

# Litchfield Aquatic Facilities

Needs Analysis

## Community Forum



# Session Overview

- Introductions
- About the Project
- What is a Needs Analysis?
- What We Know Already
- What We Don't Know
  - Your thoughts
- Next Steps and Feedback

# About Us

- ❑ One Eighty Sport and Leisure Solutions
  - Sport and Leisure Planners
  - Working across Australia
  - Open space, recreation planning, master planning
- ❑ A number of aquatic projects currently being undertaken
  - Needs analysis
  - Master plans
  - Management strategies



# About the Project

# About the Project

- ❑ An aquatic facility has been discussed in Litchfield for a number of years
- ❑ A significant amount of work has already been undertaken to include:
  - 1992 Litchfield District Centres Land Use Concept Plans
    - Identified Fred's Pass for Regional facilities
    - Suggested a swimming pool be developed Cnr Bees Creek and Eugene Roads
  - 2000 pre feasibility study
  - 2009 Humpty Doo pool proposal
  - 2010 operational viability of Fred's Pass v Humpty Doo
  - 2011 concept sketches for Fred's Pass
  - 2014 master plan for Fred's Reserve
- ❑ So what are we doing now?

# Issues and challenges

- ❑ Previous plans and strategies were done in isolation from each other with:
  - no clear assessment of **community demand** or need
  - no consideration of the **existing facilities**
  - Sporadic **consultation**
  - No assessment of suitable **locations**
- ❑ Therefore important to make sure we take a systematic approach before committing to something which:
  - May not be needed
  - May not be the best design
  - Could cost council and ratepayers significant upfront and ongoing costs

# Aims and Objectives

## □ This project will:

- Assist Council to decide **if and how and if it will proceed** further.
- Provide a case to **seek funding** from the NTG
- Identify **facility components**
- Identify **possible sites**
- Assess possible **opportunities to partner** with other agencies
- Identify **funding opportunities** for the development of an aquatic leisure facility.
- **Engage the community and stakeholders** throughout the project

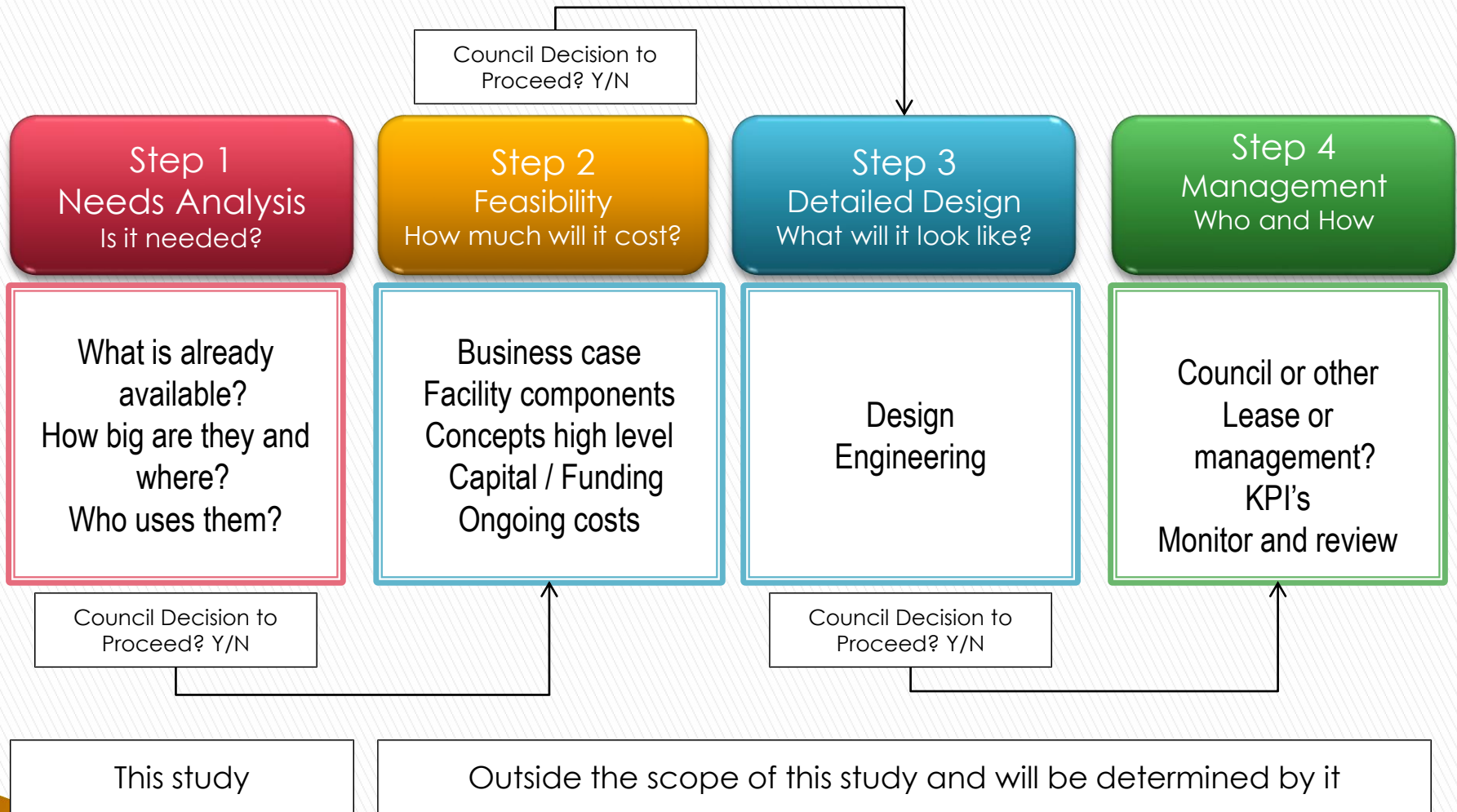
# What is a Needs Analysis?



# Overview

- When **planning for community facilities**, a number of considerations must be taken to include:
  - Is it needed?
  - If so what should it look like?
  - Where should it go?
  - Who will it service?
  - How will it be managed?
  - How will it complement rather than compete with similar facilities?
  - Will it be financially viable or will it require a subsidy?
  - How will we know if it is meeting its intended use?

# Community Facility Planning Approach



# Step 1: This Project

Step 1  
Needs Analysis  
Is an aquatic facility  
needed?

Late August /  
Early September

**STAGE ONE**  
**Initiation**  
Project Familiarisation and  
Preparation

- Start Up
- Confirm Tasks and Timelines
- Site Familiarisation
- Engagement Strategy Developed
- Stakeholder identified and Contacted

September

**STAGE TWO**  
**Latent Demand**  
Trends and Supply

- Strategic Document Review
- Trend Analysis
- Audit of Existing Supply
- Mapping
- 

Early October

**STAGE THREE**  
**Expressed Demand**  
Needs Assessment /  
Consultation

- Surveys
- Workshops
- Stakeholder Meetings
- Pop Up Consultations

November -  
December

**STAGE FOUR**  
**Needs Analysis**  
Document and Prioritise

- Draft
- Solicit feedback
- Alignment
- Consultation
- Finalise Report

# Who have/will we speak to?

- ❑ NTG
- ❑ Local Members
- ❑ Schools
- ❑ Community Groups
- ❑ Sport and Recreation Groups
- ❑ Learn To Swim Operators
- ❑ Recreation Reserve Mgt Groups

# What We Already Know

# Overview

- ❑ There isn't a public aquatic facility in Litchfield
- ❑ The community use neighbouring council facilities
- ❑ Pools generally don't make money and cost councils every year in operational subsidies
- ❑ Identifying a need does not mean it will be a viable business, however Council has an obligation to:
  - Deliver services to the community
  - Manage them in the most cost effective manner
  - Need to be accountable to their ratepayers

# Supply

- Industry 'benchmarks' group recreation / aquatic facilities from 1-7
  - Levels 1 & 2 = 1- 2 court recreation centre
  - Level 3 = 2 - 3 court plus ancillary services / facilities
  - Level 4 = 3+ court plus ancillary services / facilities
  
  - Level 5 outdoor pool
  - Level 6 outdoor / indoor pool (rec centre)
  - Level 7 indoor pools and recreation centres
  
- As a rule of thumb, generally the higher levels require less subsidy but must not have any major competition within their immediate 10km catchment

Nightcliff Swimming Centre



Casuarina Swimming Pool



Leanyer Recreation Park



Parap Swimming Centre



Darwin Wave Lagoon



Palmerston water Park



Palmerston Swimming and fitness Centre



3 x Outdoor 50m pools  
1 x Outdoor 25m pool  
3 water parks (not graded)



# Subsidy Examples

- Annual subsidy of each pool in 14/15 was:
  - Casuarina: **-\$193,068**
  - Parap: **-\$184,550**
  - Nightcliff: **-\$200,839**
  
- Average (7year) operating subsidy per visit for each pool:
  - Casuarina: **\$4.22**
  - Parap: **\$3.19**
  - Nightcliff: **\$2.28**
  
- Katherine, Palmerston and Alice Springs to be investigated

**What are your thoughts?**

# Community Views

- ❑ Does the community want an aquatic facility?
- ❑ Which ones are currently used around the region?
- ❑ Where do you see there being gaps?
- ❑ What design aspects have been suggested?
  - Lap pool?
  - Learn to swim?
  - Water play?
  - Leisure?
  - Recreation centre model (courts / multi purpose rooms?)
  - Indoor / outdoor pool?
  - Others?

# Next Steps and Feedback

# Stages in the Needs Analysis

Early September

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Late September

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October

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December

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# Further Involvement

- ❑ Community groups / organisations are being invited to submit feedback via a survey
- ❑ You can also do the same by visiting Councils website [www.litchfield.nt.gov.au](http://www.litchfield.nt.gov.au)
- ❑ Or contact Customer Service on 8983 0600
- ❑ **Closes 24<sup>th</sup> October**

## Consultant Contact

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# Comments and Feedback