



Central Highlands Regional Council  
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## Media Release

**Contact:** Mayor Peter Maguire  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Blackwater pool amenities right for 21<sup>st</sup> century**

Careful planning and design work is at the core of work being undertaken by local building contractors to give the Blackwater community an aquatic centre to be proud of said Deputy Mayor Paul Bell.

This will include a modern kitchen and cafeteria, spacious shower and change facilities and club rooms located right on the finish line, to assist with club nights and carnivals.

The existing Blackwater pool amenities block is long overdue for replacement with structural failures, electrical capacity at its limit and a design that is from a bygone era said Cr Bell.

Central Highlands Regional Council Mayor Cr Peter Maguire said a modern Blackwater needs modern facilities that are safe, provide comfort and incorporate the requirements of patrons who expect community facilities like pools to have additional amenities and services such as good coffee and good food, swimming merchandise available, a place for the swimming club to meet and fitness facilities to complement swimming training.

Deputy Mayor Cr Paul Bell said that works external to the new amenities block were also proceeding well. With Council's vision for a heated pool and other new facilities in the pool complex, a significant effort has been put into meeting power demand. Full design and a new electricity supply point have been identified by Ergon Energy, and preliminary works will start next week.

Cr Bell said a purpose built car park had been designed with access off Wey Street that would ease present and future car parking demands.

Cr Maguire said that the builders anticipate a completion date of around the second week of December. We are still in discussions with Ergon, Cr Maguire said, in regard to a date of electricity supply from the new point of entry and we expect the new transformer and electrical works to be completed in February 2010. With the construction of the car park starting in January, and an expected completion date at the end of February, we should see all of the new facilities open and accessible to the public in early March 2010.

Cr Bell said that mature trees presently growing on the area identified for the new pool car park will be relocated to the western town entrance.

The Wey Street entrance will now be the key focus for future works, with access to the new building, including a ramp the final tasks to be completed by the builder.

The improvements to the Blackwater swimming pool complex demonstrate Council's commitment to Key Priority 5 of the Corporate Plan "Our Community Our Lifestyle," by enhancing health & wellbeing opportunities for the community, Cr Maguire said.

**End**

For further information or to arrange an interview please contact:

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