

## Message from the Mayor



they emerge.

The 2022/2023 Budget was adopted at the Council meeting held 27 June 2022 and Council was pleased to require a modest increase to the General Rate of **3.75%**. The fire Levy increased by 6.2% kerbside waste increased by \$20 per collection.

With the support of \$8.3 million from stimulus infrastructure grant funding, Council has been able to set a large capital works program of \$19.7 million. The program includes roads/footpaths/bridge replacements \$8,8m; Stormwater \$441,140; Perth Early Learning Centre \$3.7m; Upgrade of amenities at Lake Leake reserve \$145,256; continued redevelopment of the Cressy Pool Complex and Recreation Ground facilities \$728,000 and much more.

Our budgets require additional funding progressed across successive Annual Plans (Budgets). During 2022/2023, Council has received, and is expecting to receive Special Purpose grant funding towards the following projects: Longford Memorial Hall & Main Street Project \$4m; Perth Childcare Centre \$2,3m; Roads to Recovery \$960,936; Community Infrastructure Recovery \$593,014; Pension Rate rebates \$492,750; Child Care services \$73,337; Tooms Lake facilities upgrade \$60,000; Road Vulnerable Users - bike path \$250,000; State Election – Bike Safety Park; and rail bridge pillars, \$150,000.

A copy of the 2022/2023 Annual Plan go to our website: [northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/documents/strategic-annual-plan/annual-plan-and-financial-documents](https://northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/documents/strategic-annual-plan/annual-plan-and-financial-documents)

## Food Organics, & Garden Organics (FOGO)

The Tasmanian Government planned to introduce a levy on all waste sent to landfill across Tasmania, commencing July 2022. Under the levy, businesses, councils, and their communities who divert waste away from landfill will pay less than those who don't.

According to the Tasmanian Government, the levy will be introduced in stages over 4 years:

- An initial rate of \$20 per tonne for the first 2 years
- After two years, the levy will increase to \$40 per tonne
- After a further two years, the levy will increase to \$60 per tonne.

Council is informed that these are modelled averages for the whole State, and there are likely to be variations between localities.

Council is mindful of the cost-of-living pressures on our communities and at the 27 June Council meeting, accepted the price offered by Veolia for a four-year tender to collect kerbside FOGO.

The service will be provided to all residences in the urban areas of the municipality and collection services will continue to be fortnightly. The size of the FOGO bin will be the same as your general waste bin (140L).

Due to commence in February 2023, collecting the FOGO material reduces the amount of waste going to landfill and provides an easy way for residents to actively make a positive difference to our environment.

**Mary Knowles OAM**  
Mayor

## Local District Committee Vacancies

There are presently vacancies on the following Committees until 30 June 2023: Campbell Town District Forum (1), Evandale Local Advisory Committee (5), Longford Local District Committee (1), Perth Local District Committee (2), Cressy Local District Committee (1). For more information about Local District Committees and how to become a committee member can be found at: [northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/council/council-committees](https://northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/council/council-committees)

## Committee Vacancy – Local Recycling Committee

The Local Recycling Committee currently has three (3) vacancies.

The purpose of the Local Recycling Committee is to:

- Provide a focal point for information relating to waste disposal and recycling between the Northern Midlands Council and the community.
- Identify and prioritise achievable local recycling initiatives.
- Consider and provide feedback to the Northern Midlands Council in respect to key strategic recycling issues.

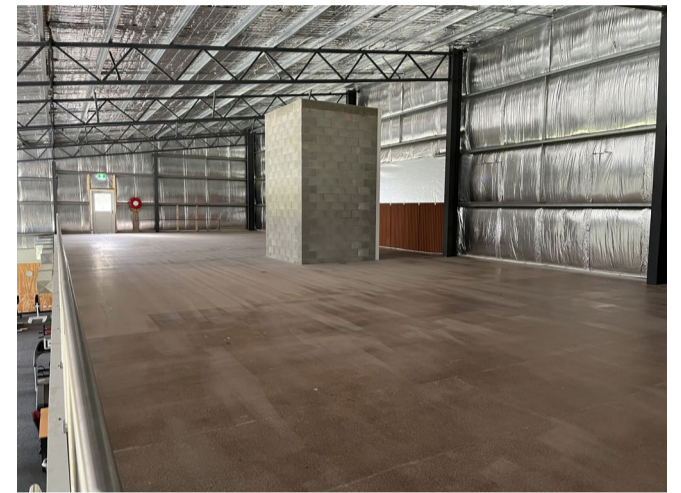
Membership consists of:

- Seven Community Members
- Two Councillors
- One Council Officer

To view the Recycling Committee MOU and download an application form, follow this link: <https://northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/council/council-committees/other#recycling-committee>

## Northern Midlands Sports Centre - Mezzanine Floor

All access work to the mezzanine floor is near complete. The total floor space is 260m/sq with access via a lift and stairs. Council will shortly be advertising for interested parties to lease the area.



## Garden Refuge for Bandicoots

Living in populated areas can be perilous for Bandicoots. On the mainland, feral cats and other animals take a terrible toll on these vulnerable little creatures, but in Tasmania we still have healthy, albeit shrinking, populations.



Bandicoots require an area safe from predators to sleep during the day, with open grassy feeding grounds nearby for night-time foraging.



The Eastern barred bandicoots' nest is usually a shallow depression hidden in thick vegetation with a dome of softer grasses pulled over the top. Northern Midlands Council has planted a garden to provide safety and shelter for nesting bandicoots near the boat ramp in Longford. If you'd like to know more about how you can modify your garden and provide to provide habitat as a daytime retreat and quick escape, visit: [nrmnorth.org.au/biodiversity/eastern-barred-bandicoot-project/design-your-garden-eastern-barred-bandicoots/](https://nrmnorth.org.au/biodiversity/eastern-barred-bandicoot-project/design-your-garden-eastern-barred-bandicoots/)

## Project Updates

### Perth Early Learning Centre



Perth Early Learning Centre continues to develop. The next stage to be completed is the timber wall framing.

### Talisker Street Public Toilet, Perth



The construction of the public toilets located in Talisker Street, Perth is progressing swiftly and is expected to be completed within the next couple of months.