion, as is the case in the Glasshouse Pool.

(Thanks to Neville Monk in Antias for his painstaking research.)

COUNCIL FACILITIES FOR LESS MOBILE SWIMMERS

There is more detail in a separate document. Transport can be arranged to one or other of the Council’s hydrotherapy pools via the Pymont Community Centre on 9298 3130.