

Saturday 17 February 2018

DAILY TELEGRAPH ARTICLE A FARCE - RYDE AQUATIC LEISURE CENTRE WATER QUALITY SAFE

A story was published in Saturday's Daily Telegraph (17 Feb 2018) in relation to water quality at 5 public swimming pool locations including the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre.

Council would like to assure our customers that the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre is open for business and is safe for the community to use.

Council categorically refutes the Daily Telegraph's bacteria reading (Heterotrophic Plate Count) that has been quoted in the article and we are dubious that all 5 Aquatic Centres could record similarly high readings. In addition, Council has also made contact with the other Aquatic Centres this morning who also refute the results.

The Daily Telegraph has failed to provide Council information regarding its testing procedure including methodology, when and where it took place and how the samples were collected and transported for testing, to assist Council in determining how such a varied test result for the heterotrophic count was reportedly established. In addition, Council has not been provided with or given the opportunity to view the official laboratory results.

Council continuously upholds water quality requirements and rigorously conducts water tests. All Council records are compliant with Public Health requirements.

Council has a robust methodology of monitoring water quality at Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre which includes a raft of regular and comprehensive testing to ensure the water quality is of a standard that does not pose any risk to users of the facility.

This testing of the water quality includes regular independent assessment by the NSW Government's Health Department and for a number of years has consistently returned results that comply with relevant water quality criteria of the Public Swimming Pool and Spa Pool Advisory Document, Health Protection NSW. The most recent independent test undertaken of the pools at the Ryde Aquatic Leisure Centre found a heterotrophic colony count to comply with the standards set by NSW Health.

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