



National Certificate of Educational Achievement
TAUMATA MĀTAURANGA Ā-MOTU KUA TAEA

Exemplar for Internal Achievement Standard

Social Studies Level Three

This exemplar supports assessment against:

Achievement Standard 91599

Examine personal involvement in a social action(s) that aims to influence policy change(s)

An annotated exemplar is an extract of student evidence, with a commentary, to explain key aspects of the standard. It assists teachers to make assessment judgements at the grade boundaries.

New Zealand Qualifications Authority

To support internal assessment

	Grade Boundary: Low Excellence
1.	<p>For Excellence, the student needs to comprehensively examine, personal involvement in a social action(s) that aims to influence policy change(s)</p> <p>This involves using Social Studies concepts and giving specific evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe an issue and the policy the action aims to influence • develop a plan for a social action(s) that considers ethical implications and justify the selected social action(s) taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others • give an account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action(s) • explain the strengths and weaknesses of their personal involvement • anticipate the real and potential consequences of the social action(s). • critically evaluating the effectiveness of the social action(s) by comparing it with possible alternative actions to influence the policy change. <p>This student has used Social Studies concepts and provided specific evidence to describe the issue of a lack of disabled facilities at the Huntly pool and the policy the action aims to influence: the development of a plan for changing the Huntly pool facilities (not shown here).</p> <p>In this extract, the student provides a sufficient comprehensive critical evaluation of the effectiveness of the social action, stating that it was effective because <i>they 'actually got the District Council to change their policy and invest in at the Huntly pool'</i> (1), and by comparing it with possible alternative actions, like a protest, to influence the council to change their mind and implement a policy change (2).</p> <p>For a more secure Excellence, the student could evaluate the effectiveness of the social action in more detail.</p>

A critical evaluation of the effectiveness of the social action(s) by comparing it with possible alternative actions to influence the policy change.

I think the social action I did was highly effective as I actually got the District Council to change their policy and invest in at the Huntly pool.

1

A strength of my social action is that the policy is actually going to be changed. This was the whole point of the social action.

An alternative potential method that I could have used was a protest. In the past some protests have been effective actions. The protests are likely to lead to media attention. If a protest is big enough it will create more publicity around Huntly and wider areas. An example of a successful social action involving protests was in 2012. Some Chinese protestors stopped an industrial waste line project. There were 1000 environmental protestors. In order to do a good protest, I would need a lot of people's support. This could be difficult to do but I think this would have been a beneficial way to get a hoist and water wheelchair introduced to GEHAC especially if the protest had been at the pool with disabled people trying to get into the pool and showing the difficulties of this. I think more support from protesters may have made the social actions even more effective and the council may have changed their minds more quickly and introduced the policy for a disability access system at the pools. Also it is election year this year, so if I had used a protest, it is publicized and the Waikato District Council may have had more of an incentive to fund the operation, as the Mayor and Councillors would want to remain working at WDC.

2

Election year also gives me an opportunity to lobby individual councillors or potential candidates by writing to them or attending the community meetings. This may help influence the balance in the council so that the policy could be addressed and eventually changed. If I questioned potential candidates at a public meeting it would also increase awareness and may get more people involved in trying to implement this policy change.

2

2

	Grade Boundary: High Merit
2.	<p>For Merit, the student needs to examine, in depth, personal involvement in a social action(s) that aims to influence policy change(s).</p> <p>This involves using Social Studies concepts and giving specific evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe an issue and the policy the action aims to influence • develop a plan for a social action(s) that considers ethical implications and justify the selected social action(s) taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others • give an account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action(s) • explain the strengths and weaknesses of their personal involvement • anticipate the real and potential consequences of the social action(s). <p>This student has used Social Studies concepts and provided specific evidence to describe the issue of a lack of disabled facilities at the Huntly pool and the policy the action aims to influence: the development of a plan for changing the Huntly pool facilities (not exemplified here).</p> <p>In this extract the student has explained, in depth, the strengths and weaknesses of their personal involvement (1).</p> <p>She anticipates the real consequences such as going to the Waikato District Council and gaining their support, and potential consequences such as the lives of the people within the community potentially being changed (2).</p> <p>To reach Excellence, the student could critically evaluate the effectiveness of the social action by comparing it with possible alternative actions to influence the policy change.</p>

Student 2: High Merit

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An explanation the strengths and weaknesses of their personal involvement

One strength of my social action was that I already had lots of contacts and people I knew who could assist with the action. For example Shelley Lynch, a Councillor at Waikato District Council, is a family friend. She helped me with an interview and also arranged our hearing at the WDC. This was a strength because it gave me a way in and saved me a lot of time. Shelley was the best contact for the social action as she helped me to get my voice heard at the hearing.

①

Another strength was that I was able to take the social action to the Waikato District Council and appeal to them to put funding aside. This was a main part of the action. This was a strength because it meant that I was able to get my point across firmer than if I didn't speak at WDC. My speech and presentation at WDC's hearing showed who was affected and how these people would be benefitted, also what WDC could do to help. This also reinforced the strength of presenting the social action to the owners of GEHAC.

①

In the presentation to WDC I used numbers of people that would be affected. A weakness of this was that one of the people that gave me numbers asked to remain anonymous. This was a weakness because it meant the validity and support of the evidence supplied for this was not demonstrated to its full potential. Although I had to follow ethical procedures of not using his name at WDC (as requested), it meant our case was not supported as strongly as it could be.

①

Another weakness of conducting my social action was that Tegan (my partner doing the social action) and I were in separate classes. This was a weakness because it was very difficult to collect information and undergo interviews when we are separated and cannot work together easily. On numerous occasions Tegan and I could not arrange a suitable time to meet and organise/plan things. Also Tegan lives out of phone service so it was hard to get into contact with her straight away. This meant that there were limited times to organise things. If there was more time to fully immerse ourselves in the project we may have been able to get more interviews or even conducting a survey for the general public to input their opinion.

①

Anticipating the real and potential consequences of the social action(s).

One real consequence of going to the Waikato District Council was gaining their support, however initially this was not financial support. I researched my social action and spoke with many residents and members of the council. Once I had written a report about the need for the hoist to be put into the main Huntly pool I sent it to the District Council. They invited me to come along and present my findings face to face. This allowed me the opportunity to convince them of the importance of the hoist and the reasons for it. I think this made the difference in that they could see what I was trying to do. They all supported my idea but said there would be no funding and I would have to find the money. This was a negative consequence because, although there was movement, they did not support the action financially. Funnily enough this negative consequence turned into another real consequence some time later when the council rang me and said they would fund the extra facilities.

②

A potential consequence of doing my social action and successfully getting the council to introduce extra disabled facilities to GEHAC is that the lives of the people within the community could be changed. They would not be excluded from society and the community and, in terms of the residents at Kimihia Home and Hospital, they would have more possible activities to do rather than a select few. Colin Le Quesne a disabled man said "It would be so much easier to have something there for me to use instead of travelling into Te Rapa all the time."

②

	Grade Boundary: Low Merit
3.	<p>For Merit, the student needs to examine, in depth, personal involvement in a social action(s) that aims to influence policy change(s).</p> <p>This involves using Social Studies concepts and giving specific evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe an issue and the policy the action aims to influence • develop a plan for a social action(s) that considers ethical implications and justify the selected social action(s) taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others • give an account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action(s) and explain the strengths and weaknesses of their personal involvement • anticipate the real and potential consequences of the social action(s). <p>This student has used Social Studies concepts and provided specific evidence to describe the issue of a lack of disabled facilities at the Huntly pool and the policy the action aims to influence: the development of a plan for changing the Huntly pool facilities (not shown here).</p> <p>In this extract, the student has just sufficiently explained the strengths and weaknesses of their personal involvement (1).</p> <p>The student provides just sufficient detail in anticipation of the real consequences of the social action of going to the Waikato District Council to gain their support, and potential consequences such as that disabled people would not be excluded from an aspect of society (2).</p> <p>For a more secure Merit, the student could provide more detailed information to explain the real and potential consequences of the social action.</p>

An explanation the strengths and weaknesses of their personal involvement

One strength of my social action was that I already had lots of contacts and people I knew who could assist with the action. For example Shelley Lynch, a Councillor at Waikato District Council, is a family friend. She helped me with an interview and also arranged our hearing at the WDC. This is a strength because Shelley would have been the best contact for the social action as she helped me to get my voice heard at the hearing.

1

Another strength was that I was able to take the social action to the Waikato District Council and appeal to them to put funding aside. This was a main part of the action. This was a strength because it meant that I was able to get my point across firmer than if I didn't speak at WDC. My speech and presentation at WDC's hearing showed who was affected and how these people would be benefitted, also what WDC could do to help. This also reinforced the strength of presenting the social action to the owners of GEHAC.

In the presentation to WDC I used numbers of people that would be affected. A weakness of this was that one of the people that gave me numbers asked to remain anonymous. This was a weakness because the validity and support of the evidence supplied for this was not demonstrated to its full potential. Although I had to follow ethical procedures of not using his name at WDC (as requested), it meant our case was not supported as strongly as it could be.

1

Another weakness of conducting my social action was that Tegan (my partner doing the social action) and I were in separate classes. This was a weakness because it was very difficult to collect information and undergo interviews when we are separated and cannot work together easily. On numerous occasions Tegan and I could not arrange a suitable time to meet and organise/plan things. Also Tegan lives out of phone service so it was hard to get into contact with her straight away. This meant that there were limited times to organise things. If there was more time to fully immerse ourselves in the project we may have been able to get more interviews or even conducting a survey for the general public to input their opinion.

1

Anticipating the real and potential consequences of the social action(s).

One real consequence of going to the Waikato District Council was gaining their support. They decided to change their policy and put in some support for the disabled in the main pool in Huntly.

2

A possible consequence of introducing extra disabled facilities to GEHAC is that the lives of the people within the community could be changed. They would not be excluded from society and the community and, in terms of the residents at Kimihia Home and Hospital, they would have more possible activities to do rather than a select few.

	Grade Boundary: High Achieved
4.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to examine personal involvement in a social action(s) that aims to influence policy change(s).</p> <p>This involves using Social Studies concepts and giving specific evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe an issue and the policy the action aims to influence • develop a plan for a social action(s) that considers ethical implications • justify the selected social action(s) taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others • give an account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action(s) <p>This student has used Social Studies concepts (8) and provided specific evidence (7) to describe the issue of the price of entry to the Hamilton City Council pools, specifically Gallagher's Aquatic Centre, and the policy that the action aims to influence.(1)</p> <p>They have developed a plan (2) for changing the price of entry to the council pools to be presented in the form of a petition and a letter (social actions), considering ethical implications (3).</p> <p>They have justified the selected social actions, taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of themselves (4) and others (5). They have given an account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social actions.(6)</p> <p>To reach Merit, the student could explain the strengths and weaknesses of their personal involvement by anticipating the real and potential consequences of the social action(s).</p>

Student 4: High Achieved

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A description of an issue and the policy the action aims to influence.

In Hamilton, there is an economic exclusion of people that can't afford to swim at the public pools. With the Waikato River running right through the middle of Hamilton, many people choose to swim in the higher risk river because it's free, despite the fact many have died in its waters. In addition we have the third highest rates of drowning in the developed world. 108 people have died from drowning in NZ waters every year.

One of the human rights is that everyone is entitled to leisure time. Leisure time should be just that leisurely. If people are drowning whilst fulfilling their basic human right then I believe it is not a right that is being met.

I believe the Hamilton City Council should be encouraging Hamilton residents to swim in a safe environment by providing supervised pools that people can afford.

The policy I am trying to address is the price of the Hamilton Public Pools (specifically Gallagher's Aquatic Centre). The problem is that the 26m, 6 lane lap pool and about 15m toddler pool is a service not worthy of the \$6 adult entry fee and \$3 child entry fee. This problem is even more obvious when compared to other Council run pools around New Zealand, or even to the HCC run pools – Waterworld. Waterworld offers a 25m pool, 50m pool, dive pool and outside pool for the same entry fees as Gallagher's. I want this issue to be brought to light to the Council, and use social actions to change it.

This is an issue of economic exclusion, and it is unfair for people that can't afford it to be hindered in their ability to swim in a safe environment. This exclusion means that people are being hindered to get an essential requirement, especially being surrounded by water, to save their lives.

Develop a plan for social action that considers ethical implications

First, I want to gather heaps of information. I want to go to the Council and get the pool expenditures, as well as go to other pools, get the same thing and compare them. I want to see how people in the community think of this issue, therefore distributing a survey to make people aware. I want to go down to the river and talk to people swimming, asking why they don't go to the pools instead. I also want to research other pool prices in New Zealand and drowning statistics. With all this information, I should be able to compile a convincing letter to the Council, which will hopefully influence the policy by making the Council aware of the issue (at least planting a seed) for potentially eventually getting the prices changed. Within a petition, it is also highlighting the issue to the Council but by backing a letter with a petition, it's showing the Council many people know of the issue within the community. It would also be good to get support from organisations, such as Water Safety and Trust Waikato, for the same reasons as above.

These actions are definitely legal, but there are some ethical steps I will need to consider.

- Gathering information and using it – With websites, especially information used in a letter, I will need to reference correctly and make sure there is no plagiarism. Within a survey, I want it to be online and formal, so the first question will need to ask whether we are able to use quotes/comments, and because it's online it won't be forced upon people. I must make sure the questions are not biased and most of them are left open so that people can say what they think.
- Talking to the Council – This will probably be mostly via email, so all interactions need to be worded formally and politely. I must ask if I can use their name in my report.
- Petition – I want to create a petition to put out in our pool area (family business). I will need to follow the Council's petition policy, meaning a small paragraph explaining the issue, then spaces for people to enter their name, signature, and an address. This needs at least 100 signatures.

- Lobbying – Same procedures as talking to the Council. (Also getting teacher to proofread).

Justify the selected social actions taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others

I think this social action (petition and letter to the Council) is a good way to make them realise that this issue affects a lot of people. I believe that the council needs to be made aware of the issues many of their residents are experiencing and also they need to realise the implications for poor swimmers in a country surrounded by water and with many lakes and rivers. I also work with swimmers at my Mum’s swim school but I myself can’t swim as it is too expensive. I value the right of all individuals to be able to save themselves if they get into difficulties in water and by making the prices cheaper this may actually be a reality for all Hamilton residents. I also value a safe swimming environment and do not believe the river is safe for most people as the currents are strong. My point of view and values are shaped by a humanitarian ideology as I am concerned about the Hamilton residents not being able to access a service that is vital to their well-being.

4

I’ve been able to talk to parents of the swimmers and hear their opinions, which caused me to want to address this issue in the first place. They don’t like the expense and think it should be free or at least cheaper. Most wondered where their rates money went to and thought it could go more on the pools especially with the high drowning rates. One parent said “We have such an appalling rate of water deaths in New Zealand and we need to fix it. If they made the pool sessions cheaper more people may be able to have access and the deaths may decline.” These parents value cheaper access to swimming services for their children and their rates being used for important social aspects like cheaper pool entry. The parents have a capitalist ideology as they are concerned about the financial side of using the pool. Their viewpoints are invaluable in trying to convince the council that the policy needs changing.

5

The council disagrees with my social action as they believe that the expense of the pool is justified and much more money from the council is used to upkeep the pools than what is brought in from people using the pool..... They acknowledged that learning to swim was vital for children but said they felt 6 dollars for potentially all day at a pool could give people plenty of opportunity to practise the skills needed to swim and it was actually good value for the money. The council value keeping the community happy in many areas and therefore they have to prioritise the rates money. Their point of view and values are shaped by a capitalist ideology. They are expected to balance the books and whilst providing funding for a range of things in Hamilton. They must share out the funding equitably and they believe that the council already provides ample finances for the pools.....

5

An account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action.

Date	What I did
May 2nd	Chatted casually to parents at the swim school where I work to see if the prices are an issue. All agreed they were expensive. Set up interviews with three parents for next week
May 3rd	Emailed the council to see if I could make speak with someone over the pool prices. Made an online survey on google docs as well as a paper survey.
May 5th	Sent google docs link to friends and family and put it on my facebook page. Asked others to send it around. Printed off the survey for form classes at school.
May 7th	Delivered the survey to staff pigeonholes and spoke in staff meeting about what I wanted done with the surveys
May 9th	Collected the surveys back and collated information. Interviewed parents (Table continues)

6

	Grade Boundary: Low Achieved
5.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to examine personal involvement in a social action(s) that aims to influence policy change(s).</p> <p>This involves using Social Studies concepts and giving specific evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe an issue and the policy the action aims to influence • develop a plan for a social action(s) that considers ethical implications • justify the selected social action(s) taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others • give an account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action(s) <p>This student has attempted to use Social Studies concepts (8) and specific evidence (7) to describe the issue of the price of entry to the Hamilton City Council pools, specifically Gallagher's Aquatic Centre, and the policy that the action aims to influence (1).</p> <p>They have developed a plan (2) for changing the price of entry to the council pools to be presented in the form of a petition and a letter (social actions), considering ethical implications (3).</p> <p>The student has provided some detail on the selected social actions, taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of themselves (4) and others (5).</p> <p>They have given an account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social actions. (6)</p> <p>For a more secure Achieved, the student could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide further justification of the selected social action by adding more details about their own point of view, values and perspectives, and those of others • provide further explanation of the Social Studies concepts.

A description of an issue and the policy the action aims to influence.

In Hamilton, there is an economic exclusion of people that can't afford to swim at the public pools. With the Waikato River running right through the middle of Hamilton, many people choose to swim in the higher risk river because it's free, despite the fact many have died in its waters. One of the human rights is that everyone is entitled to leisure time. Leisure time should be just that leisurely. If people are drowning whilst fulfilling their basic human right then I believe it is not a right that is being met.

8

I believe the Hamilton City Council should be encouraging Hamilton residents to swim in a safe environment by providing supervised pools that people can afford. The policy I am trying to address is the price of the Hamilton Public Pools (specifically Gallaghers Aquatic Centre). The problem is that the 26m, 6 lane lap pool and about 15m toddler pool is a service not worthy of the \$6 adult entry fee and \$3 child entry fee. This problem is even more obvious when compared to other Council run pools around New Zealand, or even to the HCC run pools – Waterworld. Waterworld offers a 25m pool, 50m pool, dive pool and outside pool for the same entry fees as Gallaghers.

7

I want this issue to be brought to light to the Council, and use social actions to change it.

1

This is an issue of economic exclusion, and it is unfair for people that can't afford it to be hindered in their ability to swim in a safe environment.

8

Develop a plan for social action that considers ethical implications

First, I want to gather heaps of information. I want to go to the Council and get the pool expenditures, as well as go to other pools, get the same thing and compare them. I want to see how people in the community think of this issue, therefore distributing a survey to make people aware. I want to go down to the river and talk to people swimming, asking why they don't go to the pools instead. I also want to research other pool prices in New Zealand and drowning statistics. With all this information, I should be able to compile a convincing letter to the Council, which will hopefully influence the policy by making the Council aware of the issue (at least planting a seed) for potentially eventually getting the prices changed. Within a petition, it is also highlighting the issue to the Council but by backing a letter with a petition, it's showing the Council many people know of the issue within the community. It would also be good to get support from organisations, such as Water Safety and Trust Waikato, for the same reasons as above.

2

These actions are definitely legal, but there are some ethical steps I will need to consider.

- Gathering information and using it – With websites, especially information used in a letter, I will need to reference correctly and make sure there is no plagiarism. Within a survey, I want it to be online and formal, so the first question will need to ask whether we are able to use quotes/comments, and because it's online it won't be forced upon people. I must make sure the questions are not biased and most of them are left open so that people can say what they think.
- Talking to the Council – This will probably be mostly via email, so all interactions need to be worded formally and politely. I must ask if I can use their name in my report.
- Petition – I want to create a petition to put out in our pool area (family business). I will need to follow the Council's petition policy, meaning a small paragraph explaining the issue, then spaces for people to enter their name, signature, and an address. This needs at least 100 signature.
- Lobbying – Same procedures as talking to the Council. (Also getting teacher to proofread.)

3

Justify the selected social actions taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others

I think this social action (petition and letter to the Council) is a good way to make them realise that this issue affects a lot of people. I believe that the council needs to be made aware of the issues many of their residents are experiencing and also they need to realise the implications for poor swimmers in a country surrounded by water and with many lakes and rivers. I value the right of all individuals to be able to save themselves if they get into difficulties in water and by making the prices cheaper this may actually be a reality for all Hamilton residents. My point of view and values are shaped by a humanitarian ideology as I am concerned about the Hamilton residents.

4

I've been able to talk to parents of the swimmers and hear their opinions, which caused me to want to address this issue in the first place. They don't like the expense and think it should be free or at least cheaper. One parent said "We have such an appalling rate of water deaths in New Zealand and we need to fix it. If they made the pool sessions cheaper more people may be able to have access and the deaths may decline." These parents value cheaper access to swimming services for their children. The parents have a capitalist ideology.

5

The council disagrees with my social action as they believe that the expense of the pool is justified and much more money from the council is used to upkeep the pools than what is brought in from people using the pool. The council values keeping the community happy in many areas and therefore they have to prioritise the rates money. Their point of view and values are shaped by a capitalist ideology. This will help me as I know where they stand.

5

An account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action.

Date	What I did
May 2nd	Chatted casually to parents at the swim school where I work to see if the prices are an issue. All agreed they were expensive. Set up interviews with three parents for next week
May 3rd	Emailed the council to see if I could make speak with someone over the pool prices. Made an online survey on google docs as well as a paper survey.
May 5th	Sent google docs link to friends and family and put it on my facebook page. Asked others to send it around. Printed off the survey for form classes at school.
May 7th	Delivered the survey to staff pigeonholes and spoke in staff meeting about what I wanted done with the surveys
May 9th	Collected the surveys back and collated information. Interviewed parents

6

(Table continues)

	Grade Boundary: High Not Achieved
6.	<p>For Achieved, the student needs to examine personal involvement in a social action(s) that aims to influence policy change(s).</p> <p>This involves using Social Studies concepts and giving specific evidence to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe an issue and the policy the action aims to influence • develop a plan for a social action(s) that considers ethical implications • justify the selected social action(s) taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others • give an account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action(s). <p>This student has used specific evidence (7) to describe the issue of the price entry to the Hamilton City Council pools, specifically Gallagher's Aquatic Centre, and the policy the action aims to influence (1).</p> <p>The student has developed a plan (2) for changing the price of entry to the council pools to be presented in the form of a petition and a letter (social actions) that considers ethical implications (3).</p> <p>They have justified the selected social actions, taking into account the points of view of themselves (4) and others (5). The extract gives an account of their personal participation in planning and carrying out the social actions (6).</p> <p>To reach Achieved, the student could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use Social Studies concepts • justify the selected social action, taking into account the values and perspectives that underpin the points of view of herself and others.

Student 6: High Not Achieved

NZQA Intended for teacher use only

A description of an issue and the policy the action aims to influence.

In Hamilton, there is an economic exclusion of people that can't afford to swim at the public pools. With the Waikato River running right through the middle of Hamilton, many people choose to swim in the higher risk river because it's free, despite the fact many have died in its waters. I believe the Hamilton City Council should be encouraging Hamilton residents to swim in a safe environment by providing supervised pools that people can afford.

The policy I am trying to address is the price of the Hamilton Public Pools (specifically Gallagher's Aquatic Centre). The problem is that the 26m, 6 lane lap pool and about 15m toddler pool is a service not worthy of the \$6 adult entry fee and \$3 child entry fee. This problem is even more obvious when compared to other Council run pools around New Zealand, or even to the HCC run pools – Waterworld. Waterworld offers a 25m pool, 50m pool, dive pool and outside pool for the same entry fees as Gallagher's.

7

I want this issue to be brought to light to the Council, and use social actions to change it.

1

Develop a plan for social action that considers ethical implications

First, I want to gather heaps of information. I want to go to the Council and get the pool expenditures, as well as go to other pools, get the same thing and compare them. I want to see how people in the community think of this issue, therefore distributing a survey to make people aware. I want to go down to the river and talk to people swimming, asking why they don't go to the pools instead. I also want to research other pool prices in New Zealand and drowning statistics. With all this information, I should be able to compile a convincing letter to the Council, which will hopefully influence the policy by making the Council aware of the issue (at least planting a seed) for potentially eventually getting the prices changed. Within a petition, it is also highlighting the issue to the Council but by backing a letter with a petition, it's showing the Council many people know of the issue within the community. It would also be good to get support from organisations, such as Water Safety and Trust Waikato, for the same reasons as above.

2

These actions are definitely legal, but there are some ethical steps I will need to consider.

- Gathering information and using it – With websites, especially information used in a letter, I will need to reference correctly and make sure there is no plagiarism. Within a survey, I want it to be online and formal, so the first question will need to ask whether we are able to use quotes/comments, and because it's online it won't be forced upon people. I must make sure the questions are not biased and most of them are left open so that people can say what they think.
- Talking to the Council – This will probably be mostly via email, so all interactions need to be worded formally and politely. I must ask if I can use their name in my report.
- Petition – I want to create a petition to put out in our pool area (family business). I will need to follow the Council's petition policy, meaning a small paragraph explaining the issue, then spaces for people to enter their name, signature, and an address. This needs at least 100 signatures.
- Lobbying – Same procedures as talking to the Council. (Also getting teacher to proofread.

3

Justify the selected social actions taking into account the points of view, values and perspectives of self and others

I think this social action (petition and letter to the Council) is a good way to make them realise that this issue affects a lot of people. I believe that the council needs to be made aware of the issues many of their residents are experiencing and also they need to realise the implications for poor swimmers in a country surrounded by water and with many lakes and rivers. I value the right of all individuals to be able to save themselves if they get into difficulties in water and by making the prices cheaper this may actually be a reality for all Hamilton residents.

4

I've been able to talk to parents of the swimmers and hear their opinions, which caused me to want to address this issue in the first place. They don't like the expense and think it should be free or at least cheaper. One parent said "We have such an appalling rate of water deaths in New Zealand and we need to fix it. If they made the pool sessions cheaper more people may be able to have access and the deaths may decline".

5

The council disagrees with my social action as they believe that the expense of the pool is justified and much more money from the council is used to upkeep the pools than what is brought in from people using the pool. This will help me as I know where they stand.

5

An account of personal participation in planning and carrying out the social action.

Date	What I did
May 2nd	Chatted casually to parents at the swim school where I work to see if the prices are an issue. All agreed they were expensive. Set up interviews with three parents for next week
May 3rd	Emailed the council to see if I could make speak with someone over the pool prices. Made an online survey on google docs as well as a paper survey.
May 5th	Sent google docs link to friends and family and put it on my facebook page. Asked others to send it around. Printed off the survey for form classes at school.
May 7th	Delivered the survey to staff pigeonholes and spoke in staff meeting about what I wanted done with the surveys
May 9th	Collected the surveys back and collated information. Interviewed parents

6

(Table continues)