

Managing Coastal Erosion At Mettams Pool

Mettams Pool has been identified as being highly vulnerable to immediate and future coastal erosion.

As a result, the City is looking at engineering options that will help to protect it into the future. To better understand what the community values about the coastal assets and infrastructure surrounding Mettams Pool and to inform the development of these options, the City asked the community to have their say.

Public consultation took place between Friday 22nd May and Sunday 16th June and a total of 491 online surveys were completed. Below is a summary of their findings.

You told us

Q1. Please let us know what best describes you?



364 (74.2%)

Property owner or resident within the City of Stirling

108 (22%)

Regular user of Mettams Pool, who lives outside the City of Stirling

19 (3.9%)

Other

Q2. If you visit mettams pool which of these activities do you usually do?



338

(25%)

Jog / walk
ride along the
dual use path



428

(31%)

Swimming
and
snorkelling



248

(18%)

Sit / sunbathe
/ picnic on the
beach



112

(8%)

Surfing



210

(15%)

Sit and enjoy
the view from
the viewing
deck



43

(3%)

Other



24 responses referred to **windsurfing** as a reason for visiting Mettams Pool.



“Unique and versatile part of the northern beaches. Have windsurfed there for many years.”

“I swim, walk (on the pathway and on the beach), enjoy the coastline, meet up with people or say hello to newcomers. A great community hub for all ages.”

“Social aspect of daily swimming with my friends in a safe ocean environment.”

Q3. When thinking about facilities and amenity at Mettams Pool, how important are the following?



Aggregated score for each response

880	Refreshments (snacks, hot drinks, ice-creams)
1298	Increased pedestrian amenity/activity area at street level
1372	Creation of a 'plaza' area to improve road safety and lower speeds past Mettams
1568	Parking immediately adjacent to Mettams Pool
1669	Surfing (applies to area north of bathing beach)
1679	Upper grassed 'beach' area (for when beach sand is limited)
1964	Community facilities - toilets and changing rooms
2025	Universal access to a sandy beach
2077	Universal access into the water
2263	Coastal amenity (e.g access to a sandy beach, dunes and natural vegetation, views)
2362	Swimming / snorkelling in the sheltered bay



When we asked you to tell us about the future of Mettams Pool, this is what you told us.

Keeping the **natural amenity** of Mettams Pool was paramount. There was a strong theme of beach goers enjoying the secluded and undeveloped nature of the beach and surrounds.



"Keep it as natural and untouched as possible. Environmental safety is of upmost importance."

An overwhelming majority told us that any additional **development particularly retail or cafés or structures would distract from the natural environment.**



"Please do not spoil this area from its natural beauty. This is its biggest strength. We do not want another commercial development. Avoid lots of concrete....."

Many of you supported **improving the access to a sandy beach and the water.** This did not simply relate to disability access but more broadly to all users. In part this referred to requests to seek options to remove rock hazards.



"There are too many rocks on the main beach of Mettams Pool which are causing hazards to beach goers. Negotiating walking to the water is a problem."

Equally, there was support for an **enhanced grass space**, supported primarily as a laydown area for rigging windsurfers. BBQs and additional seating were also connected to an **enhanced passive recreation space.**



".....more grassed area for windsurfers to set up on. An improved ramp leading down to the beach. More parking, reduced traffic and traffic speed."

Many visitors to Mettams Pool would like to see an upgrade to the **ablution and changing facilities and improving shelter and shade.**



"Please keep it just a simple beach, as it is now, with toilet shower facilities and that is it. Please don't spoil its charm and understated vibe."

In general, feedback didn't support any additional **parking** immediately around Mettams Pool. A safe pedestrian and cycling environment was frequently mentioned, ensuring there was clear separation from **traffic.**



"More parking for cars is not appropriate. Car parking bays should prioritise access for disabled people others should be encouraged to walk or cycle or catch public transport."