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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Break in at Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre

The Broome Recreation and Aquatic Centre pool was closed for almost an hour this morning due to vandalism.

The Manager opened the centre at 5am this morning to discover chairs, tables, rubbish bins and playground equipment had been thrown into the pool.

Backstroke flags have been ripped and the pool cover torn. The debris in the water also caused damage to the automatic water cleaner.

Vandals gained access through the perimeter fence mesh some time between 9pm last night and 5am this morning. The incident has been reported to the police.

The combined cleaning effort of staff meant that the pool was able to be reopened within an hour however some people missed out on their early morning swim.

Chris Jackson, Director of Community Services said the vandalism was senseless and frustrating for Shire staff and the community.

“The pool was contaminated with rubbish and we had no choice but to turn members away until the pool had been thoroughly cleaned and chlorinated,” said Mr Jackson.

“While the cost of the clean up and damage is yet to be estimated, the inconvenience to the Broome community is immeasurable.”

“The pool is for the enjoyment of all of our community and so it is very disheartening that these vandals have destroyed facilities that are probably used by their own friends.”

“This is not the first instance of vandalism to the centre and the Shire is looking at improving security measures in an attempt to deter break ins.”

“We urge anyone that may have seen anything suspicious or has any leads on the vandals to contact police,” said Mr Jackson.

Ends

Media Contact: Chris Jackson, Director of Community Services, Shire of Broome on 9193 7677.