



A closer eye on Burnside swimmers

SAFETY |
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BURNSIDE Swimming Centre has been forced to review its safety procedures following several emergencies in the pool last summer.

The centre's end of season report, endorsed at last month's Burnside Council meeting, outlined five incidents which required ambulance assistance, including the near-drowning of an elderly man who lost consciousness while swimming in Jan-

uary. On another occasion, a nine-year-old boy was rescued from the Hazelwood Park pool and given oxygen before being taken to hospital for further treatment.

Paramedics also were called to the centre after a 60-year-old man suffered a serious heart attack while lap swimming.

Two other incidents happened in the nearby Hazelwood Park, where park users tripped on fallen branches, sustaining head and neck injuries and a fractured fore-

arm. Burnside CEO **Neil Jacobs** said centre management had reviewed its operations in the wake of the incidents to "ensure the pool was a safe environment".

He said the centre would continue its "Watch Around Water" program to promote parental supervision of children in water, and had made other recent improvements, including a new emergency button for faster ambulance access and changes to the operating hours of the life-guard tower.