

Council set to float new plan for pool

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MONASH Council's plans to refurbish Oakleigh pool will have to meet stricter environmental criteria to win State Government funding.

The project will include a refurbished heated outdoor 50-metre pool, diving pool, outdoor spa, new kiosk and change rooms.

The council has committed \$6 million from land sales and ratepayers' funds to the \$7 million refurbishment project in the hope of securing at least \$1 million from the State Gov-

ernment's Better Pools program.

In this funding round, projects must improve their aquatic facility's "energy, water, waste or emission performance".

The application deadline is October 2. Successful projects will be announced in December.

Last week, Monash Mayor Tom Morrissey couldn't confirm the project's environmental initiatives but said the council was assembling information from consultants on how to integrate water-saving and other green initiatives in the design.

"Council is in the preliminary stages of design work for the

refurbishment of the aquatic facilities and is not yet in a position to be able to provide firm details on the specifics of environmental features and other engineering systems."

In a June 5 report, the council floated a water-saving plan for the project to provide a backwash recycling system.

Monash councillor Gerry Kottek said the council was considering solar heating and the use of overnight pool covers to conserve energy.

Oakleigh MP Ann Barker said she was confident the council application would succeed.