## Splish splash — Warrender Swim Centre to open again soon

## The Victorian pool refurbishment has now been completed and the baths will open on Tuesday.

Scotland's fourth oldest public swimming bath, Warrender Swim Centre, will reopen to the public on 23 May.

June Peebles, Chief Executive at Edinburgh Leisure said: "Edinburgh Leisure, in partnership with the City of Edinburgh Council, is delighted to be reopening the doors to Warrender Swim Centre, a Victorian pool loved by so many.

"We'd like to thank our customers for their patience during the somewhat longer than expected closure period. However, once inside the venue I'm sure everyone will agree it's been worth the wait.

"Originally known as Warrender Baths, the venue has been serving the community since 1887 and this major investment will ensure Warrender Swim Centre, as it is now known, will continue to serve the community for many years to come."

The latest major investment has been about maintaining the balance of Victorian charm and an environmentally efficient  $21^{\text{st}}$  century facility and, of course, improving the experience for all customers.

Significant changes and upgrades to Warrender Swim Centre have been made including:

- Maintenance work and repairs to the sandstone structure, windows, roof, and roof structures in keeping with the building's listing.
- Decoration throughout, including updating the changing rooms, both wet and dry, and retiling of the poolside.
- Enclosing the area overlooking the pool and adding aircooling.
- New easy access, making it easier for customers to access the building and their activities, with the simple swipe of their membership card or fob.
- Upgrades to the mechanical and electrical works, including improvements to the ventilation system.
- New pool plant.
- New boilers.
- New lighting.
- New air handling throughout the building including the gym.
- Installation of a new sauna.

Stephanie Kelly, Manager at Warrender Swim Centre said: "We're so excited at the prospect of welcoming customers into our lovely, refurbished swim centre. The renovations have taken longer than expected but as anyone who has ever renovated an older property will know, there's usually something uncovered that requires a change of plan or often additional work, and that's certainly been the case with Warrender.

"We know that our loyal and our new customers, and of course, Warrender Swim Club, who have such a long association with the venue, will be delighted with the extensive work that has been carried out. Team Warrender look forward to welcoming back you all back to this iconic, Victorian swimming pool."

Cllr Val Walker, Culture and Communities Convener, said: "I'm really looking forward to Warrender Swim Centre reopening its doors, and I'm sure many users are looking forward to once again going for a swim in the beautiful surroundings of the

heritage building.

"The major refurbishment has made sure some modern adjustments and improvements have been made whilst keeping the charm of the original Victorian building. I'm delighted that this investment will ensure families can continue to enjoy Warrender Swim Centre for many years to come."

With a 25-yard pool, sauna, and a gym, Warrender is a Victorian swim centre in the heart of Bruntsfield and Marchmont. This historic venue retains many of its original features, including the original steam room roof in the gym, but also has the modern facilities required for an active, healthy life. The gym is now in the area which used to be the Turkish Baths.

Join during the first week of Warrender's re-opening from 23 May to pay 'No Joining Fee' on your new membership. Additional member benefits can be enjoyed like priority bookings, free gym introduction and discounts on a range of activities. Unlike many other gyms, there is no contract and customers can freeze or cancel their membership at any time.

Edinburgh Leisure has different <u>memberships</u> that are flexible and affordable to fit around individuals/couples. Choose a Gym, Swim or Fitness Class package (not available at Warrender) at your local venue or sign up for Edinburgh Leisure's most popular <u>Full Fitness</u> membership giving **unlimited access to all their venues** across the city.

## Warrender Swim Centre

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