



**NORTHERN
MIDLANDS
COUNCIL**

AGENDA

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

MONDAY, 17 MARCH 2025

Des Jennings
GENERAL MANAGER



QUALIFIED PERSONS ADVICE

The *Local Government Act 1993* Section 65 provides as follows:

- (1) A general manager must ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the council or a council committee is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation.
- (2) A council or council committee is not to decide on any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering such advice unless –
 - (a) the general manager certifies, in writing –
 - (i) that such advice was obtained; and
 - (ii) that the general manager took the advice into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee;
 - and
 - (b) a copy of that advice or, if the advice was given orally, a written transcript or summary of that advice is provided to the council or council committee with the general manager's certificate.

I therefore certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendation provided to the Council in or with this Agenda:

- i) the advice, information or recommendation is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation; and
- ii) where any advice is directly given by a person who does not have the required qualifications or experience, that person has obtained and taken into account in that person's general advice, the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person.

LIVESTREAMING AND RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Ordinary and Special Council Meetings held in Council's Chambers at 13 Smith Street, Longford will be audio live streamed and recorded and made on the internet via Council's website www.nmc.tas.gov.au.

The recording will be uploaded to Council's website as soon as possible and no later than four business days after the Council meeting (not including the day of the meeting). A link to the streaming service and recording of meetings will be made available on Council's website for ease of access.

Closed Council Meetings will not be live streamed or recorded.

A copy of the recording of the meeting will be placed on Council's website as soon as practicable after the meeting, the Closed Council session of the meeting will be redacted.

Regulation 33(4) provides that "a Council may determine any other procedures relating to the audio recording of meetings it considers appropriate".

In addition to the Live Streaming Policy, Council is to audio record meetings to assist Council officers in the preparation of minutes of proceedings.

The provision for audio recording of Council meetings in this policy:

- only applies to formal Council meetings (ordinary meetings, special meetings and Annual General meetings);
- does not apply to closed sessions of Council;
- does not apply to Committees of Council;
- the recording will not replace written minutes and a transcript of the recording will not be prepared by Council;
- the recording may be used by Council staff to assist with the preparation of the minutes;
- the minutes of a meeting, once confirmed by Council, prevail over the audio recording of the meeting;

A member of the public may only use an audio recorder, or any other recording and/or transmitting device, to record the proceedings of a meeting of Council with the written permission of the General Manager for the express purpose proposed. The Northern Midlands Council reserves the right to revoke such permission at any time.

Unless expressly stated otherwise, Northern Midlands Council claims copyright ownership of the content of recordings of Council meetings ("the Recordings").

The Recordings may not be uploaded, displayed, transcribed and/or reproduced without the written permission of the General Manager for the express purpose proposed.

The Northern Midlands Council reserves the right to revoke such permission at any time. Apart from uses permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, all other rights are reserved.

Requests for authorisations, including authorisations for the use of recordings, should be directed to the General Manager, 13 Smith Street, Longford TAS 7301.


Des Jennings
GENERAL MANAGER



GUIDELINES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS

EXPECTATIONS OF COUNCILLOR CONDUCT

- The *Code of Conduct for Elected Members Policy* sets out the standards of behaviour expected of Councillors with respect to all aspects of their role, including the following:
 - Councillors acknowledge the importance of high standards of behaviour in maintaining good governance and therefore agree to conduct themselves in accordance with the standards of behaviour set out in the Policy;
 - Councillors are to be respectful in their conduct, communication and relationships with members of the community, fellow Councillors and Council employees in a way which builds trust and confidence in Council;
 - Councillors' actions must not bring the Council or the office of a Councillor into disrepute;
 - Councillors must treat all persons fairly, must not cause any reasonable person offence or embarrassment, and must not bully or harass any person;
 - Councillors must listen to, and respect, the views of other Councillors in Council meetings, and endeavor to ensure that issues, not personalities, are the focus of debate;
 - Councillors must show respect when expressing personal views publicly and the personal conduct of a Councillor must not reflect, or have the potential to reflect, adversely on the reputation of the Council;
- Pursuant to section 28(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Councillors must not direct or attempt to direct an employee of the council in relation to the discharge of the employee's duties;
- Pursuant to section 40 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the chairperson may suspend a councillor from part or all of the meeting if the councillor makes a personal reflection about another councillor or an employee of the council and refuses to apologise; or interjects repeatedly; or disrupts the meeting and disobeys a call to order by the chairperson.

MEETING CONDUCT

- People attending Council Meetings are expected to behave in an appropriate manner.
- The following is not acceptable:
 - Offensive or inappropriate behaviour;
 - Personal insults; and
 - Verbal abuse.
- Pursuant to section 41 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, it is an offence if a member of the public hinders or disrupts a council meeting.
- In the case of any inappropriate outburst or derogatory behaviour, an apology from the offending party or parties will be requested. Anyone at the meeting, if they feel offended in any way by any such behaviour specified above, should immediately bring the behaviour to the notice of the Chairperson by the way of a Point of Order.
- The Chairperson has the right to evict from a meeting any person who is not behaving to an appropriate standard.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Regulation 31 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* relates to the provision of Public Question Time during a Council meeting. Regulation 31(7) of the Regulations stipulate that "a Council is to determine any other procedures to be followed in respect of public question time at an ordinary council meeting."

Public question time is to commence at approximately 5.30pm and is to be conducted in accordance with the following guidelines:

- At each Council Meeting, up to 20 minutes, or such longer period as Council may determine by resolution at that meeting, is to be provided for persons at the meeting to ask questions.
- A person seeking to ask a question must firstly identify himself or herself by stating their name and the town they reside in.
- If more than one person wishes to ask a question, the Mayor is to determine the order in which those questions are asked.
- Questions must be directed to the Mayor who shall answer or direct the question to the appropriate Councillor or Council Officer. A question will be answered if the information is known otherwise taken on notice and responded to in writing within 10 working days. Questions should preferably be in writing and provided to the General Manager at the Council Meeting.
- A person is entitled to ask no more than two questions on any specific subject. If a person has up to two questions on several subjects, the Mayor may defer those questions until other questions have been asked and refer back to that person only if time permits.
- Each speaker is limited to a maximum of 3 minutes.

REPRESENTATIONS ON PLANNING ITEMS

A maximum of four persons per item (two for and two against) will be permitted to address Council on a planning item. After the representation has been made, Councillors are permitted to ask questions of the party who made the representation.

PETITIONS

Part 6, Division 1 of the *Local Government Act 1993* refers to the presentation of a petition to Council. Council is to treat any petition received in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*.



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY 17 MARCH 2025 AT 5.00PM AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 13 SMITH STREET, LONGFORD.


DES JENNINGS
GENERAL MANAGER
12 MARCH 2025

4.00pm Councillor Workshop – closed to the public

5.30pm Public Questions & Statements

1 ATTENDANCE

PRESENT

In Attendance:

APOLOGIES



Item	Page No.
1 ATTENDANCE	4
2 TABLE OF CONTENTS	5
3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	7
4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	7
5 PROCEDURAL	8
5.1 Confirmation Of Council Meeting Minutes	8
5.2 Date Of Next Council Meeting	8
5.3 Motions On Notice By A Councillor	9
5.3.1 Notice Of Motion: Wilmores Lane, Bishopbourne Road And Herberts Road	9
5.3.2 Notice Of Motion: Amendment Of Dog Registrations Terms And Conditions And Continuation Of Responsible Dog Ownership Positive Information Campaign	11
5.4 Councillor Questions On Notice	13
6 COUNCIL COMMITTEES - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	14
7 COUNCIL COMMITTEES - RECOMMENDATIONS	15
7.1 Evandale District Committee	15
7.1.1 Pioneer Park - Toilet Block - Shower	15
7.2 Longford District Committee	16
7.2.1 Heritage Motion - Fred Davies Memorial Grandstand	16
8 INFORMATION ITEMS	18
8.1 Council Workshops/Meetings Held Since The Last Ordinary Meeting	18
8.2 Mayor's Activities Attended & Planned	18
8.3 General Manager's Activities	19
8.4 Petitions	19
8.5 Conferences & Seminars: Report On Attendance By Council Delegates	20
8.6 132 & 337 Certificates Issued	20
8.7 Animal Control	21
8.8 Environmental Health Services	22
8.9 Customer Request Receipts	23
8.10 Gifts & Donations (Under Section 77 Of The LGA)	23
8.11 Action Items: Council Minutes	23



8.12 Resource Sharing Summary: 01 July 2024 To 30 June 2025	33
8.13 Vandalism	33
8.14 Youth Program Update	33
8.15 Integrated Priority Projects & Strategic Plans Update	34
8.16 Tourism & Events And Heritage Highway Tourism Region Association (HHTRA) Update ...	37
9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS.....	38
10 COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY	39
11 PLANNING REPORTS.....	40
11.1 Draft Amendment 13/2024 - Flood-Prone Hazard Area At Perth, Campbell Town And Ross - Direction From Planning Commission	40
12 COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY: CESSATION.....	46
13 COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS.....	47
13.1 Development Services: Monthly Report	47
14 GOVERNANCE REPORTS	54
14.1 Councillor Attendance At ANZAC Day Services.....	54
14.2 Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) - 2025 General Assembly Of Local Government: Call For Motions And Conference Attendance	57
14.3 Discussion Paper – Local Government Regulations And Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations.....	63
14.4 Discussion Paper: Tasmanian Government's Local Government Electoral Bill	78
14.5 Submission On The Targeted Amendments To The Local Government Act 1993	86
15 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS.....	93
15.1 Monthly Report: Financial Statement	93
15.2 Nomenclature - Naming Of New Roads, Perth	100
16 WORKS REPORTS.....	102
16.1 Pavement Damage, Wellington St, Longford.....	102
17 ITEMS FOR THE CLOSED MEETING	104
18 CLOSURE	105



3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as the traditional and original owners, and continuing custodians of this land on which we gather today and acknowledge Elders – past, present and emerging.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with

- part 5 of the *Local Government Act 1993*,
 - in particular, section 48(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*;
- regulation 8(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*;
- schedule 1, part 2 of the *Local Government (Code of Conduct) Order 2024*; and
- section 28U of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires compliance with the Code of Conduct

the Mayor requests Councillors and staff to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, an interest in any item on the Agenda.



5 PROCEDURAL

5.1 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

5.1.1 Confirmation Of Minutes: Ordinary Council Meeting

RECOMMENDATION

That the Open Council Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Northern Midlands Council held at the Council Chambers, Longford on Monday, 17 February 2025, be confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

5.2 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Knowles advised that the next Ordinary Council Meeting of the Northern Midlands Council would be held at 5.00pm on Monday, 14 April 2025.



5.3 MOTIONS ON NOTICE BY A COUNCILLOR

The following notice of Motion has been received.

5.3.1 Notice Of Motion: Wilmores Lane, Bishopbourne Road And Herberts Road

Responsible Officer: Des Jennings, General Manager

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council Officers prepare a report on the costs associated with investigating the following:

- 1) major upgrade to Wilmores Lane and Bishopsbourne Road as an alternative heavy vehicle route; and
- 2) opening the northern end of Herberts Road to Illawarra Road to provide an access lane for heavy vehicles to divert from Tannery Road.
- 3) list for discussion at Council Workshop on 7 April 2025.

Councillor Andrews has requested the below Notice of Motion be included in the Agenda for the Council Meeting to be held on 17 March 2025.

NOTICE OF MOTION

That Council investigate the cost of a major upgrade to Wilmores Lane and Bishopbourne Road to a standard to cope as an alternative route for heavy vehicle traffic around Longford rather than down the main street of the town.

At the same time, Council investigate the feasibility and cost of opening up the northern end of Herberts Road to Illawarra Road to provide an access lane for trucks and other heavy vehicles serving Koppers and the Longford Meat Works instead of from Tannery Road, the town's main entrance.

BACKGROUND

With a federal election imminent and a state government election in the wind, this is an ideal time to be preparing job ready applications for funding for capital works difficult to cover from council's own budget.

The number of heavy vehicles, including farm machinery and log trucks, forced to use Longford's main street as the only convenient access to their work has grown exponentially in the past decade and sees no signs of slowing down.

Longford is the service town for one of the state's biggest agricultural areas. After white settlement, it was the first area cleared to grow crops and animals to feed and clothe the colony and it has retained that status to the present day. This region is proud of its agricultural industry and the innovative producers and processors who maintain its reputation as one of the state's best performing industries.

Yet providing services for the industry has not kept pace with its growth.

Producers, their contractors and processors in this part of the world would prefer not to use Longford's main street to move their vehicles where they need to go, particularly in harvest season. It's as difficult for them to manoeuvre as it is for those who live in the town to avoid them. But they don't have other safe options. It's the same for log trucks servicing the timber industry.

Farmers have shown me how they have tried to find alternative routes.



A fair number already use Bishopsbourne Road from Illawarra Road and Wilmores Lane or vice versa but have huge problems with the turn from Bishopsbourne Road onto Wilmore's Lane at the rail crossing. It's too tight and there's no visibility for approaching traffic from two directions.

I acknowledge that Council has earmarked money in this year's budget to upgrade that corner. It's a start.

But if we are really serious about getting heavy vehicles off the town's main street, Council now needs to spend money upgrading both these roads – Wilmores Lane and Bishopsbourne Road – to take the agricultural, industrial and commercial traffic that will use this heavy vehicle bypass if it's provided.

While we are at it, there is another option worth investigating to get the trucks and other heavy vehicles servicing Koppers and the Longford Meat Works, two major industries at the entrance to the town, off Tannery Road.

Herbert Road is one of Longford's oldest surveyed roads.

You will find it on all the old maps and can see the southern end of the road opening off Wilmores Lane, just off Cressy Road. It was surveyed to run along Longford side of Back Creek to come out on Illawarra Road behind Koppers and the Meatworks. Why not open it up? It would not have to be a major road. It could be upgraded to an access lane to the highway for the two industries so that their service vehicles would not have to fight for space to get on and off Tannery Road and ease traffic congestion and improve the safety for ordinary vehicles entering and exiting the town.

As I mentioned before, I believe this is an ideal time with federal and state elections looming, to investigate and cost these two proposals, both of which would make a huge contribution to easing vehicle traffic through the centre of our historic town.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

- 1) Pursuant to the Local Government Act 1993 Section 63, the General Manager must ensure that Council receives advice from persons who have the necessary qualification or experience to give such advice, information or recommendation on the matter before Council.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council Officers prepare a report to be presented to a future Council Meeting on:

- a) the cost of a major upgrade to Wilmore's Lane and Bishopsbourne Road as an alternative heavy vehicle route; and
- b) the feasibility and cost of opening the northern end of Herbert's Road to Illawarra Road to provide an access lane for heavy vehicles to divert from Tannery Road.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil



5.3.2 Notice Of Motion: Amendment Of Dog Registrations Terms And Conditions And Continuation Of Responsible Dog Ownership Positive Information Campaign

Responsible Officer: Des Jennings, General Manager

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

Council Officer's support Cr Lambert's recommendation.

Councillor Lambert has requested the below Notice of Motion be included in the Agenda for the Council Meeting to be held on 17 March 2025.

NOTICE OF MOTION

That Council:

1. Continue the positive community information campaign highlighting responsible dog ownership, in particular, effective control of dogs on and off lead as per Dog Control Act 2000; and
2. Add the following or similar clause to the Terms and Conditions of dog registration forms -paper and online:

I have read and understand my rights and obligations as a responsible dog owner and will abide by the rules and regulations set out in the Northern Midlands Council dog policy, and The Dog Control Act 2000. I will abide by the rules relating to effective control of dogs on and off a lead.

Information relating to the Northern Midlands Council Dog Policy and The Dog Control Act 2000 can be found at the following link: <https://northernmidlands.tas.gov.au/living/animals/dog-control>

BACKGROUND

Dogs have been a part of human lives for centuries, offering companionship, love and a sense of purpose. The benefits of owning a dog go beyond having a faithful companion or working companion. From physical to psychological advantages, the benefits of dog ownership are vast and varied and can have a positive impact on our lives. The health benefits of owning a pet cannot be overstated and can improve physical and mental health. Studies show that pet ownership, particularly dog ownership, is linked to lower blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and a reduced risk of heart disease. Dogs encourage their owners to engage in physical activities, offer unconditional love and have been known to lower stress levels, reduce anxiety, and can combat loneliness.

Dogs give so much to us and in return we have obligations regarding their health and wellbeing and the safety and wellbeing of the community.

Northern Midlands Council has embarked upon a positive Facebook information campaign to remind dog owners of their rights and responsibilities particularly in relation to effective control of dogs on and off leash.

Most people want to abide by the terms and conditions of their dog registration and a positive information campaign such as this one serves as a gentle reminder of the rights and responsibilities of dog ownership. I understand this campaign has been positively received in the community.

The council's animal control officer regularly receives reports of dogs off their leash and not under effective control.

See attachments.



As of February 2025, Ordinary Council meeting there were 3,720 registered dogs in Northern Midlands Council area. Dog registration form mentions the below terms, conditions, and general information, but it is not clear on the rights and obligations for dog owners relating to effective control of dogs on and off leash.

Amending the terms and conditions on the dog registration form to include acknowledgement of dog owners' rights and responsibilities regarding effective control of dogs on and off leash, will ensure owners have a clear understanding of their responsibilities as per the Dog Control Act 2000.

The following information is provided on the dog registration form.

ATTENTION DOG OWNERS

Failure to register your dog(s) by 31 August 2024 may incur an on the spot infringement of \$202.00. This is not a valid Certificate of Registration unless a receipt for payment is attached. Please present this notice with payment and it will be returned to you with a receipt. Under new dog control laws you must have your dog micro-chipped unless it is an approved hunting dog, working dog or a registered greyhound.

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

- Payment must be made at the Council Chambers, 13 Smith Street, Longford (9.00am - 4.30pm) or the Service Tasmania Shop, High Street, Campbell Town (11am - 4pm) or at any Australia Post office during normal working hours.
- Pensioners must produce a pension card for concession.
- Dogs over the age of 6 months must be registered.
- Sterilisation certificate Statutory Declaration must be provided for new registration of sterilised dogs.
- Owners of purebred dogs must produce a current membership card issued by the Tasmanian Canine Association.
- Owners of hunting dogs must produce a current Game Licence as issued by the Parks and Wildlife Services.
- Owners of greyhounds must produce evidence of registration.
- Any person who takes a dog into a restricted area where dogs are not permitted is guilty of an offence.
- A licence will be required if the owner keeps on premises
 - a) more than 2 dogs over the age of 6 months or
 - b) more than 4 working dogs over the age of 6 months. Application forms are available at the Council Chambers.
- A Microchip Certificate of Statutory Declaration must be provided for registration of microchipped dogs.
- Registration of a Child's pet must be in the name of the Child's Parent or Guardian.
- Restricted breeds include: Dogo Argentino, Fila Brasileiro, Japanese Tosa, Perro de Presa Canario, American Pit Bull Terrier or Pit Bull Terrier.

Please Note:

Section 78(a) of the Dog Control Act 2000, provides that a person who in any application for the registration of a dog, makes a false statement, shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty not exceeding \$202.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Dog Walkers NMC Reminders 1-3 [5.3.2.1 - 1 page]
-



5.4 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

No Questions on Notice were received.



6 COUNCIL COMMITTEES - CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

That the following Minutes of the Meetings of Council Committees be received.

Minutes of meetings of the following Committees are attached:

Date	Committee	Meeting
29 January 2025	Cressy District Committee	Ordinary
4 February 2025	Campbell Town District Committee	Ordinary
4 February 2025	Ross District Committee	Ordinary
4 February 2025	Evandale District Committee	Ordinary
3 March 2025	Campbell Town District Committee	Ordinary
5 March 2025	Longford District Committee	Ordinary

Matters already considered by Council at previous meetings have been incorporated into **Information Item: Officer's Actions**.

In the attached minutes of Council Committees, recommendations of Committees are listed for Council's consideration in the Agenda Item 7 below.



7 COUNCIL COMMITTEES - RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 EVANDALE DISTRICT COMMITTEE

At the ordinary meeting of the Evandale District Committee held on 4 February 2025 the following motion was recorded for Council's consideration:

7.1.1 Pioneer Park - Toilet Block - Shower

Officer Recommendation:

That Council note the request and include an allocation in the draft 2025- 2026 budget for consideration.

Committee Recommendation:

The Committee Recommends that the Council approve the opening of the shower facility at Pioneer Park and proceed with the installation of a token system at the earliest opportunity.

Officer Comment:

Approximate Costing to supply and fit the token system will be between \$5000 - \$7000.



7.2 LONGFORD DISTRICT COMMITTEE

At the ordinary meeting of the Longford Local District Committee held on 5 March 2025 the following motion was recorded for Council's consideration:

7.2.1 Heritage Motion - Fred Davies Memorial Grandstand

Officer Recommendation:

That Council officers seek an estimate of the costs to engage a Heritage Advisor to provide a report of initial assessment of the heritage value of the Fred Davies Memorial Grandstand to include an allocation in the draft 2025-2026 budget for consideration.

Committee Recommendation:

That Council add the "Mulga" Fred Davies Memorial Grandstand to the Northern Midlands Council Heritage List/Register under the **NOR-C6.0 Local Historic Heritage Code**.

Officer Comment:

That Council officer seeks an estimate of the costs to engage a Heritage Advisor to provide a report of initial assessment of the heritage value of the Fred Davies Memorial Grandstand and include an allocation in the 2025-2026 draft budget for consideration.

Background:

Requesting the grandstand to be added to the Local Historic Heritage Code falls under the criteria **SOCIAL, CULTURAL OR SPIRITUAL ASSOCIATION**.

The grandstand has social and cultural significance to the Longford Community, and it also complements the Fred Davies Memorial located at the entrance to Longford Reserve.

The justification for keeping the grandstand can be related to the historical significance of the Fred Davies Memorial Grandstand which is best described below.

As a founding club of the South Esk Football Association in 1890 the club won the first 10 premierships (i.e. 1890 through to 1899). Further premierships followed in 1901, 1904 and 1906.

From 1926 until 1986 they played in the **original Northern Tasmanian Football Association**. Longford had their strongest decade in the 1950s when they claimed three NTFA premierships, including their breakthrough triumph in 1955. They had previously never won the competition but had been runners-up in 1931, 1940 and 1953.

Longford were **Tasmanian State Premiers** in 1957. After accounting for **Ulverstone**, premiers of the **North West Football Union**, in the preliminary match, Longford defeated **North Hobart** by 21 points in the decider at York Park.

The Fred Davies Memorial Grandstand was named in honour of the late Fred Davies who was an icon of the Longford Club in the halcyon years between 1954 and 1960 when he was coach, and the club won the NTFA and Tasmanian Premierships.

It is only a wooden grandstand, a relic that was nailed and bolted together more than 100 years ago, but it does stand as the most enduring legacy of Longford's greatest era - the time when our country town had the best football team in Tasmania.

The name alone – *Fred 'Mulga' Davies Memorial Grandstand* – is reason enough for the grandstand to be enshrined.



Longford hadn't won a premiership before 'Mulga' coached the team to NTFA (Northern Tasmanian Football Association) flags in 1955, '57 and '58 and to the State title in '57. Six decades later, Fred Davies remains the only coach ever to lead Longford to a State title.

The grounds and buildings do have a role in the future of Longford, both from a sport and a tourism perspective. After lobbying from the local community, Council decided to retain the grandstand in 2020 and spent +\$20,000 to make substantial improvements to ensure the grandstand would be remain standing for future generations.

It doesn't make sense to invest in the future of the grandstand and not preserve it.

Councils' support for the listing of this significant building will ensure that it will remain in place for future generations to understand and enjoy forever.

Note: Both the Longford Football and Cricket Club have been advised of the intention to request this listing and neither expressed any opposition to the grandstand being listed under the **NOR-C6.0 Local Historic Heritage Code**.



8 INFORMATION ITEMS

RECOMMENDATION

That the Open Council Information items be received.

8.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS HELD SINCE THE LAST ORDINARY MEETING

Responsible Officer: Des Jennings, General Manager

The General Manager advised that the following workshops/meetings had been held:

Date Held	Purpose of Workshop
03/03/2025	<p>Council Workshop</p> <p>Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tasmania Police Longford Netball Club <p>Discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dispute Resolution Policy and Mediator Update Local Government Priority Reform Program 2024-26 Draft Submission Local Government Reform Local Government Discussion Paper (Meeting Procedures) 10 Minute Briefing/Discussion
17/03/2025	<p>Council Workshop</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Meeting Agenda items <p>Council Meeting</p>

8.2 MAYOR'S ACTIVITIES ATTENDED & PLANNED

Mayor's Activities Attended & Planned for the period 9 February to 7 March 2025 are as follows:

Date	Activity
12 February 2025	Attended TasWater meeting, online
12 February 2025	Attended TasFire meeting, Rossarden
15 February 2025	Officiated at the Penny Farthing Races, Evandale
16 February 2025	Attended Land Care meeting, Rossarden
17 February 2025	Attended Red Cross meeting, Longford
17 February 2025	Attended Council Meeting, Longford
18 February 2025	Inaugural TAS Women in Leadership Summit with Jacinda Ardern, Hobart
19 February 2025	Panel speaker at TAS Women in Leadership Summit, Hobart
20 February 2025	GMC Meeting for LGAT, online
20 February 2025	NTDC Major Project Manager Interview Panel, Launceston
20 February 2025	Officiated at the opening of the CMCA - Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia, Campbell Town
22 February 2025	Officiated at the Pacific Island Community Festival, Longford
23 February 2025	2nd/ 40th Battalion (Doomed Battalion) 80th Reunion, Ross
25 February 2025	Tour of Municipality with H.E The Governor of Tasmania Barbara Baker AC
25 February 2025	Civic Reception for the Governor and unveiling of the Memorial Art Mosaic, Longford
27 February 2025	ABC Radio interview- Breakfast Show, Longford
27 February 2025	Attended Elizabeth Macquarie Irrigation Trust meeting, Campbell Town
27 February 2025	Attended Heritage Highway Association meeting, Oatlands



Date	Activity
2 March 2025	Officiated the Woolmers Pollie Peddle, Longford
2 March 2025	Officiated at the Annual Truck Run, Longford
3 March 2025	Attended Council Workshop, Longford
4 March 2025	Attended the Identification and Awareness of Child Abuse - LGAT Workshop, Launceston
4 March 2025	Attended meeting with resident, Longford
5 March 2025	Attended Multicultural Advisory Group meeting, online
5 March 2025	Attended TasFire Avoca, Rossarden, Fingal Brigade meeting, Rossarden
6 March 2025	NTDC Major Project Manager Interviews, Launceston
7 March 2025	Attended Honour Role of Women event, Launceston
7 March 2025	Attended Glover Preview Cocktails, Evandale
	Attended to email, phone, media and mail inquiries

8.3 GENERAL MANAGER'S ACTIVITIES

General Manager's Activities Attended & Planned for the period 10 February to 7 March 2025 are as follows:

Meetings were attended either in-person, or via electronic means (on-line or via conference call).

Date	Activity
14/02/2025	Met with Mill Dam land owner
17/02/2025	Attended Council Meeting
25/02/2025	Met with Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania
03/03/2025	Attended Council Workshop
05/03/2025	Met with State Grants Commission
05/03/2025	Met with Kerry Vincent, Minister for Infrastructure, Minister for Local Government
06/03/2025	Attended Emergency Management and Recovery Review online meeting
06/03/2025	Attended NRMA online meeting

8.4 PETITIONS

PURPOSE OF REPORT

In accordance with the Vision, Mission and Values of Council as identified in the *Council's Strategic Plan 2021-2027* and the *Local Government Act 1993, S57-S60*, provision is made for Council to receive petitions tabled at the Council Meeting.

OFFICER'S COMMENT

In relation to the receipt of petitions, the following provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Part 6 - Petitions, polls and public meetings, S57 and S58, should be noted:

Section 57. Petitions

[Section 57 Substituted by No. 8 of 2005, s. 46, Applied:01 Jul 2005]

(1) A person may lodge a petition with a council by presenting it to a councillor or the general manager.

(2) A person lodging a petition is to ensure that the petition contains –

(a) a clear and concise statement identifying the subject matter and the action requested; and

(b) in the case of a paper petition, a heading on each page indicating the subject matter; and

(c) in the case of a paper petition, a brief statement on each page of the subject matter and the action requested; and

(d) a statement specifying the number of signatories; and

(e) at the end of the petition –

(i) in the case of a paper petition, the full name, address and signature of the person lodging the petition; and

(ii) in the case of an electronic petition, the full name and address of the person lodging the petition and a statement by that person certifying that the statement of the subject matter and the action requested, as set out at the beginning of the petition, has not been changed.

(3) In this section –



electronic petition means a petition where the petition is created and circulated electronically and the signatories have added their details by electronic means;

paper petition means a petition where the petition is created on paper which is then circulated and to which the signatories have added their details directly onto the paper;

petition means a paper petition or electronic petition;

signatory means –

(a) in the case of a paper petition, a person who has added his or her details to the paper petition and signed the petition; and

(b) in the case of an electronic petition, a person who has added his or her details to the electronic petition.

58. Tabling petition

(1) A councillor who has been presented with a petition is to –

(a)

(b) forward it to the general manager within 7 days after receiving it.

(2) A general manager who has been presented with a petition or receives a petition under subsection (1)(b) is to table the petition at the next ordinary meeting of the council.

(3) A petition is not to be tabled if –

(a) it does not comply with section 57 ; or

(b) it is defamatory; or

(c) any action it proposes is unlawful.

(4) The general manager is to advise the lodger of a petition that is not tabled the reason for not tabling it within 21 days after lodgement.

PETITIONS

No petitions have been received.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

8.5 CONFERENCES & SEMINARS: REPORT ON ATTENDANCE BY COUNCIL DELEGATES

No reports relating to attendance at Conferences and Seminars have been received.

8.6 132 & 337 CERTIFICATES ISSUED

In relation to the issue of 132 and 337 certificates, the following provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Section 132 and Section 337, should be noted:

S132. Certificate of liabilities

(1) A person referred to in [subsection \(2\)](#) may apply to the general manager for a certificate stating–

(a) the amount of any liability for rates, whether due or not on the land and outstanding interest or penalty payable in relation to the land;

(b) any amount received on account of rates that is held in credit against future liabilities for rates in relation to the land; and

(c) the amount of any charge on the land recoverable by the council.

S337. Council land information certificate

(1) A person may apply in writing to the general manager for a certificate in respect of information relating to land specified and clearly identified in the application.

(2) The general manager, on receipt of an application made in accordance with [subsection \(1\)](#), is to issue a certificate in the prescribed form with answers to prescribed questions that are attached to the certificate.

(3) A certificate under [subsection \(2\)](#) relates only to information that the council has on record as at the date of issue of the certificate.

(4) A prescribed fee is payable in respect of the issue of a certificate.

(5) The general manager, on request, may provide in or with the certificate any other information or document relating to the land that the general manager considers relevant.

(6) A council does not incur any liability in respect of any information provided in good faith from sources external to the council.

(7) A person, with the consent of the occupier or owner of specified land, may request in writing to the general manager that an inspection be carried out of that land to obtain supplementary information relevant to that land.

(8) If the general manager agrees to a request under [subsection \(5\)](#) or [\(7\)](#), the general manager may impose any reasonable charges and costs incurred.

(9) In this section –

land includes –

(a) any buildings and other structures permanently fixed to land; and

(b) land covered with water; and

(c) water covering land; and

(d) any estate, interest, easement, privilege or right in or over land.



No. of Certificates Issued 2024/2025 year												Total	Total	Total	
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	2024/2025 YTD	2023/24	2022/23
132	133	79	83	86	75	73	60	71					660	820	763
337	42	41	34	24	49	32	15	42					279	379	391

8.7 ANIMAL CONTROL

Prepared by: Maree Bricknell, Corporate Services Manager

Item	Income/Issues 2023/2024		Income/Issues for February 2025		Income/Issues year to date 2024/2025	
	No.	\$	No.	\$	No.	\$
Dogs Registered	4,100	\$108,319	70	2,171	3,790	99,765
Dogs Impounded	8	\$1,408	1	118	8	1,109
Euthanised	2				3	1,212
Re-claimed	6				2	209
Re-homed/Dogs Home						
New Kennel Applications	7	\$1,170	2	160	86	4,650
Renewed Kennel Licences	82	\$3,844			4	200
Infringement Notices (paid in full)	95	\$20,266	1	202	22	5,461
Legal Action						
Livestock Impounded	2	\$724			1	50
TOTAL		\$135,731		\$2,651		\$112,656

Audits:

Ongoing including Dangerous Dogs, Kennel Licences, Fire Hazards.

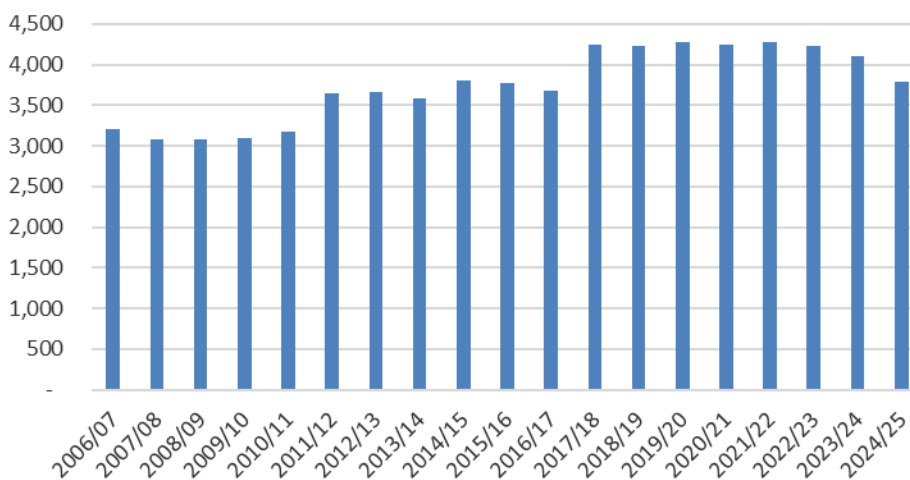
Microchips:

6 dogs microchipped.

Attacks:

1 attack - not under investigation.

Number of Dogs Registered by Year





8.8 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Achieve improved levels of environmental and public health by ongoing monitoring, inspection, education and, where necessary, by applying corrective measures to comply with legislation.

Ensure safe standards of food offered for sale are maintained.

Investigations/ Inspections/ Licences Issued	Prior Years		
	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024
Notifiable Diseases	1	8	9
Inspection of Food Premises	170	133	231
Place of Assembly Approvals	14	9	5

Actions	2024/2025												
	YTD	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Routine Fixed Food Inspections	87	3	13	20	9	14	4	12	12				
Routine Mobile/Market stall Food Inspections	32	0	14	1	14	0	0	0	3				
Preliminary Site Visits – Licensed Premises	19	3	2	1	2	2	4	4	1				
On-site wastewater Assessments	24	1	2	3	5	2	5	2	4				
Complaints/Enquiries – All Types	41	2	7	3	11	6	1	6	5				
Place of Assembly approvals	6	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	0				
Notifiable Diseases	5	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2				

All Food premises are due for at least one inspection from 1 July of each year. The number of inspections in the table above is the total premises are due for at least one inspection from 1 July of each year. The number of inspections in the table above is the total number carried out since 1 July in each financial year.

Inspections are conducted according to a risk-based assessment and cover all aspects of food storage, handling and preparation.

A total of 35 criteria are assessed for either compliance, non-compliance or serious non-compliance.

The Tasmanian Department of Health has produced a legal framework, the Food Business Risk-Classification System (RCS), to classify food premises for registration and notification purposes under the *Food Act 2003*.

Actions, including follow-up inspections, are taken according to the outcome of inspections, the RCS can be used to prioritise the inspection of food businesses, with inspection frequency being increased for high risk classified food premises. In addition, poorly performing food premises would be inspected more frequently.

For those enquiring about opening a food business i.e. Home based food business, officers inspect the premises and after a risk assessment determine whether a food licence is to be issued.

The following is applicable regarding food business registrations:

- A Food Business Application is to be completed and lodged with Council each year (Financial) Sections 84 or 87 or 89 of the *Food Act*.
- Council conducts a desk top assessment of the application in accordance with the Food Business Risk Classification System issued by Tasmanian Department of Health. The assessment is based on the information provided by the applicant.
- Based on the Risk assessed an invoice is issued to the applicant.
- Upon receipt of payment Council issues a Certificate of Registration.
- Council conducts an inspection of the premises during their operation to ensure compliance with the *Food Act* and Regulations and the Food Standards Code. The business is also assessed in line with their Risk Classification.
- Further inspections may be required to ensure any non-compliance issued have been addressed.

On-site Wastewater Assessments are completed after receiving a system design report from a consultant which basically determines what type of sewage system is required (septic or AWTS) and the method of distributing the sewage effluent on site based on AS1547.

A place of assembly is required for any mass outdoor public event. This means an event with over 1000 people for 2 hours or more. It may be any performance, exhibition, circus, festival, food festival, pageant, regatta, sports event, dance or publicly advertised lecture.

Notifiable Disease investigations are carried out by Council's Environmental Health Officer at the request of the Department of Health. Investigations typically relate to cases of food borne illness. While some investigations are inconclusive others can be linked to other cases and outbreaks within Tasmania and across Australia. Under the Public Health Act 1997, investigations are confidential.



8.9 CUSTOMER REQUEST RECEIPTS

Operational Area	21/22	22/23	23/24	YTD 24/25	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Animal Control	26	28	49	49	4	3	3	13	6	8	6	6				
Building & Planning	77	52	36	153	2	4	3	21	38	36	36	13				
Community Services	54	44	59	35	1	4	3	5	3	11	6	2				
Corporate Services	48	23	26	200	1	2	37	23	30	34	38	35				
Governance	15	21	19	15	-	1	-	3	8	2	1	0				
Waste	12	11	14	15	2	4	3	-	1	3	-	2				
Works	368	352	415	308	29	37	33	32	39	46	46	46				

8.10 GIFTS & DONATIONS (UNDER SECTION 77 OF THE LGA)

Date	Recipient	Purpose	Amount \$
9-Jul-24	Hunter McGee	Representation - U16 Touch Football Tasmanian Team	100
11-Jul-24	Judy Gurr	Representation - Senior Womens Tasmanian Team	100
11-Jul-24	Denise Middap	Representation - Senior Womens Tasmanian Team	100
11-Jul-24	Rhianna Morrison	Representation - U18 Lawn Bowls Tasmanian Team	100
6-Sep-24	Lucy Johnston	Representation - Aust Interschools National Equestrian Team	100
27-Nov-24	Ryan Sanson	Representation - Tas Junior 8 Ball Team	100
27-Nov-24	Jordan Sanson	Representation - Tas Junior 8 Ball Team	100
6-Sep-24	Campbell Town District High School	Inspiring Positive Futures Program	7,273
16-Oct-24	Campbell Town District High School	End of year school presentation –Secondary	100
16-Oct-24	Campbell Town District High School	End of year school presentation - Primary	50
16-Oct-24	Perth Primary School	End of year school presentation - Primary	50
16-Oct-24	Longford Primary School	End of year school presentation-Primary	50
16-Oct-24	Cressy District High School	End of year school presentation - Secondary	100
16-Oct-24	Cressy District High School	End of year school presentation - Primary	50
16-Oct-24	Evandale Primary School	End of year school presentation - Primary	50
16-Oct-24	Isacc Chapman	Education Bursary - 2nd instalment	1,000
23-Oct-24	Oliver Walker	Education Bursary - 2nd instalment	1,000
23-Oct-24	Breeanna Farrell	Education Bursary - 2nd instalment	1,000
30-Oct-24	Dylan Copolov	Education Bursary - 2nd instalment	1,000
6-Nov-24	Emily Boweman	Education Bursary - 2nd instalment	1,000
27-Nov-24	Helping Hand Association	Contribution	1,500
27-Nov-24	Perth Fire Brigade	Contribution towards Christmas Lolly Run 2024	200
25-Feb-25	Hunter McGee	Education Bursary - 1st instalment	1,000
25-Feb-25	Charlie Richardson	Education Bursary - 1st instalment	1,000
27-Nov-24	Longford Fire Brigade	Contribution towards Christmas Lolly Run 2024	200
17-Feb-25	Longford Show Society	Planning Permit Amendment fee remission	450
		TOTAL	\$19,773

8.11 ACTION ITEMS: COUNCIL MINUTES

Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
2024-10-21 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 3.2	Illawarra Road Bridges review - Weight rating and usage	Awaiting external response	That Council follow up the request to the Department of State Growth.	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer	31/10/2024 Executive & Communications Officer Enquiry has been sent to Department of State Growth.
2024-12-09 Open Council -	5 3.3	Notice of Motion: Update Council's Webpage for	Awaiting external response	That Council Officers prepare a report on the following notice of motion to be presented to a future	Corporate Services Manager,	10/01/2025 Executive & Communications Officer Discussion with IT 05/02/2025 Executive Assistant Report being prepared for future



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
Ordinary Meeting		Community Organisations		Council Meeting: That the Council update its webpage to have an interactive page to list all the community organisations in the Northern Midlands. And that, if needed, a budget item be listed so funds can be allocated to achieve this outcome.	Executive & Communications Officer	meeting. 10/02/2025 Executive & Communications Officer The online directory and search engine costs being investigated
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	14.4	Perth Train Park	Awaiting external response	That Council note the report and endorse the following way forward with the ongoing development of the Perth Train Park: a. Continue to maintain the park and its existing infrastructure; and b. Consider the content and type of interpretation regarding the history of trains and Perth provided by the Perth Lions Club, and include the cost of such in the 2025/26 budget deliberations.	Corporate Services Manager, Project Officer, Works Manager	30/01/2025 Project Officer The Perth Lions Club has been advised of the Council decision. Council Officers await the Club's provision of information for interpreting the history of Perth and trains. 11/03/2025 Executive Assistant Works Manager awaiting information boards from Perth Lions Club.
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 1.3	Proposed Relocation of the Stone Longford Entrance Wall to the Woolmers End of Longford	Awaiting external response	That Council notes the Committee's recommendation for the Longford Entrance Wall, to remain in situ or in close proximity to its current location.	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer, Works Manager	10/02/2025 Executive Assistant To be discussed with State Growth. 11/03/2025 Executive Assistant Works Manager awaiting report from Traffic Engineer.
2024-10-21 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 4.1	Ross Bike Rack - location	Awaiting internal response	That Council notes the committee's recommendation and assesses the viability of the location.	Executive & Communications Officer, Project & Building Compliance Manager, Works Manager	11/11/2024 Executive & Communications Officer Location is under review
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	14.1	Changing Places Facilities Program	Completed	That Council a. note the background to the Changing Places Facilities Program; b. approve the nomination of Campbell Town as a location for a Changing Places Facility; and c. allocate funds in the 2025-2026 and the 2026-2027 Council Budgets towards the project (if the nomination is approved by the Grant Program's Delegate).	Project & Building Compliance Manager, Project Officer	28/01/2025 Project Officer The State Government representative for this funding program has been advised of the Council's decision at the 20 January 2025 Council Meeting. Council Officers await advice as to the way forward with the application. 30/01/2025 Project Officer The Manager of the Campbell Town Health and Community Service has been contacted to discuss the possibility of locating the facility in the grounds of the Service. 25/02/2025 Executive Assistant Project Officer has submitted Expression of Interest and is awaiting outcome.
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 2.1	EV Charging Station Design	Completed	That Council note the recommendation and liaise further with the Committee as the matter progresses - for Ross District Committee's input into the designs of the Skins of the NRMA EV charging stations before the final design decision is made.	Executive & Communications Officer, Senior Planner, Works Manager	07/02/2025 Senior Planner Council's Senior Planner contacted NRMA and requested contact be made before the designs progress, for liaison with the Ross District Committee.
2024-12-09 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	16.1	Main Street, Cressy Footpath and Kerb Works	Completed	That Council re-direct the funds allocated in the 2024/2025 budget from the replacement of the existing kerb and footpath in Main Street Cressy from the intersection with Spencers Lane to number 83 Main Street, Cressy to the construction of a new stormwater main from the corner of Charles and Church Streets to number 71 Main Street Cressy.	Engineering Officer	10/01/2025 Engineering Officer Council officers are currently finalising design work for the proposed new main 07/02/2025 Engineering Officer Design work complete. Council officers are preparing documentation for contractors to complete these works. 25/02/2025 Executive Assistant Works Manager advised tenders called for and completed.



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
2024-05-20 Open Council Ordinary Meeting	14.2	Master Plan: Pioneer Park, Evandale	Completed	That Council: i) accept in principle the Pioneer Park Master Plan and release for further public comment; ii) consider funding the minor works components of the plan in future Council budgets, and request Council Officers to seek to secure external grants to assist with the implementation of the full plan.	Project Officer	17/07/2024 Executive Assistant Community consultation to commence 1 August 2024. 09/09/2024 Executive Assistant Listed for workshop discussion. 11/11/2024 Executive Assistant Consultation period completed. Feedback provided to consultant. 25/02/2025 Executive Assistant Report to 20 January 2025 Council Meeting.
2025-02-17 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	14.1	Nomination as Council's Representative to the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce (TEMT) Communications and Engagement Working Group	Completed	That Council endorse the nomination of Councillor Adams as the Northern Midlands Council's representative to the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce (TEMT) Communications and Engagement Working Group.	Executive Assistant	21/02/2025 Executive Assistant TEMT advised of Council's nominated representative.
2024-10-21 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	5 3.2	Notice of Motion: Community Strategies	Completed	That a report be prepared annually giving an update on the progress of the five community strategies approved at the 22 April 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting.	General Manager	03/12/2024 Executive Assistant Update provided in Annual Report. Annual updates to be scheduled in the Annual Report.
2024-11-18 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	16.1	Pine Trees Located on Private Property at Drummond Street, Perth	Completed	That Council a) seek legal advice before meeting with the Property Owner; and b) meet with the Property Owner to discuss a way forward in relation to the removal of the trees.	Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Works Manager	27/11/2024 Executive Officer A letter with the corresponding attachments was sent on 27 November 2024 to an external lawyer (Anthony Spence - Page Seager), seeking legal advice regarding this matter, in accordance with the decision made at the Council meeting on 18 November 2024. 13/02/2025 Executive Officer External advice received and a being presented to Council at the meeting on 17/02/2025. 11/03/2025 Executive Assistant Enspec engaged by Works Manager to inspect and provide report.
2025-02-17 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	16.1	Policy Review - Illawarra Road Signs Advertising	Completed	That Council endorse the Illawarra Road Signs Advertising Policy.	Executive Assistant	21/02/2025 Executive Assistant Policy manual and website updated.
2025-02-17 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	13.2	Policy Review: Heritage Incentive Scheme	Completed	That Council's Heritage Incentive Scheme be amended as shown in the attachment by deleting strikethroughs and adding highlights.	Executive Assistant	21/02/2025 Executive Assistant Policy manual and website updated.
2024-04-22 Ordinary Open Council Meeting	7 5.1	Ross Community Sports Club Management Committee: Memorial for Sue Kay	Completed	That the Works Manager discuss with the Committee and the husband of Sue Kay as to a suitable memorial.	Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Works Manager	26/04/2024 Executive Officer RCSC advised of Council's decision and that the Works Manager will contact them to discuss further. 13/05/2024 Executive Assistant The Works Manager met with Sue Kay's widow. Mr Kay to provide advice in due course. 28/11/2024 Executive Assistant Awaiting RLDC confirmation of wording. 28/11/2024 Executive Assistant Awaiting RLDC confirmation of wording. 21/02/2025 Executive Assistant Ross Community Sports Club are progressing this matter with the assistance of Council officers.
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 2.2	Uniform Concrete Colour	Completed	The current concrete colour used is preferred to maintain a more consistent and seamless look in the township.	Executive & Communications Officer, Works Manager	10/02/2025 Executive Assistant Noted and brown concrete is the preferred colour.
2025-01-20 Open	7 1.1	A-Doubles and B-Doubles 24 Hour	In progress	That Council Officer investigates and seeks clarification from the	Engineering Officer	24/01/2025 Engineering Officer Council officers have contacted the Department of State



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
Council - Ordinary Meeting		Access on Illawarra and Longford Main Roads		Department of State Growth - on when approval for 24-hour access was given to A-Doubles and B-Doubles to access Illawarra Road and Longford main streets, due to noise and vibration issues causing damage to heritage buildings.		Growth regarding this matter and are awaiting a response 07/02/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from the Department of State Growth
2024-02-19 Open Council Meeting	7.3.2	Bike Path Extension	In progress	That Council requests an update from the Department of State Growth on the matter and provides advice to the Committee. Committee request: LLDC request NMC revisit the earlier letter from the Minister for State Growth Michael Ferguson, regarding a bike path between Longford roundabout and Pateena Road, requesting an update, including a timeline for completion, of this missing link.	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer	13/03/2024 Executive Assistant Officer to contact the Department of State Growth as election has been called. 13/03/2024 Engineering Officer Council Officer has contacted Vanessa King, manager project delivery at the Department of State Growth and requested an update on this project. Awaiting response. 12/04/2024 Engineering Officer Response received from Luke Middleton of the Department of State Growth. The general manager has written to the Department of State Growth after receiving this response and advised that Council will continue to lobby for this path to be constructed as part of the Illawarra upgrade works to be carried out by the Department of State Growth. 09/05/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting further information from the Department of State Growth 13/05/2024 Executive & Communications Officer Awaiting further information 10/07/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting information from the Department of State Growth 09/08/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from minister 03/09/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from minister 11/10/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from the Department of State Growth 08/11/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from Department of State Growth 28/11/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from Department of State Growth 10/01/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from the Department of State Growth 07/02/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from the Department of State Growth
2024-11-18 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	14.5	Campbell Town Hall	In progress	That Council: a) note the costings for the maintenance and restoration of the Campbell Town Hall, and the suggestions for future use of the hall, and b) to proceed with the sale of the Campbell Town Hall in the short term and Council to reassess in 6 months.	Corporate Services Manager, Project Officer	25/11/2024 Project Officer Noted 03/12/2024 Executive Assistant Contract has been provided to one interested party. 12/03/2025 Executive Officer No further correspondence received from the real estate agent regarding the sale inquiry. Council officer is following up with the agent and if no response received, Council Officers will look at changing to a different agent or an open listing with multiple agents attempting to sell the property.
2023-09-18 Ordinary Meeting of Council - Open Council	13.7	Campbell Town Swimming Pool	In progress	That Council hold a community meeting to discuss or seek interest to formulate a new Campbell Town Swimming Pool Management Committee.	Executive Assistant, General Manager	24/01/2024 Executive Assistant Awaiting completion of review. 12/03/2025 Executive Assistant Correspondence sent to CTDC 17/02/25.
2024-03-18 Ordinary Open Council Meeting	15.2	Conara Park Proposal	In progress	That Council accept the ownership and control of the State Growth land known as Conara Park for community purposes and restrict vehicular access to the site including the playground area.	Corporate Services Manager	14/05/2024 Executive Assistant Awaiting transfer documents from Department of State Growth. 25/02/2025 Executive Assistant Corporate Services Manager has sent reminders to DSG - awaiting response.



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
2024-10-21 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 4.3	Disability Parking	In progress	That Officers assess providing a disability car park and recommend appropriate location.	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer, Works Manager	11/11/2024 Executive & Communications Officer 3 Locations are under reviewed 10/02/2025 Executive & Communications Officer Ross District Committee has identified possible location. 11/03/2025 Executive Assistant Contractor to complete line markings and bollard.
2025-02-17 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	14.2	Feral Ducks - Campbell Town, Ross, Evandale and Longford	In progress	That Council: A) approve funding for new signage and education initiatives to occur in the Northern Midlands river reserves regarding the feeding and dumping of domestic ducks; B) seek a report on numbers of feral ducks and/or native species and habitats; and C) make information available on the Council website and social media platforms and discuss with Local District Committees.	Works Manager	11/03/2025 Executive Assistant Works Manager to order signs and place when received.
2023-08-21 Ordinary Meeting of Council - Open Council	7 4.3	LLDC Recommendation: Mill Dam - 5 July 2023	In progress	That Council receive a report regarding the Mill Dam reserve area and future ownership thereof.	Executive Assistant, Executive Officer, Executive Officer	12/09/2023 Executive Assistant Meeting set for discussion on master plan for the precinct. 11/10/2023 Executive Assistant Design requested, plan awaited. 14/02/2024 Executive Assistant Plan received. To be listed for Council Workshop. 07/03/2024 Executive Officer Matter considered by Councillors at Workshop Monday 4 March 2023. Further concept plan to be prepared and presented back to the Councillors for endorsement prior to public consultation. 30/04/2024 Executive Officer Matter to be further presented to Councillors at a workshop after July 2024. 08/08/2024 Executive Assistant Listed for discussion at 5 August 2024 Council Workshop. 11/11/2024 Executive Assistant Response to August 2024 letter awaited. Follow up correspondence prepared. 05/02/2025 Executive Assistant Meeting scheduled with landowner for 14/02/25. 20/02/2025 Executive Assistant On site meeting for JBS Plant Manager, GM and Works Manager scheduled for early March.
2023-11-20 Ordinary Meeting of Council - Open Council	7 2.2	Longford Promotional Signs Welcome to Longford	In progress	That Council notes the LLDC request and refers the matter to the appropriate officer.	Engineering Officer, Tourism & Events Officer	05/12/2023 Executive Assistant Investigation to commence early 2024. 12/04/2024 Engineering Officer DSG have requested that Council review all Longford entrance signs as part of the proposal to install town signage in the Longford roundabout. Discussion with DSG around Longford entrance signage have commenced. 09/05/2024 Engineering Officer DSG has raised concerns about sight lines and the safety of the structure if impacted by a vehicle. The design is currently being reviewed by an engineering consultant. 14/06/2024 Engineering Officer Onsite sightline assessment completed by consultant on 13/6/24. Awaiting report from consultant 04/07/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting report from consultant 09/08/2024 Engineering Officer Consultant has provided a report and indicated that the existing design needs to be reviewed to ensure that the sign meets DSG frangibility requirements. The consultant has now commenced this work. 03/09/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting report from consultant 08/11/2024 Engineering Officer Report



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
						received from consultant. Council Officers are currently discussing permit requirements with DSG 28/11/2024 Engineering Officer Report received from consultant. Council Officers are currently discussing permit requirements with DSG 10/01/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting further comment from DSG 07/02/2025 Engineering Officer DSG have indicated that the construction and location of the existing stone sign opposite Kingsley House needs to be reviewed as part of the approval process. A consultant has been engaged to carry out this work. 25/02/2025 Executive Assistant Works Manager advised Traffic Engineer to inspect by 14 March.
2024-11-18 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	14.4	Management Committees: Review of Management Agreement	In progress	That a) Council accept and endorse the proposed changes to the Management Agreement for the Management Committees as attached; and b) Council, in relation to minute reference 24/0171, determines not to restrict close associates of elected members from becoming Council volunteers and Special Committee members; and c) the Management Agreement be sent to Management Committee's for signature; and d) this Management Agreement be effective from the date signed by the Committee to 30 June 2026; and e) a further report be brought to Council in regard to future direction of the Management Committees and the assistance to be provided if they wish to transition to Incorporated Bodies.	Executive Assistant, Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Executive Officer	03/12/2024 Executive Assistant Management Agreements updated, to be forwarded to Committees together with cover letter. 10/02/2025 Executive Officer New Management Committee Agreements have been sent to the Committees. No response but 2 (Evandale & Liffey) Report being prepared for the April Council Meeting 07/03/2025 Executive Officer Further responses received from Ross Recreation Ground Management Committee and Morven Park. these responses will form part of the report to Council in April.
2024-01-29 Ordinary Meeting - Open Council	5 3.3	Motion on Notice: Heritage Committee	In progress	That Council Officer's prepare a report with a view to forming a Special Committee under section 24 of the Local Government Act to establish a Heritage Committee.	Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Senior Planner	12/02/2024 Executive Officer Report to be presented to March 2024 meeting. 07/03/2024 Executive Officer Report delayed due to staffing resources and competing priorities. Report to be presented to a future Council meeting. 13/02/2025 Executive Officer Officers to meet and prepare a report for Council meeting (17/03/2025). 07/03/2025 Executive Officer Officers have met and are preparing a report for the Council meeting in April. It is envisaged that this will assist in progressing this motion forward. 11/03/2025 Senior Planner Have met with Executive Officers to assist with preparing report to April meeting.
2024-01-29 Ordinary Meeting - Open Council	5 3.2	Motion on Notice: Strategic Property Committee	In progress	That Council Officer's prepare a report on the notice of motion to be presented to a future Council Meeting.	Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Executive Officer	31/01/2024 Executive Officer Report is being prepared, to be presented to a future Council meeting. 07/03/2024 Executive Officer Report delayed due to staffing resources and competing priorities. Report to be presented to a future Council meeting.
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	15.3	New Policy: Legal Assistance for Employees	In progress	That the item be deferred.	Corporate Services Manager, Executive Officer, Executive Officer, General Manager	05/02/2025 Executive Assistant To be resubmitted to future meeting. 11/03/2025 Executive Assistant Executive Officers drafting report for April meeting.
2025-01-20 Open	5 3.1	Notice of Motion: Request for	In progress	That Council: i. clarify circumstances surrounding the	Corporate Services	11/02/2025 Executive Assistant Seeking legal advice.



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
Council - Ordinary Meeting		General Manager, Mayor and Deputy Mayor to Stand Aside		repayment of \$11,000 and the categorisation of it as private legal advice; and ii. seek advice regarding employment of law elements that Council as the employer of the General Manager may need to take as to a position it takes with regard to requesting the General Manager stands down, including contract provisions.	Manager, Executive Officer, Executive Officer	
2024-12-09 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	5 3.2	Notice of Motion: Wellington Street Longford	In progress	That Council Officers prepare a report for consideration by Council at a future Council Meeting, exploring the responsibility for funding and the timeframe of road repairs to Wellington Street Longford by the State Government, as well as Council budget consideration for the undertaking of concurrent works.	Engineering Officer, General Manager	14/01/2025 Executive Assistant Report being drafted.
2024-04-22 Ordinary Open Council Meeting	7 3.1	Pedestrian Crossing Wellington and Marlborough Streets	In progress	That Council note the concerns raised by the Local District Committee and consider the relocation/installation of a refuge in the vicinity of the library in future budget deliberations.	Executive & Communications Officer, General Manager, Works Manager	13/05/2024 Executive & Communications Officer Committee advised. 14/05/2024 Executive Assistant Matter under consideration.
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 3.2	Plan of Development for Devon Hills Walk/Bikeway	In progress	That Council Officers review the existing shared path markings and signage, seek advice from a Traffic Engineer and develop a plan to carry out upgrade works as required.	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer, Project & Building Compliance Manager, Works Manager	05/02/2025 Project & Building Compliance Manager Noted 10/02/2025 Executive Assistant Review to be undertaken by Works Manager.
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	15.2	Policy Review: Councillors Allowances, Travelling and Other Expenses	In progress	That the item be deferred.	Corporate Services Manager, Executive Officer, Executive Officer, General Manager	05/02/2025 Executive Assistant To be resubmitted to future meeting. 11/03/2025 Executive Assistant Executive Officers drafting report for April meeting.
2024-08-19 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	14.3	Policy Review: Dog Management	In progress	That 2) a further report be presented to a Council workshop for discussion on Kennel Licencing.	Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Executive Officer	11/11/2024 Executive Assistant Report to be prepared for discussion at forthcoming Council workshop. 11/11/2024 Executive Assistant On hold pending outcome of review being conducted by RSPCA. 13/02/2025 Executive Officer Officers are currently preparing a report for Council workshop in April 2025.
2025-02-17 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	13.3	Proposal for Change of Street Name - Eclipse Close to Observatory Close, Campbell Town	Awaiting external response	That Council a) Submit to Placenames Tasmania a proposal to change the name of Eclipse Close to Observatory Close; b) include information to describe the historical links of the site with the 1874 observation of the transit of Venus as follows: Transits of Venus - the movement of Venus across the face of the sun - occur in pairs that are eight years apart and then don't happen again for more than a hundred years. Two Venus transits occurred in 1874 and 1882. These rare alignments have been important for scientific research. Of particular	Administration / Records Management Officer	11/03/2025 Administration / Records Management Officer Application in progress.



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
				significance, Venus transits provided observers with data that eventually led to a very close estimate of the astronomical unit - the distance between the earth and the sun. The United States organised eight 1874 transit stations. Two of these were in Australia. Both were in Tasmania. One was in Hobart and the other was in Campbell Town. At Campbell Town, the 1874 observations took place in what today is colloquially referred to as the 'Observatory Paddock', the site of this subdivision; c) Name the footpath heading from the subdivision towards Valentine Park 'Observatory Walk' and the footpath heading toward East Street 'Transit Walk'; and d) Advise Placenames Tasmania that it wants to retain 'Eclipse Close' as a Reserved name for future use.		
2024-11-18 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	14.2	Proposed Community Garden at Perth	In progress	That Council a) note the request by the local group, Parents for Climate Change, to develop a community garden at Perth; and b) approve the request in-principle subject to the provision of a site plan by Parents for Climate Change for consideration by Council.	Project Officer	03/12/2024 Executive Assistant Council Officers to meet with Parents for Climate Change and NRM North for site inspection on 6/12/24.
2024-02-19 Open Council Meeting	7.3.1	Reduction in Speed Limit	In progress	That Council requests the Department of State Growth to carry out a review of the speed limits in Wellington and Marlborough Streets in Longford. Committee request: LLDC request NMC to approach local state members and the Minister for State Growth to reduce the speed limit on Longford's main roads being, Marlborough Street, and Wellington Street to Woolmers Lane, from 60kmh to 50kmh.	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer	12/03/2024 Executive Assistant Letter sent to Minister. 09/05/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from minister 13/05/2024 Executive & Communications Officer Committee notified. Awaiting response from Minister 10/07/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from minister 09/08/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from minister 03/09/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from minister 11/10/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from minister 08/11/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from minister 28/11/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from Department of State Growth 10/01/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from the Department of State Growth 07/02/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from the Department of State Growth
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	16.2	Request for Bus Shelter at Devon Hills Road Intersection	In progress	That Council continues to monitor passenger usage at the Devon Hills Bus stop; That Council negotiate with TassieLink to alter the route to go up to the fire shed; and In the event that TassieLink declines, the Council installs a bus stop sign and seat, and carries out additional sealing works, on the western side of Devon Hills Road, but does not apply for funding to construct a bus shelter at this time.	Engineering Officer, Works Manager	24/01/2025 Engineering Officer Bus stop signs have been ordered. Sealing works have been programmed to be completed by Council's Works staff. 11/02/2025 Executive Assistant Sign has been ordered. Council officers have requested advice from a traffic engineer regarding the standards for installing a seat on the side of a road with a 70km speed limit. 11/03/2025 Executive Assistant Bus stop sign placed. Contractor has been engaged to complete asphalt works. Waiting on report from Traffic Engineer on seat.



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 1.2	Review of the Location and Number of 60km/hr Signs on Woolmers Lane	In progress	That Council act immediately to improve the safety of the Woolmers Lane and Brickendon Street corner as soon as the Traffic Engineer's report is received.	Engineering Officer	24/01/2025 Engineering Officer Concealed entrance signs have been ordered. Officers from the Department of state growth have been contacted to confirm whether their approval is required to install a 60 ahead sign. 07/02/2025 Engineering Officer Draft report received, Council officers are currently reviewing this report with the traffic engineer
2024-10-21 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 1.3	Special funding for footpath extension	In progress	That Council note the request and the decision from the August 2024 Council Meeting: That special grant funding be investigated to extend the sidewalk along High Street from Grant Street to Bridge Street [Campbell Town]... applying funding from The Vulnerable Road User Program (also known as the VRUP).	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer, Works Manager	31/10/2024 Executive & Communications Officer Committee has been informed. 10/01/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting the announcement of the next round of vulnerable road user funding 07/02/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting announcement of next round of vulnerable road user funding
2025-01-20 Open Council - Ordinary Meeting	7 3.1	Speed Hump Installation - Devon Hills/Loop Road	In progress	That Council investigate the installation of speed humps along the Devon Hills/Loop Road for safety reasons and to reduce excessive speeding in this area.	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer	24/01/2025 Engineering Officer The Department of State Growth have confirmed that they are responsible for giving approval for the installation of speed humps and advised that they would be unlikely to give approval at this location. Council officers to investigate other options for lowering vehicle speeds.
2024-03-18 Ordinary Open Council Meeting	7 3.2	Speed Limit Change: Illawarra Road	In progress	That Council request Department of State Growth to reduce the speed limit from 100km/h to 90 km/h from the start of Bishopsbourne Road to the municipal boundary on Illawarra Road to bring it in line with the other section of Illawarra Road from Bishopsbourne Road to the intersection of the Perth interchange.	Engineering Officer, Executive & Communications Officer	16/04/2024 Executive Assistant Letter drafted to be sent. 16/04/2024 Executive Assistant Committee advised of Council decision. 14/05/2024 Executive Assistant Letter sent 18 April 2024. 09/08/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from DSG 03/09/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from DSG 11/10/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from DSG 08/11/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from Department of State Growth 28/11/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from Department of State Growth 10/01/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from the Department of State Growth 07/02/2025 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from the Department of State Growth
2023-03-20 Ordinary Meeting of Council - Open Council	16.1	Sticky Beaks Cafe Corner (cnr Wellington and Marlborough Streets): Upgrades and Safety	In progress	That the JMG report Option Two (steel bollards) be revisited and that a time-line be put in place to implement this recommendation should that be an approved solution. Further that a report be undertaken to develop a detailed analysis for the intersection and the traffic flows in the centre of Longford.	Engineering Officer, General Manager, Works Manager	23/03/2023 Executive Assistant Meeting arranged with Garry Hills, Dept. of State Growth. 17/04/2023 Engineering Officer Council officers met with Garry Hills on March 30, 2023. The Department of State Growth has agreed to do engage a consultant to carry out an independent traffic study of the intersection. Awaiting further information from the Department of State Growth. 04/05/2023 Engineering Officer Garry Hills from the Department of State Growth has advised that they are in the process of organising and independent report on the safety of the intersection 15/06/2023 Executive Assistant Further contact made with DSG, requested that a timeline be provided for provision of the independent traffic study for Sticky Beaks Corner. 11/07/2023 Executive Assistant Subject to available funding, DSG have advised they have an in-principle agreement in place to review the works. 10/08/2023 Engineering Officer Council officers have requested an update on when this project will commence from the Department of State Growth and are still awaiting a response



Meeting	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
						<p>28/09/2023 Executive Assistant Further correspondence sent to General Manager of State Roads requesting update and timeline for review. 26/10/2023 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from Department of State Growth 13/11/2023 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from State Growth 01/12/2023 Engineering Officer Awaiting response from Department of State Growth 1/12/23 14/02/2024 Executive Assistant Letter sent to Minister. 13/05/2024 Executive Assistant Meeting scheduled with the General Manager of State Roads. 10/07/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting information from the Department of State Growth 09/08/2024 Engineering Officer Discussed with Garry Hills (Department of State Growth) 9/8/24. Garry advised that it is anticipated that a consultant will be engaged soon. 03/09/2024 Engineering Officer Awaiting further information from DSG 11/10/2024 Engineering Officer Draft Report received from DSG. Council officers are currently reviewing the findings of the report 08/11/2024 Engineering Officer Council Officers have reviewed draft report and provided comment to DSG, awaiting their response. 28/11/2024 Executive Assistant Awaiting reply from DSG - emailed 28/11. 30/12/2024 Engineering Officer The Safe Systems report on the Stickybeaks Corner intersection has been reviewed by Council. The report included some recommendations for Council and DSG. Council provided comments on these recommendations on October 16. Response has now been received from DSG advising that they have noted Council's comments on the Stickybeaks Corner Safety Audit and don't have any further comments. 05/02/2025 Executive Assistant Item listed for next Workshop. 12/03/2025 Executive Assistant Officers preparing report.</p>



8.12 RESOURCE SHARING SUMMARY: 01 JULY 2024 TO 30 JUNE 2025

Resource Sharing Summary 1/7/24 to 30/6/25 As at 28/2/2025	Units Billed	Amount Billed GST Exclusive \$
Meander Valley Council		
Service Provided by NMC to MVC		
Street Sweeping Plant Operator Wages and Oncosts	230.5	27,161
Street Sweeper - Plant Hire Hours		
Total Services Provided by NMC to Meander Valley Council		\$27,161
Service Provided by Meander Valley Council to NMC		
Wages and Oncosts		
Plumbing Inspector Services		
Engineering Services		
Total Service Provided by MVC to NMC		
Net Income Flow	230.5	\$27,161
Total Net		
Private Works and Council Funded Works for External Organisations	Hours	Amount \$
Works Department Private Works Carried Out	148.5	14,346
	148.5	\$14,346

8.13 VANDALISM

Prepared by: Leigh McCulloch, Works Manager

Incident	Location	January 2025	Estimated Cost of Damages	
			Total to Date 2024/25	Total 2023/24
Gate broken and removed from service, Laycock St Park	Longford	\$ 500		
Soap dispensers x2 removed, Village Green public toilets	Longford	\$ 300		
Repair holes and paint, Recreation ground	Cressy	\$ 1000		
Remove graffiti, public toilets	Campbell Town	\$ 150		
Melted objects on BBQ, Laycock Street	Longford	\$ 100		
Fittings removed from tank, tip site	Evandale	\$ 400		
Vandalism at Seccombe Street toilets	Perth	\$ 200		
Litter dumped		\$ 500		
Broken log sets, Honeysuckle Banks	Evandale	\$ 300		
TOTAL COST VANDALISM		\$ 3,450	\$ 32,250	\$ 28,300

8.14 YOUTH PROGRAM UPDATE

Prepared by: Lee Viney, Executive Assistant

PCYC Program

Active Northern Midlands Youth- Campbell Town and Cressy

Previously held during 2020-2023 thanks to a grant with Healthy Tasmania and catering for 2907 attendees. PCYC are offering this program at Campbell Town District High School and Cressy District High School, offering games and activities that encourage physical and mental wellbeing. Young people can choose the activities they engage in.

Session Venue	Date of Session	Attendance	Comment
Campbell Town			
	12/02/2025	30	
	19/02/2025	50	
	26/02/2025	Nil	Launceston Cup Day



Cressy			
	06/02/2025	45	
	13/02/2025	40	
	21/02/2025	50	
	27/02/2025	50	

PCYC Program- Mobile Activity Centre (MAC)- Perth and Evandale

The PCYC team offers free weekly activities in Perth and Evandale with the MAC trailer. The MAC trailer is an 'outreach' of PCYC operations, extending recreational opportunities to communities. The games offer a large variety and have a lot of input from the young people. Up to 20 young people join in on the program with a focus on social inclusion, group challenges and leadership development. Attendance for the month of February as follows:

Session Venue	Date of Session	Attendance	Comment
Perth			
	06/02/2025	2	
	13/02/2025	5	
	20/02/2025	-	Not held - no local support for date
	27/02/2025	5	
Evandale			
	12/02/2025	Nil	
	19/02/2025	Nil	
	26/02/2025	Nil	Launceston Cup Day

8.15 INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS & STRATEGIC PLANS UPDATE

Prepared by: Maree Bricknell, Corporate Services Manager & Lorraine Green, Project Officer

CURRENT AT 3 MARCH 2025

INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN:

Progress Report:

Project	Status	\$	Scheduled
1 Progress: Economic health and wealth - grow and prosper			
Foundation Projects			
4.1 <i>Main Street Upgrades: Campbell Town, Longford & Perth</i>	Gov	On Track	Campbell Town 2022 Election Commitment secured through the Priority Community Infrastructure Program (PCIP) DA approved.
	Gov	On Track	Longford DA submitted.
	C&D	On Track	Perth 2022 Election Commitment secured through the PCIP DA approved.
4.1 <i>Longford Memorial Hall Upgrade</i>	Gov	Completed	Federal Govt Election Commitment 2019; Local Roads and Community Infrastructure allocation. Main Building & BBQ shelter completed.



	Project			Status	\$	Scheduled	
4.4	<i>TRANSLink Intermodal Facility</i>	Gov		Included in NMC Priority Projects document. Business Case and application submitted 20 November 2023 to secure the 2022 Election Commitment. Funding secure and funding agreement being finalised.. Approved by NTDC as a Northern Tas Priority Project.	Federal Election commitment of \$5m for planning stage. Further \$30m commitment subject to planning stage.	5,000,000	Funding agreement signed. Contract signed with preferred external service provider – NTDC. Inception meeting held. Variation of milestone completion dates submitted.
Enabling Projects							
5.1	<i>Perth Sports Precinct & Community Centre</i>	Gov		Concept master plan developed October 2020. Included in NMC Priority Projects document.	Valuation received.		Nominated as a Project of Regional Priority.
5.1	<i>Ben Lomond Public Shelter Development</i>	Gov		Feasibility Study: Investment in Ben Lomond Ski Field Northern Tasmania Included in NMC Priority Projects document. Govt has completed new public shelter. Government has committed to development of a master plan.	Staff resources only to support grant funding applications.		Not scheduled at this stage.
5.3	<i>Campbell Town – Town Hall Sale or Lease</i>	Gov		Agent appointed – all offers to be presented to Council.			Ongoing
5.3	<i>Longford Library & exhibition Building on the Village Green</i>	Gov		Longford Motor Sport Museum Included in NMC Priority Projects document.	No budget allocation staff resources only.		
5.3	<i>Power Undergrounding in Evandale, Longford & Perth</i>	Works		Awaiting funding streams to come available. Included in NMC Priority Projects document.	No budget allocation staff resources only.		Not scheduled at this stage. Evandale submitted for State Govt 2025/26 Budget consideration.
5.4	<i>Subdivisions (several – Cressy, Evandale, Longford & Perth)</i>	C&D		Council to identify opportunities to provide infrastructure and secure funding. Included in NMC Priority Projects document.	Drainage easement secured at Evandale. Detention basin secured at TRANSLink.		Detention works not scheduled at this stage.
2 People: Cultural and society – a vibrant future that respects the past							
Enabling Projects							
5.1	<i>Recreation Ground Upgrades)</i>	Gov		Campbell Town, Evandale and Cressy NMC Priority Projects document. Funding to be sought for oval upgrades.			Not scheduled at this stage.
		Gov		Cressy Recreation Ground Cricket Australia & State Govt funding secured towards the upgrade of the practice facility, car park and dump point.			Sealing of car park for future budget.
				Perth Recreation Ground Amenities, topdressing, cricket net upgrade.			Completed.
				Longford Recreation Ground Irrigation system install and preparation for 2 nd ground.			Completed.
5.1	<i>Swimming Pool Upgrades (several)</i>	Gov		Covering of Campbell Town & Cressy Swimming Pools Included in NMC Priority Projects		-	Not scheduled at this stage.



Project		Status	\$	Scheduled		
		Gov	document. Cressy: Solar system replacement Ross: Pool operation to continue (as per the current funding model) whilst structurally/operationally safe to do so.	Allocation 2024/25 Budget allocation 2023-24 towards WHS issues.	50,000	In progress.
5.2	<i>Shared Pathways</i>	Gov	Applications submitted to Growing Regions Program and Better Active Transport Tas program. Included in NMC Priority Projects document. Hobart Road shared pathway submitted to NTDC as a Northern Tas Priority Project.	Funding secured through the Better Active Transport in Tas grant program: Funding applications submitted to Active Transport Fund. Illawarra Road shared pathway submitted for State Govt 2025/26 Budget consideration.		Hobart Road shared pathway design 90% complete. Awaiting communication with State Growth regarding land consent/agreement
4 Place: Nurture our heritage environment						
Foundation Projects						
4.2	<i>Perth South Esk River Parklands</i>	Gov	Building Better Regions Fund grant secured towards the extension of the walkway, installation of footbridge and BBQ. Included in NMC Priority Projects document.			Completed.
4.3	<i>Sheepwash Creek Corridor & Open Space</i>	Gov	Grants secured for major new/improved infrastructure. Included in NMC Priority Projects document.	Commonwealth Government Disaster Ready funding successfully sought. Budget allocation 2024/25.	3,700,000	Scheduled.
4.5	<i>Municipal Tree Planting Program</i>		Annual program implemented. Included in NMC Priority Projects document.	Included in annual operating budget.		Ongoing.
Enabling Projects						
5.1	<i>Conara Park Upgrade</i>	Gov	Concept prepared: awaiting funding opportunities. Included in NMC Priority Projects document.	Negotiating with State Growth.	Awaited	Agreement for Council to take control of Park, and improve as funds permit.
5.3	<i>Redevelop Bartholomew Park Cressy</i>	Gov	Liaising with Local District Committee to establish/prepare plans for upgrade.			Completed.

- Open Spaces and Active Infrastructure Grants Programs: soccer field and half-basketball courts – State Government Open Spaces funding secured for 4 half basketball courts and a playground, and Tas Active Infrastructure grant (\$70,000) secured for the junior soccer field at Perth.
- Laycock Street Park LRCI funding allocation approved – work completed.
- Ross Men’s Shed Extension: Grant Agreement signed. First and second progress reports submitted. Onsite work to commence second quarter 2025.
- Napoleon Street Park – \$127,695 secured through the State Government Open Spaces Grant Round Two. Council resolved at July 2024 Council Meeting to fund the work across two financial years.
- Longford Community/Neighbourhood House – lobbying State Government. Submitted for State Govt Budget 2025/26 consideration.
- Longford Caravan Park Amenities – substantially complete.
- Secombe Street Reserve Raised Pavement Platform – Vulnerable Road User grant of \$50,000 secured – work nearing completion (light to be installed)
- Application submitted to Community Energy Upgrades Fund Round One for solar system at the Longford Community Sports Centre. Outcome – unsuccessful..
- Application submitted to Community Climate Change Action Grants for solar and backup battery for Longford Town Hall. Grant secured and grant deed signed and submitted
- Application submitted to Growing Regions Grants Program Round Two for the development of the Northern Midlands Multi-Purpose Sport and Recreation Complex. Application withdrawn.



8.16 TOURISM & EVENTS AND HERITAGE HIGHWAY TOURISM REGION ASSOCIATION (HHTRA) UPDATE

Prepared by: *Fiona Dewar, Tourism and Events Officer*

Tourism update:

- Events:
 - Liaise with event organisers re planning and information required, assist those seeking funding and in-kind support. Provide assistance to event organisers to fulfil Council compliance requirements.
 - Update and distribute “What’s On” events list.
 - Update NMC website calendar.
 - Update the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse database.
 - Share electronic flyers for upcoming events to the statewide Yellow i Visitor Information network, and the five visitor centres in the Northern Midlands for display on their boards and counters, and to the HHTRA Management Group to share with relevant local communities, businesses, notice boards etc.
 - Update the Events Management Guide.
 - Events held in the Northern Midlands during February included:
 - ♣ Summer Flower Show, Evandale
 - ♣ Ausglass conference, Poatina
 - ♣ King & Queen of the Mountain – Ben Lomond Ascent. Nearly 100 participants.
 - ♣ Scots Day Out, Longford – approx 900 attendees including participants.
 - ♣ Multiple events at Symmons Plains
 - ♣ Penny Farthing Championships, Evandale – approx 1500 attendees
 - ♣ Victorian Picnic Day at Clarendon House, Nile
 - ♣ Community Pacific Festival, Longford
 - ♣ War Animal Remembrance Day | Purple Poppy Day, Campbell Town
 - ♣ Longford Legends Inductions
- Northern Midlands Visitor Centres Group:
 - Provide Northern Midlands Visitor Centres with a tablet to enable electronic visitor data collection. Data feeds into the Tourism Visitor Information Network, building a picture of visitor numbers to the Northern Midlands, and providing the value of visitor centres to the visitor experience.
 - Disseminate updates and information from TVIN, emergency alert agencies, DSG roadworks updates, etc.
- Industry, Interpretation, Other Projects:
 - Attend Visit Northern Tasmania representatives forum 18 February 2025.
 - Work with locals to progress interpretation signage on the Perth-15 pound canon.
 - Assist with hosting the Governor of Tasmania’s 2025 Municipality Tour of the Northern Midlands.
 - Co-host the Community Pacific Festival at Longford.
 - Progress Longford Legends project, and assist with Longford Legends Committee to carry out 2025 tranche of inductions.

HHTRA update:

- Workshop and general meeting held 27 February 2025.
- Working with social media consultant planning the boost of events in the region during February.
- The Heritage Highway Operators private facebook group, as of February 2025, has 79 members.
- Ongoing marketing activities include website blog posts and social media. Working with Destination Southern Tasmania to whom the HHTRA outsource digital marketing activities and webpage maintenance.
- Carry out administrative tasks/correspondence etc. as required.



9 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Regulation 31 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* makes provision for Public Question Time during a Council meeting.

Public question time is to commence at approximately 5:30pm and is to be conducted in accordance with the following guidelines:

- At each Council Meeting up to 20 minutes, or such longer period as Council may determine by resolution at that meeting, is to be provided for persons at the meeting to ask questions.
- A person seeking to ask a question must firstly identify himself or herself by stating their name and the town they reside in.
- If more than one person wishes to ask a question, the Mayor is to determine the order in which those questions are asked.
- Questions must be directed to the Mayor who shall answer or direct the question to the appropriate Councillor or Council Officer. A question will be answered if the information is known otherwise taken on notice and responded to in writing within 10 working days.
- Questions should preferably be in writing and provided to the General Manager 7 days prior to the Council Meeting.
- A person is entitled to ask no more than 2 questions on any specific subject. If a person has up to two questions on several subjects, the Mayor may defer those questions until other questions have been asked and refer back to that person only if time permits.
- Each submission speaker is limited to a maximum of 3 minutes.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS



10 COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council intends to act as a Planning Authority under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* for Agenda Item 11.1.

Section 25 (1) of the Local Government (meeting procedures) Regulations require that if a Council intends to act at a meeting as a Planning Authority under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, the Chairperson is to advise the meeting accordingly.

10.1 STATEMENTS

REPRESENTATIONS ON PLANNING ITEMS

A maximum of 4 persons per item (2 for and 2 against) will be permitted to address Council on a planning item. After the representation has been made, Councillors are permitted to ask questions of the party who made the representation.

Each speaker is limited to a maximum of 3 minutes.

PLAN 11.1: Draft Amendment 13/2024 - Flood-Prone Hazard Area at Perth, Campbell Town and Ross - Direction from Planning Commission



11 PLANNING REPORTS

11.1 DRAFT AMENDMENT 13/2024 - FLOOD-PRONE HAZARD AREA AT PERTH, CAMPBELL TOWN AND ROSS - DIRECTION FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

File: PLN24-0016
Responsible Officer: Des Jennings, General Manager
Report prepared by: Paul Godier, Senior Planner

RECOMMENDATION

That the Planning Authority:

- 1 Receive and consider at a future meeting advice from Entura (Hydro Tasmania's consulting business) on the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the State Emergency Service for Ross; and
- 2 Receive and consider at a future meeting modelling of Sheepwash Creek based on the latest detailed design of upgrade works.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report assesses directions from the Tasmanian Planning Commission to provide a submission on the following:

Ross

- a. A response to the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the State Emergency Service (SES).
- b. If the planning authority supports the SES mapping, an indication of which areas should be included and excluded in the overlay, shown in a map.
- c. An opinion on whether suggested changes, if any, should be considered as a substantial modification.

Perth

- d. A response to the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the SES.
- e. Details of culvert upgrade work to be carried out, including timing and an opinion on whether the certified overlay should be retained or revert to either pre-culvert mapping or be consistent with the SES mapping.
- f. An opinion on whether suggested changes, if any, should be considered as a substantial modification.

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

At its meeting of 18 March 2024, the Council acting as planning authority certified draft amendment 13/2024 to apply the flood-prone hazard area overlay maps to Perth, Campbell Town and Ross.

The certified amendment was placed on public notification and ten representations were received. The representations were considered by the planning authority at its meeting of 21 October 2024, and a report on the representations was sent to the Tasmanian Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission invited the SES to review the draft amendment. The SES provided the attached response dated 14 February 2025.



Following a hearing into the draft amendment on 18 February 2025 the Planning Commission directed the planning authority to provide a submission as outlined in part 1 of this report.

ROSS

The SES has advised that:

SES note that there is a divergence of flood extent in the draft amendment proposed for the Ross locality compared to the TSFM [Tasmanian Strategic Flood Mapping]. The likely reasons for this include:

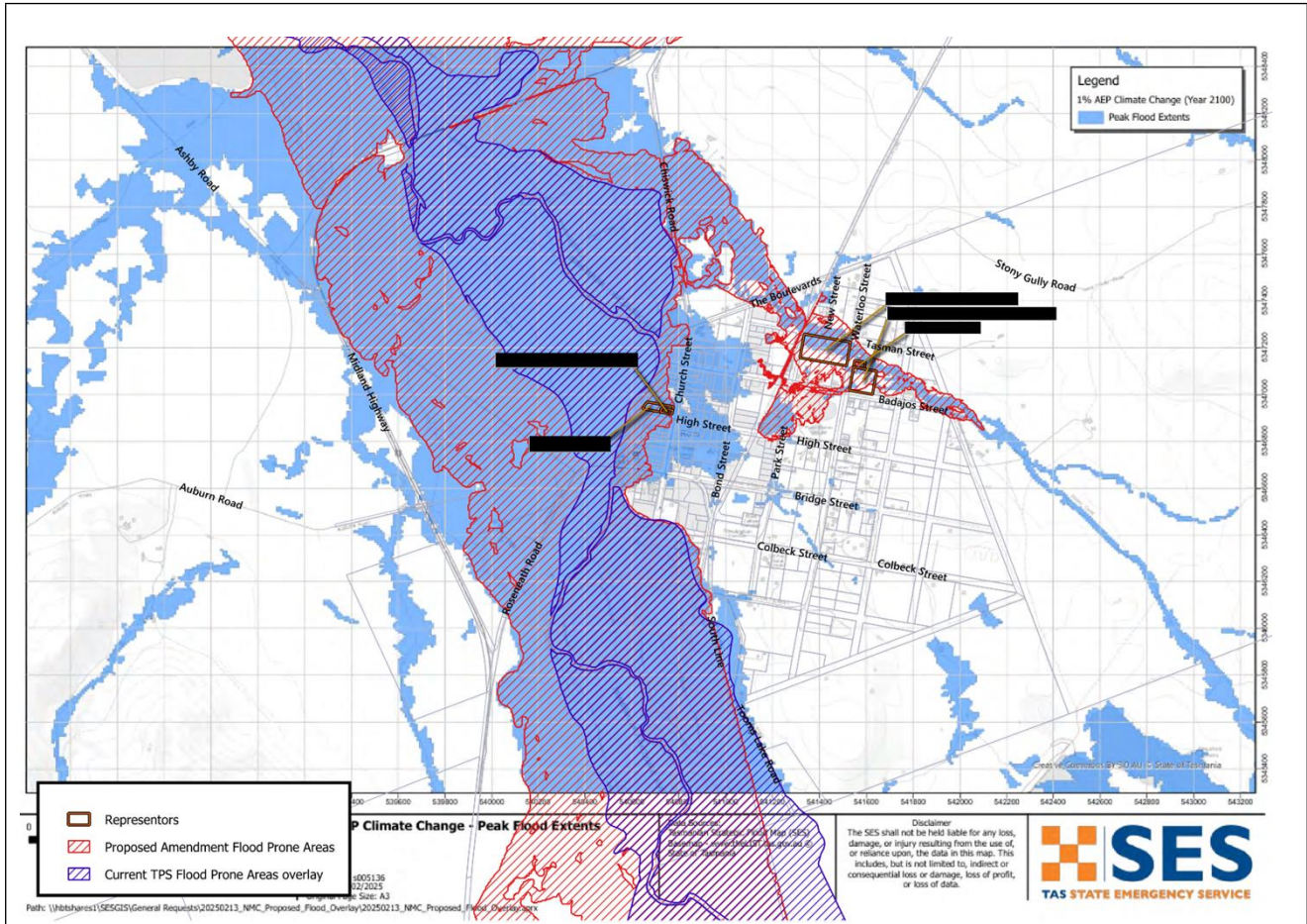
- *The TSFM model predicts wider 1% AEP flood extents than the Entura / Hydrodynamica (2022) study due to higher modelled flows of 1,160 m³/s at Macquarie River downstream of Elizabeth, compared to 545 m³/s in the Entura /Hydrodynamica (2020) study.*
- *Entura / Hydrodynamica used the Macquarie downstream of Elizabeth gauge for calibration, this gauge reports low flows relative to others in the area. The at-site Flood Frequency Analysis flows in the SES study for this gauge were only approximately 30% higher than the upstream Macquarie at Trefusis gauge despite the catchment for the Macquarie downstream of Elizabeth being over 5 times the area of the upstream gauge.*
- *Similarly, despite having a 15% smaller catchment area to South Esk at Llewellyn at-site Flood Frequency Analysis peaks are between 5-6 times lower than peaks at Llewellyn.*
- *The record at Macquarie downstream of Elizabeth is relatively short (33 years) and does not include key regional floods such as 1969 or 1986 (highest on record at Trefusis) therefore the at-site Flood Frequency Analysis here is assumed to be highly uncertain and this gauge was given little weighting in the SES model calibration.*
- *The design losses in the SES model were calibrated to other gauges within the study area, with the resulting modelled flows significantly higher than the Entura/Hydrodynamica studies flows and levels.*
- *The TSFM predicts higher flows and flood extents than Entura/Hydrodynamica, making its outputs more conservative.*

SES suggest alternative options for an Overlay update in the Ross area include:

- *Adopt the TSFM flood extents, given their more conservative approach; or*
- *Conduct further hydrologic review to resolve discrepancies between models, particularly regarding flow estimates at key gauges.*

The Planning Commission has asked for:

- *A response to the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the State Emergency Service (SES).*
- *If the planning authority supports the SES mapping, an indication of which areas should be included and excluded in the overlay, shown in a map.*
- *An opinion on whether suggested changes, if any, should be considered as a substantial modification.*



^ Source: Tasmanian Planning Commission (see attachments for A4 size)

Perth

The SES has advised that:

SES does not support the proposed amendment to the Overlay at Perth that uses flood modelling based on the inclusion of planned future capital works in the west Perth area.

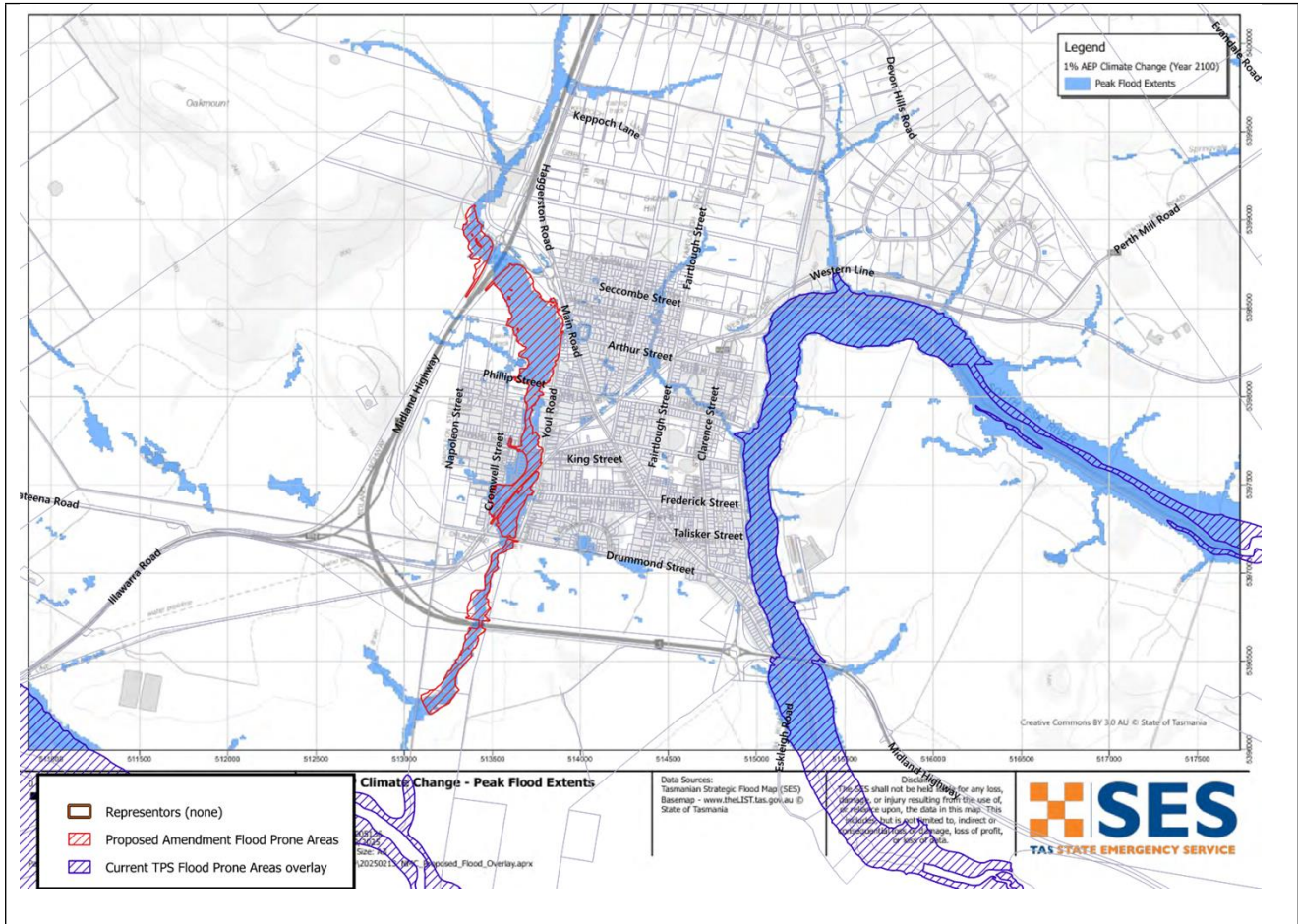
This mapping does not represent the known current flood hazard. There is a risk that if the works are not completed or are constructed to a substantially different design the actual future flood hazard in the area could be significantly different to that indicated in the mapping.

This would present a risk that the Planning Authority and other end users of the land use planning system could not assess for use and development.

SES suggest options for the Overlay update in the Perth area could include the use of the local detailed flood modelling without the inclusion of planned future capital works or the use of the of the TSFM in the Perth locality using the 1% AEP with climate change.

The Planning Commission has asked for:

- *A response to the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the SES.*
- *Details of culvert upgrade work to be carried out, including timing and an opinion on whether the certified overlay should be retained or revert to either pre-culvert mapping or be consistent with the SES mapping.*
- *An opinion on whether suggested changes, if any, should be considered as a substantial modification.*



^ Source: Tasmanian Planning Commission (see attachments for A4 size)

3 STRATEGIC PLAN & INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Lead: Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride

Leaders with Impact

Strategic outcomes:

- 1.1 Council is connected to the community
- 1.2 Councillors serve with integrity and honesty
- 1.3 Management is efficient, proactive and responsible
- 1.4 Improve community assets responsibly and sustainably

People: Culture and society - a vibrant future that respects the past

Sense of Place - Sustain, Protect, Progress

Strategic outcomes:

- 3.3 Public assets meet future lifestyle challenges

Place: Nurture our heritage environment

Environment - Cherish, Sustain our Landscapes and Preserve, Protect Our Built Heritage for Tomorrow

Strategic outcomes:

- 4.2 Meet environmental challenges

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021



Not applicable.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications.

5 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993

Substantial modifications to a draft amendment

(3AF) If –

(a) an application, referred to in subsection (1A) or (1B) [application for a planning permit], is validly made to a planning authority after the end of the 7-day period after the planning authority has been directed under section 40N to modify, or substantially modify, a draft amendment of an LPS; and

(b) there is no amendment of the LPS, substantially in the terms of the draft amendment of the LPS, modified, or substantially modified, in accordance with the direction that is in effect on that day –

the planning authority is to make the decision on the application in accordance with the provisions, of the planning scheme, as they would be in effect on that day if an amendment of the LPS made in accordance with the direction were in effect in relation to the land on that day.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The SES advises that a funding program for 2024–25 will be available to assist municipal councils fund more detailed local flood studies in areas of identified need.

7 RISK ISSUES

Flooding is one of the highest risk natural hazards that pose a threat to the Northern Midlands.

8 CONSULTATION WITH STATE GOVERNMENT

TasWater and the State Emergency Service were invited to comment on the draft amendment.

9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The draft amendment was placed on public notification and 10 representations were received. The representations were considered by council and were sent to the Planning Commission along with the Council's assessment of the matters raised.

10 OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Advice from Entura on the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the SES is required before Council can consider its options.

11 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

The Planning Commission has asked for:

Ross

- *A response to the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the State Emergency Service (SES).*
- *If the planning authority supports the SES mapping, an indication of which areas should be included and excluded in the overlay, shown in a map.*



- *An opinion on whether suggested changes, if any, should be considered as a substantial modification.*

Response: The SES advises that the likely reasons for this include:

- *The TSFM model predicts wider 1% AEP flood extents than the Entura / Hydrodynamica (2022) study due to higher modelled flows of 1,160 m³/s at Macquarie River downstream of Elizabeth, compared to 545 m³/s in the Entura / Hydrodynamica (2020) study.*
- *Entura / Hydrodynamica used the Macquarie downstream of Elizabeth gauge for calibration, this gauge reports low flows relative to others in the area. The at-site Flood Frequency Analysis flows in the SES study for this gauge were only approximately 30% higher than the upstream Macquarie at Trefusis gauge despite the catchment for the Macquarie downstream of Elizabeth being over 5 times the area of the upstream gauge.*
- *Similarly, despite having a 15% smaller catchment area to South Esk at Llewellyn at-site Flood Frequency Analysis peaks are between 5-6 times lower than peaks at Llewellyn.*
- *The record at Macquarie downstream of Elizabeth is relatively short (33 years) and does not include key regional floods such as 1969 or 1986 (highest on record at Trefusis) therefore the at-site Flood Frequency Analysis here is assumed to be highly uncertain and this gauge was given little weighting in the SES model calibration.*
- *The design losses in the SES model were calibrated to other gauges within the study area, with the resulting modelled flows significantly higher than the Entura/Hydrodynamica studies flows and levels.*
- *The TSFM predicts higher flows and flood extents than Entura/Hydrodynamica, making its outputs more conservative.*

Entura has been asked to provide advice on the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the SES. This advice will be considered at a future Council meeting, along with whether suggested changes, if any, should be considered as a substantial modification.

Perth

- *A response to the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the SES.*
- *Details of culvert upgrade work to be carried out, including timing and an opinion on whether the certified overlay should be retained or revert to either pre-culvert mapping or be consistent with the SES mapping.*
- *An opinion on whether suggested changes, if any, should be considered as a substantial modification.*

Response: Council has received grant funding for the cost of half the work and has budgeted for the other half the cost. All works are expected to be completed by the end of March 2026.

Council's Engineering Supervisor has advised that more detailed designs of the culvert upgrade work for Drummond Street, the railway and the channel between, are now available. This would enable more accurate flood modelling to be undertaken. Such modelling should be undertaken and considered before deciding on whether suggested changes, if any, should be considered as a substantial modification.

12 ATTACHMENTS

1. Commission-direction-20- February-2025 [**11.1.1** - 2 pages]
2. Flood-overlay-maps-displayed-at-hearing [**11.1.2** - 13 pages]
3. Submission- State- Emergency- Service-14- February-2025 [**11.1.3** - 7 pages]
4. Commission-direction- State- Emergency- Service-2- December-2024 [**11.1.4** - 2 pages]



12 COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY: CESSATION

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council cease to act as a Planning Authority under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, for the remainder of the meeting.



13 COMMUNITY & DEVELOPMENT REPORTS

13.1 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES: MONTHLY REPORT

Responsible Officer: *Des Jennings, General Manager*

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present the Development Services activities as at the month's end.

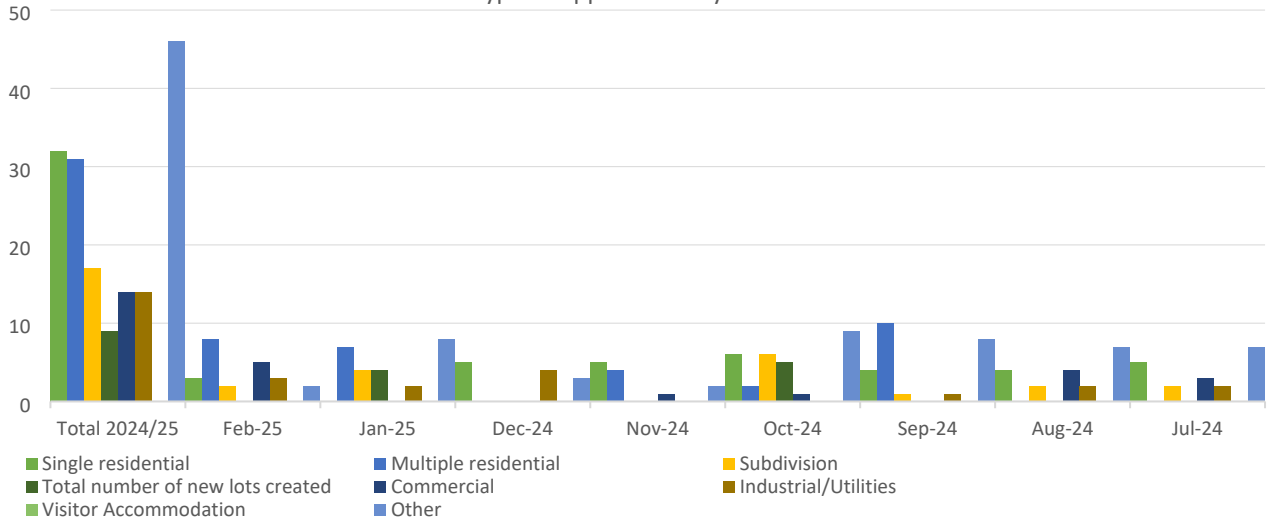
2 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORTING

2.1 Planning Decisions

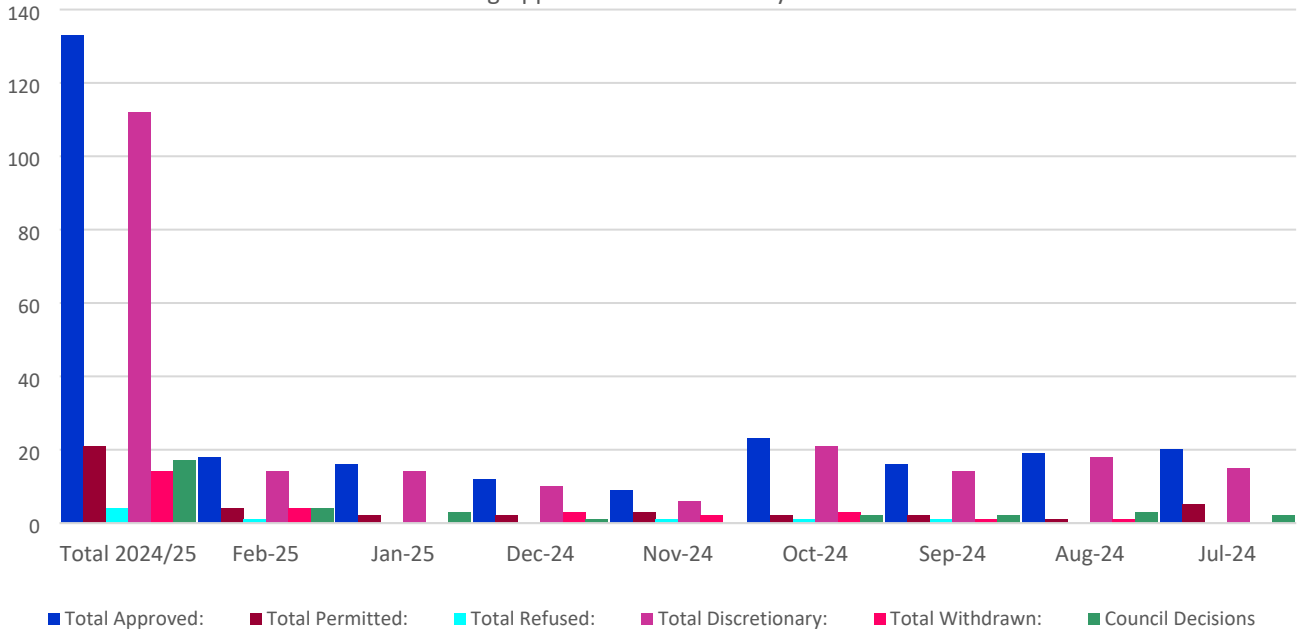
	2022/ 2023	2023/ 2024	Total YTD	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Number of valid applications	195	116	133	11	12	21	14	18	16	25	16				
Applications on STOP for further information				52	45	47	31	30	42	43	46				
Single residential	48	36	32	5	4	4	6	5	5	0	3				
Multiple residential	31	69	31	0	0	10	2	4	0	7	8				
Subdivision	34	27	17	2	2	1	6	0	0	4	2				
Total number of new lots created	203	72	9	0	0	0	5	0	0	4	0				
Commercial	27	25	14	3	4	0	1	1	0	0	5				
Industrial/Utilities	12	15	14	2	2	1	0	0	4	2	3				
Visitor Accommodation	8	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Total permitted	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Total discretionary	7	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Other (includes all residential development on existing dwellings [alterations/ additions, sheds, solar, fences, pools etc.])	85	47	46	7	7	8	9	2	3	8	2				
Total No. Applications Approved:	228	182	133	20	19	16	23	9	12	16	18				
Total Permitted:	33	18	21	5	1	2	2	3	2	2	4				
Average Days for Permitted	11	15	11.66	13	7	15.5	13.5	16.3	10	5	13				
Days allowed for approval by LUPAA	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28				
Total Exempt under IPS:	83	93	83	8	4	9	19	4	3	11	13				
Total Refused:	5	4	4	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1				
Total Discretionary:	198	164	112	15	18	14	21	6	10	14	14				
Average Days for Discretionary:	33.3	33.17	38.31	34	37	38	38.5	41	36	41	41				
Days allowed for approval under LUPAA:	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42				
Total Withdrawn:	39	44	14	0	1	1	3	2	3	0	4				
Council Decisions	36	27	17	2	3	2	2	0	1	3	4				
Appeals lodged by the Applicant	6	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0				
Appeals lodged by third party	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				



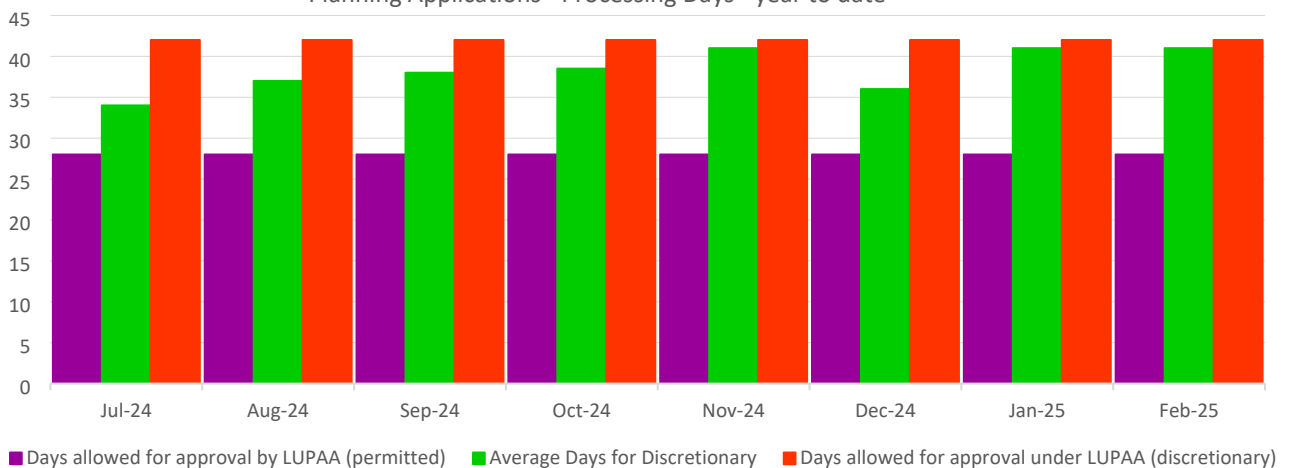
Type of Applications - year to date



Planning Applications Processed - year to date



Planning Applications - Processing Days - year to date

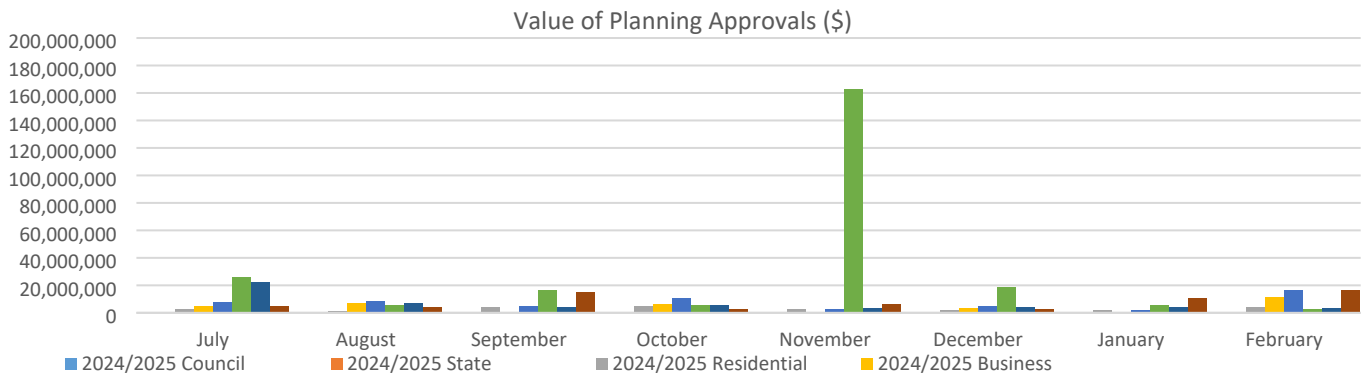




Project	Details	Address	Applicant	No of LUPAA days	Perm / Disc / Exempt
PLN-24-0002 - 2	Change Water Connections. Need Amended SPAN	Valley View & Boston Manor, 1 & 3 Saundridge Road, Cressy TAS 7302	Woolcott Land Services	28	A
PLN-25-0023 - 1	Letterbox and garden shed permit conditions to be removed.	31 Cambock Lane, EVANDALE Tasmania 7212	Design to Live	3	A
PLN-24-0158	Demolition, 3 new Assisted Housing Units and Staff Car Parking (Local Heritage Precinct, Attenuation Area)	12 Archer Street, Longford TAS 7301	Circa Architecture	42	D
PLN-24-0170	Multiple Dwellings x 2 (Longford SAP)	10 Maefred Close, Longford TAS 7301	Abode Designer Homes	42	D
PLN-24-0202	Storage - New Warehouse and Associated Works (Translink SAP, C2.0 Parking and Sustainable Transport Code, C3.0 Road and Railway Assets Code)	4 Gatty Street, Western Junction (relocation of crossover in road reserve) TAS 7212	C3 Construction Group	42	D
PLN-24-0204	Solar Panels - vary location (Local Historic Heritage Code)	25-29 Marlborough Street, Longford TAS 7301	J Talbot	41	D
PLN-24-0207	Outbuilding (Shearing Shed) and Amenities Block (C2.0 Parking and Sustainable Transport Code)	11 Church Street, Campbell Town (works in Queen Street road reservation) TAS 7210	Peltzer Construction	36	D
PLN-24-0216	Warehouse (Translink SAP Area 1) with access over 7 Munro/4A Gatty St Western Junction	5 Munro Street, Western Junction TAS 7212	Bison Constructions	42	D
PLN-24-0217	Single Dwelling (Longford SAP)	3 Laycock Street, Longford TAS 7301	Engineering Plus	40	D
PLN-24-0228	Subdivision (boundary adjustment, relocation of services within road reserve) Cressy SAP.	13 Charles Street, Cressy TAS 7302	Cohen & Associates Pty Ltd	42	D
PLN-25-0001	Demolition and rebuild of southwest wing of existing Union Hotel Building (Heritage Listed Place)	20 Falmouth Street, Avoca TAS 7213	Ritson Builders	36	D
PLN-25-0007	Shade Structure x 2 (vary front bound setback)	24 High Street, Longford TAS 7301	J Wing	41	D
PLN-25-0010	Subdivision - Consolidation of two titles	3-5 Walter Street, Rossarden TAS 7213	Survey and Alignment Services	25	D
PLN-24-0206	Classroom Extension & Addition	112-118 Main Street, Cressy TAS 7302	Loop Architecture Pty Ltd	27	P
PLN-25-0005	Secondary Residence	92 Devon Hills Road, Devon Hills TAS 7300	Adams building Design	14	P
PLN-25-0019	outbuilding	15 Devon Hills Road, Devon Hills TAS 7300	K Pel	1	P
PLN-25-0020	Demolition of Shed	15 Franklin Street, Campbell Town TAS 7210	S Thomson	9	P
PLN-24-0031	Multiple Dwellings x 3 (vary front setback, building envelope) Cressy SAP applies, Removal of vegetation.	6b Saundridge Road, Cressy TAS 7302	Design to Live	42	C
PLN-24-0107	Demolition of existing buildings and development of long term carpark - Stage 1 (Translink Specific Area Plan)	139 Evandale Road, Western Junction TAS 7212	Nova Land Consulting	42	C
PLN-24-0147	Dwelling and outbuilding at 31 Arthur Street. Access over 29 Arthur Street. Service connection over 17 Coachmans Road.	31 Arthur Street, Evandale TAS 7212	Design to Live	42	C
PLN-24-0213	2 Lot Subdivision (Bushfire Prone, Scenic Road Corridor, Heritage Listed Place)	Fairfield, 13790 Midland Highway, Epping Forest TAS 7211	Design to Live	42	CR

2.2 Value of Planning Approvals

	Current Year				2024/2025	2023/2024	2022/2023	2021/2022
	Council	State	Residential	Business	Total	Total	Total	Total
July	0	130,000	2,741,102	4,541,000	7,412,102	25,482,265	21,899,020	4,380,747
August	120,000	8,000	1,110,245	6,950,000	8,188,245	5,178,200	7,155,844	3,781,274
September	5,000	400,000	3,989,000	0	4,394,000	16,503,664	4,097,900	14,817,000
October	0	0	4,443,000	5,856,800	10,299,800	5,562,210	5,353,500	2,638,795
November	0	0	2,866,200	37,231	2,903,431	162,356,200	3,023,616	6,052,219
December	0	50,000	1,898,500	2,924,615	4,873,115	18,389,000	4,154,613	2,319,458
January	0	52,000	1,975,648	0	2,027,648	5,255,000	4,366,000	10,548,446
YTD Total	125,000	1,283,494	23,388,145	31,820,956	56,617,595	215,082,539	41,529,880	31,670,035
Annual Total						255,377,879	76,384,582	91,715,427



2.3 Matters Awaiting Decision by TASCAT & TPC

TASCAT		TASMANIAN CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL	
PLN-23-0232	Appeal P2024/105 against refusal of application for 5 lot subdivision at 30 Paton Street. Preliminary Conference held 7 November 2024. Hearing held 26 February 2025. Awaiting decision from TASCAT.		
P18-046/NC-24-0009	Appeal P2024/120 – appeal against Notice and Order Preliminary Hearing held 13 January 2025. Hearing set for 13 March 2025.		
Decisions received			
-	-		
TPC		TASMANIAN PLANNING COMMISSION	
PLN-24-0016	Draft Amendment to apply the flood-prone area overlay to the Planning Scheme maps at Perth, Campbell Town and Ross. Section 40K report on representations presented to October 2024 Council meeting and sent to Tasmanian Planning Commission. Hearing held 18 February 2025. The Commission has required a submission on the differences between the certified amendment and the flood mapping provided by the State Emergency Service – report being presented to Council meeting of 17 March 2025.		
Decisions received			
-	-		

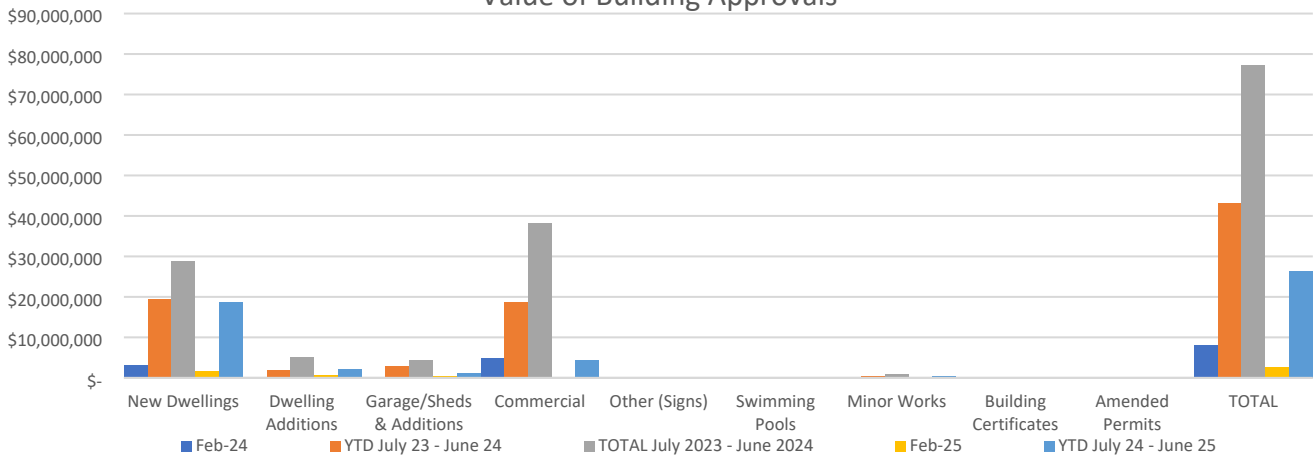
2.4 Building Approvals

The following table shows a comparison of the number and total value of building works for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.

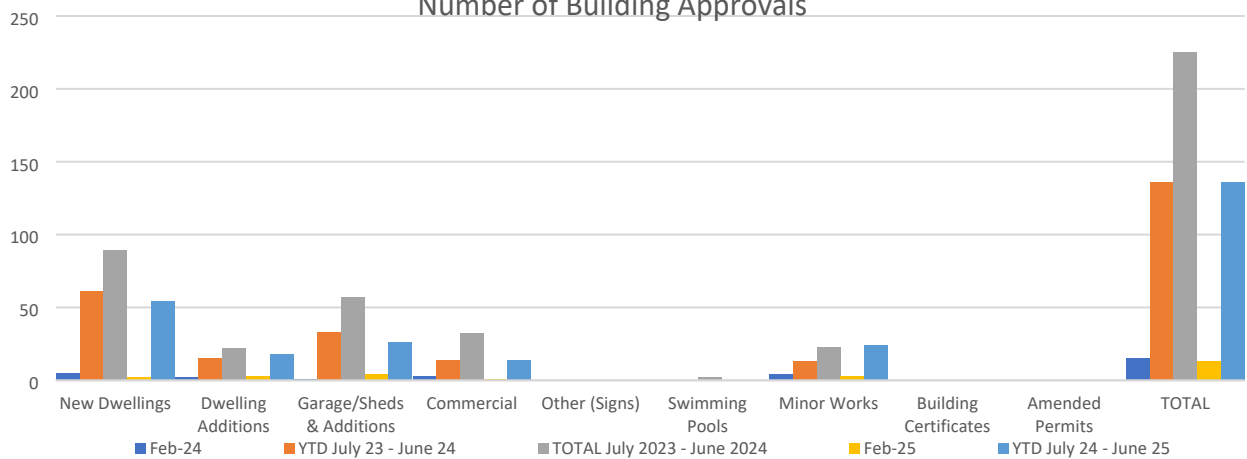
	YEAR - 2023 - 2024				YEAR		YEAR - 2024 - 2025			
	Feb-24		YTD July 23 - June 24		TOTAL July 2023 - June 2024		Feb-25		YTD July 24 - June 25	
	No.	Total Value	No.	Total Value	No.	Total Value	No.	Total Value	No.	Total Value
		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$
New Dwellings	5	3,030,000	61	19,347,734	89	28,811,896	2	1,525,805	54	18,634,668
Dwelling Additions	2	124,000	15	1,740,400	22	5,105,400	3	600,000	18	1,987,600
Garage/Sheds & Additions	1	50,000	33	2,788,834	57	4,240,824	4	247,500	26	1,192,804
Commercial	3	4,800,000	14	18,630,000	32	38,102,213	1	80,000	14	4,280,500
Other (Signs)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Swimming Pools	0	0	0	0	2	114,000	0	0	0	0
Minor Works	4	129,262	13	485,773	23	741,490	3	57,209	24	307,615
Building Certificates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amended Permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	15	8,133,262	136	42,992,741	225	77,115,823	13	2,510,514	136	26,403,187
Inspections										
Building	4		4		4		0		0	
Plumbing	50		276		453		31		267	



Value of Building Approvals



Number of Building Approvals



2.5 Planning, Building & Plumbing Compliance – Permit Review

Below are tables of inspections and action taken for the financial year.

Planning Permit Compliance Reviews	This Month	2024/2025	Total 2023/2024
Number of Inspections	8	31	49
Property owner not home or only recently started			
Complying with all conditions / signed off	2	4	9
Not complying with all conditions	6	27	
Re-inspection required	6	27	34
Notice of Intention to Issue Enforcement Notice	2	2	
Enforcement Notices issued	1	1	
Infringement Notice Issued			
No Further Action Required			6

Building / Plumbing Permit Compliance Reviews	This Month	2024/2025	Total 2023/2024
Number of Inspections	20	171	155
Property owner not home or only recently started			
Complying with all conditions / signed off	20	170	134
Not complying with all conditions		1	
Re-inspection required			14
Building Notices issued			
Plumbing Notices Issued			
Building Orders issued			
Plumbing Orders issued			
Infringements Issued (Building/Plumbing)			



Building / Plumbing Permit Compliance Reviews	This Month	2024/2025	Total 2023/2024
No Further Action Required			7
Illegal Works – Building / Plumbing	This Month	2024/2025	Total 2023/2024
Number of Inspections	19	166	87
Commitment provided to submit required documentation			7
Re-inspection required	11	117	48
No Further Action Required	8	49	32
Building Notices issued	5	30	21
Plumbing Notices Issued	2	15	11
Building Orders issued	2	25	17
Plumbing Orders Issued		2	2
Emergency Order		2	
Infringements issued (Building/Plumbing)			1
Illegal Works - Planning	This Month	2024/2025	Total 2023/2024
Number of Inspections	5	13	4
Commitment provided to submit required documentation			2
Re-inspection required	1	3	
Notice of Intention to Issue Enforcement Notice issued	5	5	1
Enforcement Notices issued	1	3	
Infringements Issued	0		
No Further Action Required	0		2

3 STRATEGIC PLAN & INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Progress: Economic health and wealth - grow and prosper

Strategic Project Delivery - Build Capacity for a Healthy Wealthy Future

Strategic outcomes:

2.1 Strategic, sustainable, infrastructure is progressive

People: Culture and society - a vibrant future that respects the past

Sense of Place - Sustain, Protect, Progress

Strategic outcomes:

3.1 Sympathetic design respects historical architecture

3.2 Developments enhance existing cultural amenity

3.4 Towns are enviable places to visit, live and work

Place: Nurture our heritage environment

Environment - Cherish, Sustain our Landscapes and Preserve, Protect Our Built Heritage for Tomorrow

Strategic outcomes:

4.1 Cherish and sustain our landscape

4.2 Meet environmental challenges

4.4 Our heritage villages and towns are high value assets

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

This plan has been developed with a coordinated perspective to align with local, regional, state and federal plans. Rather than grouping projects by town or assembling a long list of 'nice to have' projects, this plan takes a Council-wide view of needs and opportunities in relation to the strategic investment drivers in the region. This matter has relevance to:

Enabling Project/s:

Projects which are considered to be incrementally important – usually by improving existing facilities or other complementary upgrades to infrastructure (does not include Council's business as usual projects including renewal and maintenance of existing assets)

5.4 Subdivisions:



Several at Cressy, Evandale, Longford & Perth - the Northern Midlands Council is a planning authority with responsibilities specified in the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 (LUPAA). These responsibilities include developing planning schemes, proposing amendments to planning schemes, supporting or rejecting changes proposed by others and making decisions on individual developments in accordance with the planning scheme. Several significant subdivisions in the Northern Midlands region have recently been identified and are in various stages of conceptual design or planning.

4 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993

The planning process is regulated by the *Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993*, section 43 of which requires Council to observe and enforce the observance of its planning scheme.

4.2 Building Act 2016

The *Building Act 2016* requires Council to enforce compliance with the Act.

5 RISK ISSUES

Lack of public awareness is a risk to Council. If people are not aware of requirements for planning, building and plumbing approvals, this may result in work without approval. Council continues to promote requirements to ensure the public is aware of its responsibility when conducting development.

6 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Discretionary applications are placed on public notification in accordance with Section 57 of the *Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993*.

From time to time, articles are placed in the Northern Midlands Courier and on Council's Facebook page, reminding the public of certain requirements.

7 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

There have been 14 commercial building approvals valued at a total of \$4,280,500 (year to date), compared to 14 commercial building approvals valued at a total of \$18,630,000 (year to date) for the previous year.

In total, there have been 136 building approvals valued at \$26,403,187 (year to date) for 2024/2025 compared to 136 building approvals valued at \$42,992,741 (year to date) for the previous year.



14 GOVERNANCE REPORTS

14.1 COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT ANZAC DAY SERVICES

Responsible Officer: Des Jennings, General Manager

Report prepared by: Vivien Tan, Executive and Communications Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That

- i) Council receive this report; and
- ii) Councillors attend the 2025 ANZAC Day services as follows:

*** denotes ceremony where wreath is laid by Council**

- Avoca Cenotaph – 10.45am *
Cr ...
- Bishopsbourne – 9.00am *
Cr ...
- Campbell Town Cenotaph – 6.00am
Cr ...
- Campbell Town Cenotaph – 11.00am *
Cr ...
- Cressy Cenotaph – 9.00am *
Cr ...
- Evandale Cenotaph – 6.00am
Cr ...
- Evandale Cenotaph – 11.00am *
Cr ...
- Longford Cenotaph – 6.00am
Cr ...
- Longford Cenotaph – 11.00am *
Cr ...
- Perth Cenotaph – 9.00am *
Cr ...
- Ross Cenotaph – 6.00am
Cr ...
- Ross Cenotaph – 11.00am *
Cr ...

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the 2025 ANZAC Day schedule of services being held across the municipality, and to determine Councillor representation for each township.

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Observed on the 25 April each year, ANZAC Day is a National Day of Remembrance which honors the members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps who fought at Gallipoli in World War One and broadly commemorates all Australians and New Zealanders who served and died in all wars, conflicts, and peacekeeping operations.



The following ANZAC Day services will be held Friday, 25 April 2025:

Location	Organising Committee	Service time/s	
Campbell Town Cenotaph	Campbell Town ANZAC Committee	6:00am	*11:00am
Evandale Cenotaph	Evandale History Society	6:00am	*11:00am
Longford Cenotaph	Northern Midlands RSL	6:00am	*11:00am
Ross Cenotaph	Ross RSL	6:00am	*11:00am
Cressy Cenotaph	Northern Midlands RSL	*9:00am	
Perth Cenotaph	Northern Midlands RSL	*9:00am	
Bishopsbourne Cenotaph	Community	*9:00am	
Avoca Cenotaph	Northern Midlands RSL	*10.45am	

**Denotes ceremony where wreath is laid by Council.*

The Northern Midlands Council will again provide traffic management for each ceremony where required.

3 STRATEGIC PLAN & INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Lead: Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride

Leaders with Impact

Strategic outcomes:

1.1 Council is connected to the community

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

This plan has been developed with a coordinated perspective to align with local, regional, state and federal plans. Rather than grouping projects by town or assembling a long list of 'nice to have' projects, this plan takes a Council-wide view of needs and opportunities in relation to the strategic investment drivers in the region. This matter has relevance to:

Not applicable.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

N/a

5 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Road closures must be completed in accordance with legislative and Australian standard requirements.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A budget allocation of \$16,500 has been approved for costs relative to ANZAC Day Services.

7 RISK ISSUES

A risk is presented when implementing a road closure. Engagement of qualified traffic management operators to implement traffic management is required to mitigate the risk.

8 CONSULTATION WITH STATE GOVERNMENT

N/a



9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

N/a

10 OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Council to consider which ceremonies will be attended by Councillors.

11 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

It is the responsibility of event organisers to advise Tasmania Police of the details of ceremonies and parades.

12 ATTACHMENTS

Nil



14.2 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (ALGA) - 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT: CALL FOR MOTIONS AND CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Responsible Officer: Des Jennings, General Manager

Report prepared by: Gail Eacher, Executive Assistant

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- a) note the report and the provision within the policy for
 - i) Mayor Mary Knowles, and
 - ii) Deputy Mayor Lambertto attend the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government to be held in Canberra from 24 to 27 June 2025; and
- b) submit the following two motions for consideration at the ALGA conference:
 - i) Financial Support for Renewable and Energy Efficient Projects; and
 - ii) Increased Funding for Climate Change Mitigation and Asset Replacement; and
 - iii) ...

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to determine attendance and Notices of Motions to be submitted for consideration at the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government Conference to be held at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from 24 to 27 July 2025.

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) – incorporating the Regional Cooperation and Development Forum – will be held in Canberra from 24-27 June.

This year's NGA theme is 'National Priorities Need Local Solutions'. Motions from councils will be accepted until **31 March 2025**.

Early Bird rates for registration of attendees is available until Friday, 23 May 2025.

2.1 ATTENDANCE AT THE CONFERENCE

Convened annually by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), the National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government is the peak annual event for Local Government, the event provides a unique opportunity for Local Government to engage directly with the Federal Government, to develop national policy and to influence the future direction of councils and our communities.

Historically the Mayor and Deputy Mayor have attended the conference together with the General Manager.

Attendance at the conference is in accordance with Council's *Councillors Allowances, Travelling & Other Expenses Policy*, 6. *Conferences & Seminars - ALGA conference attended by Mayor & Deputy Mayor*.

Early Bird registration closes on Friday, 23 May 2025.



2.2 MOTIONS TO ALGA

ALGA was established 1947. In structure, ALGA is a federation of member state and territory associations. Its mission is to achieve outcomes for local government through advocacy with impact, and maximise the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of councils and our communities.

Since 1994, the NGA has built the profile of local government on the national stage, showcased the value of councils, and most importantly demonstrated - particularly to the Australian Government – the strength and value of working with local government to help deliver on national priorities.

Debate on motions was introduced to the NGA as a vehicle for councils from across the nation to canvas ideas. Outcomes of debate on motions (NGA Resolutions) could be used by participating councils to inform their own policies and priorities, as well as their advocacy when dealing with federal politicians.

At the same time, they help ALGA and its member state and territory associations gain valuable insight into council priorities, emerging national issues, and the level of need and support for new policy and program initiatives.

Given the structure of ALGA, its Constitution, and level of resources, the NGA does not bind the ALGA Board. However, the Board carefully considers NGA resolutions as it determines ALGA's policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda.

ALGA's policies and priorities will continue to be determined by the ALGA Board in the interests of all councils.

The theme of the 2025 NGA is – National Priorities Need Local Solutions.

In June 2025, Australia will either have a re-elected Labor Government, or a new Coalition or minority government.

The 31st National General Assembly of Local Government will focus on opportunities for councils to work with the next Federal Government to deliver local solutions that will help them deliver on their vision for the nation.

As the closest government to communities, councils understand local challenges and opportunities. They are a willing partner in government, and sustainably funded can provide place-based solutions to a range of national priorities including affordable housing, energy transition, road safety, increasing productivity, and improved health and wellbeing.

The attached discussion paper is a call for councils to submit motions for debate at the 2025 NGA to be held in Canberra from 24-27 June 2025.

Motions for this year's NGA should consider:

- any new practical programs or policy changes that can strengthen the system of local government nationally to provide the services and infrastructure required to support and strengthen our communities; and/or
- new program ideas that that would help the local government sector to deliver place-based solutions to national priorities.

Motions should be concise, practical and implementable and meet the guidelines for motions set out in the paper. Motion/s must address one or more of the issues identified in the discussion paper.

If Council submits a motion, there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the NGA to move and speak to that motion if required.

Motions must be lodged electronically using the online form and be received no later than **11:59pm on Monday 31 March 2025**.



a) Criteria for Submission of Motions

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

1. Be relevant to the work of local government nationally.
2. Not be focused on a specific jurisdiction, location or region – unless the project or issue has national implications.
3. Be consistent with the themes of the NGA.
4. Complement or build on the policy objectives of ALGA and the state or territory local government association.
5. Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of the state or territory local government association.
6. Propose a clear action and outcome ie call on the Australian Government to act on something.
7. Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members, or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.
8. Address issues that will directly improve the capacity of local government to deliver services and infrastructure for the benefit of all Australian communities.
9. Not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
10. Be supported by sufficient evidence to support the outcome being sought and demonstrate the relevance and significance of the matter to local government nationally.

Motions must commence with the following wording: *This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to ...*

It should be noted that resolutions of the NGA do not automatically become ALGA's national policy positions. The ALGA Board carefully considers NGA resolutions as it determines ALGA's policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda, but the resolutions are not binding.

The attached discussion paper provides guidance to councils developing Motions for Debate at the National General Assembly.

b) Submission of Motions

This year's call for motion focusses on twelve priority areas:

- Intergovernmental relations;
- Financial sustainability;
- Roads and infrastructure;
- Emergency management;
- Housing and homelessness;
- Jobs and skills;
- Community services;
- Closing the Gap and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reconciliation;
- Data, digital technology and cyber security;
- Climate change and renewable energy;
- Environment; and
- Circular economy.

It is proposed that Council consider submission of the following motions:



1. Financial Support for Renewable and Energy-Efficient Projects:

Motion:

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide increased financial support to local councils through grant programs, low or no-interest loans, and other such mechanisms for the purpose of expediting the progression and completion of projects related to renewables and energy-efficient initiatives.

2. Increased Funding for Climate Change Mitigation and Asset Replacement

Motion:

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to provide increased funding to, and improve ease of access to such funding for, local councils to address the effects of climate change and enhance asset replacement strategies.

It should be noted that these Motions were prepared for the 2024 NGA; however, were rejected as the submission deadline was not met.

Council officers believe these motions meet the “National Priorities Need Local Solutions” theme of the NGA.

3 STRATEGIC PLAN & INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Lead: Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride

Leaders with Impact

Strategic outcomes:

1.2 Councillors serve with integrity and honesty

1.3 Management is efficient, proactive and responsible

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

Not applicable.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Attendance at the conference is in accordance with Council’s *Councillors Allowances, Travelling & Other Expenses* Policy, as follows:

6. CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

The budget will be allocated to the following conferences

LGAT & LGMA conference to be attended by up to 6 councillors

ALGA conference attended by Mayor & Deputy Mayor

Australian Roads conference attended by 1 councillor

‘Other’ conferences and seminar sessions as approved.

Attendance to all conferences, seminars and training sessions with a cost in excess of \$150 are to be in compliance with a resolution of the Council, except on emergency situations, where approval must be given by a unanimous approval from Council Executive.

Attendance to all conferences, seminars and training sessions with a cost in excess of \$200 are to be in compliance with a resolution of the Council, except on emergency situations, where approval must be given by a unanimous



approval from Council Executive.

Following attendance of a conference by any councillor, a report must be submitted to Council setting out the relevance to local government, and the benefits that can be further investigated by Council. Where two or more councillors attend a conference, a joint report may be submitted.

5 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fee to submit a motion.

Council each year allocates a budget for elected members to attend conferences and professional development, the 2024/2025 budget allocation is \$17,630. An amount of \$10,107 has been expended to February 2025, with \$7,523 still available of the allocation. It should be noted that a portion of the expenditure in regard to the 2024 NGA has been expended in the 2024/2025 budget period as the NGA was held in July 2024.

Registration costs for the 2025 conference are as follows:

- Registration per attendee Early Bird \$979;
- Registration for the Regional forum \$279

Accommodation prices are approximately \$350 to \$500 per night; and return flights to Canberra start at approximately \$700.

Historically, Council's Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the General Manager have attended the NGA Conference.

7 RISK ISSUES

There is no risk in submitting a motion to the NGA.

8 CONSULTATION WITH STATE GOVERNMENT

Not applicable.

9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

10 OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Council is to consider whether or not to submit the motions and/or additional motions to the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government conference.

11 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

The 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA) will be held in Canberra from 24 - 27 June 2025.

Attendance at the conference is in accordance with Council's *Councillors Allowances, Travelling & Other Expenses Policy, 6. Conferences & Seminars - ALGA conference attended by Mayor & Deputy Mayor.*

The report provides the necessary background to the conference; however, the following should be noted:

- The NGA represents an important opportunity for Council to influence the national policy agenda.
- The NGA also provides opportunities for attendees to hear from leaders across government and to have one on one



access to some of the country's most influential decision makers.

- The theme for this year's NGA is 'National Priorities Need Local Solutions'.
- The NGA discussion paper can be viewed here [Link 1]. The program is yet to be announced.
- Costs associated with attending the 2024 ALGA NGA, including administrative support, can be met from within existing budget allocations.

Submission of Motions:

- Motions must meet the criteria published in this paper.
- Motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued.
- Motions should be practical, focussed and relatively simple.
- Motions must not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
- If Council submits a motion, there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the National General Assembly.
- Resolutions of the National General Assembly do not automatically become ALGA's national policy positions. The resolutions are used by the ALGA Board to inform policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda.

It should be noted the ALGA Program for the NGA has not yet been made available and will be circulated on receipt thereof.

Motions must be lodged electronically using the online form and by no later than **11:59pm on Monday 31 March 2025**.

12 ATTACHMENTS

1. 2025- NG A- Discussion- Paper [**14.2.1** - 24 pages]
 2. ALGA NGA 25 Motion Financial Support for Renewable and Energy Efficient Projects [**14.2.2** - 1 page]
 3. ALGA NGA 25 Motion Increased Funding for Climate Change Mitigation and Asset Replacement [**14.2.3** - 3 pages]
-



14.3 DISCUSSION PAPER – LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS

File: {custom-field-file}
Responsible Officer: Des Jennings, General Manager
Report prepared by: Tatiana Paniagua, Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- a) provide feedback to the State Government on the Discussion Paper: remaking local government regulations;
- or
- b) do not agree to provide a submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet;
- or
- c) agree to submit a submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet following amendments and discussion made at the next workshop.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to outline the proposed remaking of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 (Meeting Regulations)* and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015 (General Regulations)*, which form key components of Tasmania's local government legislative framework and are set to expire in June 2025.

This report provides an overview of the review process, summarises key proposed changes aimed at improving transparency, accountability, inclusivity, and fairness in local government, and details the consultation process. The report invites feedback from stakeholders to ensure the regulations remain relevant, effective, and fit for purpose

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

2.1 Background

As part of the state government's commitment to local government reform, the Office of Local Government has released a discussion paper on a proposed "remaking local government regulations", such the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 (Meeting Regulations)* and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015 (General Regulations)*.

Under *section 11(2) of the Subordinate Legislation Act 1992*, regulations have a lifespan of 10 years and must be remade. As the current Meeting Regulations and General Regulations are set to expire in June 2025, this report outlines the steps required for their renewal and invites consideration of key issues in the remaking process.

2.2 Proposed changes to Local Government Regulations (Meeting Regulations and General Regulations)

It is noted that the State Government has left it until both Regulations are close to expiry before engaging the sector in a process to 'remake' the Regulations. Due to this less-than-satisfactory approach, the remade regulations will not address some of the key elements that have been the subject of discussion for a number of years. Instead, these changes will require the Regulations to be amended at some stage in the near future.



It is proposed that most provisions contained in the existing Meeting Regulations and General Regulations will be remade without change. In other words, they will stay the same. There are also proposed changes to the Regulations aimed at improving transparency, accountability, inclusivity, and fairness in Councils. These include:

- Enhancing transparency, such as requiring ordinary Council meetings to be recorded and ensuring accurate documentation of minutes, including councillor attendance and key discussions.
- Promoting accountability through updated reporting requirements, including councillor training and financial disclosures.
- Encouraging inclusivity, such as by allowing Councillors to attend meetings virtually or remotely where appropriate and improving community access to recorded meetings.
- Ensuring fairness, such as updating Council categories that determine Councillor allowances and ensuring consistency of approach to Councillor leave arrangements.
- Strengthening procurement and financial oversight by ensuring fair and transparent tendering processes through enhanced reporting requirements.

These changes were previously identified through feedback from a range of review processes, including most recently the *Future of Local Government Review*. The proposed changes align with the broader aims of the *Local Government Priority Reform Program 2024-26*. Getting feedback on the proposed changes will help to make sure the Regulations are fit for purpose.

Public comment on the discussion paper is open **until 1 April 2025**.

A Discussion Paper, a Draft Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, and a Draft Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 were included as attachments to the correspondence; and are held as attachments to this report.

3 STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2027

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Lead: Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride

Leaders with Impact

Strategic outcomes:

- 1.1 Council is connected to the community
- 1.2 Councillors serve with integrity and honesty
- 1.3 Management is efficient, proactive and responsible

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

Not applicable.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Meeting Procedures Policy

5 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015

Local Government (General) Regulations 2015



6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

7 RISK ISSUES

There is no risk in making a submission; however, should Council not consider this matter and not make a submission the risk is that Council would have had not input into the consultation process.

8 CONSULTATION WITH STATE GOVERNMENT

Correspondence received from Minister Kerry Vincent MLC has invited Council to participate in the process and make a submission.

9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

10 OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

That Council:

- provide feedback to the State Government on the Discussion Paper: Local Government Regulations and Discussion Paper: Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations; or
 - do not agree to provide a submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet; or
 - agree to submit a submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet following amendments and discussion made at the next workshop.
-

11 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

The Discussion Paper is divided into 3 parts as follows:

Part A: Introduction and overview of Regulations remake and consultation process.

Part B: Proposed changes to the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Part C: Proposed changes to the Local Government (General) Regulations 2015.

The **Part A** the Discussion Paper advises that the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015* are set to expire in June 2025, requiring their remaking in accordance with the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1992*. This process allows for a review of the regulations to ensure they remain up to date and relevant.

While most existing provisions will remain unchanged, proposed amendments aim to enhance transparency, accountability, inclusivity, and fairness in council operations. Key changes include mandatory recording of council meetings, updated councillor interest disclosures, remote meeting attendance options, and revised councillor allowances and leave provisions.

The proposed changes align with the *Local Government Priority Reform Program 2024-26* and were informed by stakeholder feedback, including the *Future of Local Government Review*. A public consultation process is open until **1 April 2025**, allowing councils, stakeholders, and the community to provide input via an online survey, email, or post.



Following consultation, the Government will consider feedback before finalising the regulations for implementation in June 2025.

The **Part B** is addressing the proposed changes to the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 as outlined below:

Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART B: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015		
Snapshot of changes Include new regulations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o enable councillors to attend meetings remotely o provide greater flexibility for councillor leave o clarify requirements for recording interests in minutes o mandate the audio or audio-visual recording of council meetings. o Make the rules and procedures for questions and motions consistent, and easier to understand and manage. 		
IMPROVE PUBLIC ACCESS TO COUNCIL MEETINGS	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
<p>Mandatory recordings of council meetings <i>Regulation 43 – Audio recording of meetings</i> <i>Currently the use of audio recordings for council meetings is optional. A change to this regulation proposes council meetings must be electronically recorded using either audio or audio-visual devices. This will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhance transparency • be more inclusive • improve public access to council meetings. • This will also build public trust by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing an accurate and accessible record of council decisions • efficiently informing community members about council activities and decisions. <p><i>Mandatory use of audio or audio-visual electronic recording will provide a complete record of meetings that is more accessible to some people than written minutes. Recordings of meetings are also useful for resolving questions about the accuracy of written minutes or events that occurred during a meeting.</i></p> <p><i>To support this change there will be other new regulations including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the chairperson will tell attendees at the start of the meeting that it is being recorded • recordings will be publicly available for 12 months • enabling recordings to be edited before they are published. This will enable councils to remove defamatory or offensive material • protections for a council if it has technical difficulties and cannot record • a transition period for councils to enable them to record 	<p>Officers support this recommendation</p>	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART B: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015		
Questions:	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
How can any possible operational or logistical matters be managed in relation to the recording of council meetings?	<p>The provisions of new Regulation 43 (replacing old Regulation 33) are generally logical and substantially reflect the current Regulation. The changes are the mandatory requirement and the process to address technical difficulties, which are both appropriate.</p> <p>It provides the General Manager with the power to edit a recording in prescribed circumstances. This does not place a requirement on the General Manager to review each recording to assess whether any of the prescribed circumstances exist.</p>	
How long do you think councils should keep recordings of meetings and how long should they be published on council websites?	<p>This is currently six months in the Regulations, extending this to 12 months will require Councils to have available increased storage space on the website.</p>	
Changes to what is included in meeting minutes <i>Regulation 39 - Minutes</i> <i>The changes to meeting minutes aim to improve the transparency of council meetings and the accuracy of minutes for the community.</i> <i>In addition to current requirements, meeting minutes will need to include:</i>	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the name of councillors attending meetings remotely • any questions asked without notice by a councillor and a summary of any answer given • declarations of interest are to record the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o name of the councillor o nature of the interest o the period in which the councillor left and returned to the meeting. • A change to the regulations will also allow councils to withhold questions from the agendas and minutes if they are defamatory, offensive or unlawful. 	<p>Officers support this recommendation</p>	
Question	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
Do you have any concerns about the proposed changes to minutes?	<p>There have been a number of subtle tweaks within Regulation 39 which have not been articulated in the Discussion Paper. One significant change is the setting of a minimum specification for what minutes will include rather than what they are to record. This shift ensures that the minutes must include certain matters "as a minimum," establishing a baseline for what must be documented. This change</p>	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART B: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015		
	<p>enhances the clarity and completeness of the records.</p> <p>Another notable adjustment is the change from "any" to "each" in numerous places. This modification emphasizes the need to record every individual instance of the specified matters, ensuring that nothing is overlooked. By specifying "each matter discussed" and "each decision made," the regulations provide greater precision and consistency in minute-taking.</p> <p>Under the current regulations, technically, questions asked without notice by a councillor do not have to be included. The proposed change addresses this by explicitly requiring that both questions on notice and without notice, along with their answers, must be recorded. This ensures that all questions and their responses are documented, enhancing transparency and accountability.</p> <p>Additionally, greater specificity in relation to what is recorded in the minutes has been included. The 2025 regulations provide detailed requirements for recording pecuniary interest declarations and the handling of refused questions. This increased specificity ensures a consistent approach to minute-taking and improves the accuracy and completeness of the records.</p>	
ALLOW COUNCILLORS TO ATTEND MEETINGS REMOTELY	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
<p><i>Regulation 46 – Participation in meetings by audio or visual link</i></p> <p><i>Regulation 47 – Whole council meeting by audio link or audio visual link</i></p> <p><i>Regulation 48 – Maximum attendance at meetings by audio link</i></p> <p><i>Changes that enable councillors to attend meetings remotely will support inclusivity and flexibility in councils. Currently, Tasmanian councils are restricted from allowing councillors to participate in meetings by any means other than in person, even in emergencies.</i></p> <p><i>During the COVID-19 pandemic, the COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020 authorised remote attendance at council meetings. However, this was a temporary measure specific to the pandemic response. This is out of step with</i></p>	<p>Officers support this recommendation.</p>	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
<p>PART B: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015</p>		
<p><i>other Australian councils, all of which allow flexible attendance.</i></p> <p><i>The Meeting Regulations will be amended to enable councils to meet remotely in limited circumstances, such as a natural disaster or public health emergency.</i></p> <p><i>It is also proposed the chairperson of council can authorise individual councillors to attend meetings remotely due to limited circumstances. In these cases, where councillors are participating in a meeting remotely, they must be able to be fully engaged and provide their full attention to the meeting and provide assurances of the appropriate management of confidentiality where necessary. Circumstances that may prevent a councillor attending a meeting in person and are acceptable reasons for participating remotely include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ill health or incapacity</i> • <i>caregiving responsibilities</i> • <i>localised natural disasters or emergencies.</i> <p><i>These provisions will be helpful in regional and remote areas where councillors may need to travel for specialist medical treatment or other critical reasons and can't attend council meetings in person. It may also encourage people from diverse backgrounds to run for council by removing barriers. For example, people with caring responsibilities, that periodically inhibit travel to meetings, could attend a meeting remotely (with the clear expectation of undivided attention during meeting proceedings). It would also support business continuity in emergencies. Councillors attending remotely would still be counted as part of the quorum (a quorum is more than half of the elected councillors). However, it is also recognised and critical that councillors must participate fully in meetings. Approval to attend remotely will not be provided if a councillor:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>is not able to provide their full attention to the council meeting</i> • <i>cannot maintain the confidentiality of a closed meeting</i> • <i>does not provide a suitable reason.</i> • <i>To balance remote and face-to-face participation in meetings, it is proposed councillors cannot utilise remote meeting provisions to attend more than one-third of meetings each year. This amendment will help to maintain current expectations around engagement with the council while still allowing for some flexibility.</i> 		
<p>Questions</p>	<p>Officers Comments</p>	<p>Councillors' comments:</p>
<p>Do you agree with the limited circumstances in which a councillor can attend a meeting remotely?</p>	<p>While the proposed circumstances for remote attendance are reasonable, consideration should</p>	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART B: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015		
	<p>be given to additional situations such as unexpected travel disruptions (e.g., flight cancellations affecting councillors returning from council-related commitments) or exceptional work-related obligations. Further clarity is needed on how councillors can demonstrate their eligibility under the proposed criteria to ensure consistency in decision-making. Regulation 46 should also require councillors requesting remote attendance to specify whether they will participate via audio or audio-visual link. Additionally, the effectiveness of remote attendance depends on the quality of the connection, which can vary and may drop out unexpectedly. The regulation does not currently address this issue, and provisions should be included to ensure that councillors can fully engage in meetings without technical disruptions affecting participation. This should be addressed before the regulations are finalised.</p>	
<p>Do you believe the circumstances in which remote attendance may be refused are sufficient?</p>	<p>The circumstances for refusal seem appropriate; however, further clarification is needed regarding how a councillor's ability to provide full attention will be assessed. Additionally, consideration should be given to whether technological issues, such as persistent connectivity problems, could warrant refusal of remote attendance in real time if they hinder participation.</p>	
<p>Do you think there needs to be a restriction or cap on the number of meetings a councillor can attend remotely each year and, if so, what should this be?</p>	<p>A restriction should be included in the legislation to ensure that in-person engagement remains the primary mode of participation. However, rather than a rigid cap (e.g., one-third of meetings), the legislation should also allow for a more flexible approach that considers individual circumstances on a case-by-case basis. Clear guidelines should be established to provide consistency in decision-making, ensuring that remote attendance is used appropriately while allowing councils the discretion to review and extend limits in exceptional situations.</p>	
Parental leave for councillors	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART B: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015		
<p><i>Regulation 51 – Parental leave</i> <i>The Meeting Regulations currently include a provision that enables a councillor to request a leave of absence. That leave is not restricted to specific conditions and is on approval of the council.</i> <i>An additional provision to the regulations would allow councillors a right to take extended parental leave for up to six months. This includes for birth or adoption of a child as well as adopting or becoming a guardian. This leave would not require approval by the council.</i> <i>Having parental leave will help councillors to take time off without risking their position. Allowing remote meeting attendance and more options for councillor leave will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>foster a more inclusive environment</i> • <i>encourage greater participation from people with caregiving responsibilities or living in remote areas</i> • <i>strengthen governance by having more people from different backgrounds</i> • <i>promote continuity in council operations, even in challenging circumstances.</i> 	<p>Officers support this recommendation.</p>	
Questions	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
<p>Do you agree with the circumstances in which a councillor can have parental leave?</p>	<p>This is a logical addition, and the circumstances seem sufficiently encompassing in relation to circumstances.</p>	
<p>Is there anything that should be removed or added?</p>	<p>For clarity the Regulations should address the situation of Councillor Allowances. Employees have access to paid parental leave in accordance with Council's Enterprise Agreement. The Australian Government also meets the cost of Paid Parental leave for a 22 week period.</p>	
CONSISTENT RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR QUESTIONS, MOTIONS AND MINUTES	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
<p><i>Division 2 – Motions, Division 4 – Questions and Division 5 - Minutes</i> <i>The proposed changes will help people understand and comply with the Meeting Regulations by making sure there are similar and clear rules where possible. They will also help the chairperson to manage meetings. The changes will clarify:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Questions from both councillors and the public should be straightforward, concise and directly relevant to council activities.</i> • <i>Questions should focus on asking for information, not making statements, and should include minimal background details.</i> • <i>When and why questions and motions can be refused. For example, they should not be defamatory, unlawful or offensive and must</i> 	<p>Officers support this recommendation.</p>	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART B: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015		
<p><i>relate to the activities or functions of the council.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Who makes the decision to refuse a question or motion and when. For example, the general manager, in consultation with the mayor, can decide if a question on notice is to be refused before a meeting. The chairperson will decide if a question or motion is to be refused at a meeting.</i> <i>What needs to be recorded in the agenda and minutes if a question is refused because it is offensive, unlawful, defamatory, excessively personal or does not relate to council activities. In such cases, it is proposed the person's name, the date the question was received and the reason for refusal is recorded rather than printing the original question.</i> <p><i>These measures aim to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>create a clearer process for handling questions, motions and minutes</i> <i>maintain respectful questions and motions during meetings</i> <i>ensure consistency across council meeting procedures.</i> 		
Questions	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
<p>Do you think the suggested changes will provide clarity for people attending council meetings and asking questions?</p>	<p>Regulation 33 – Questions Generally is a new Regulation which sets parameters in relation to how a question is handled and how it is delivered. Of particular note is the requirement that it not be a statement and have minimal preamble. The introduction of this Regulation will strengthen the capacity of the chairperson to focus on a question being asked without a lengthy preamble which is sometimes delivered.</p> <p>Clauses within the Regulation have been reordered to provide a logical grouping. The following changes are also noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Refusal of a motion has been expanded to include the General Manager as well as the Mayor (previously only the Mayor) and the grounds have been extended to include (d) does not relate to the activities, or functions, of the council. Now includes a new provision in Regulation 19 that a councillor can provide less than 7 days notice or even provide a written notice during the meeting. The Mayor and General Manager then have to consider whether to 	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART B: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015		
	<p>allow this to occur at that meeting or at a later meeting.</p> <p>3.Regulation 20 is an entirely new provision that enables motions without notice to be given as long as it relates to a matter listed on the agenda of the meeting.</p> <p>It is concerning that the provisions in Regulations 19 and 20 will enable a councillor to just provide a motion at any time during a meeting is potentially in conflict with Section 65 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> as relates to deciding on matters without qualified advice. Regulation 20 is very general in nature, any matter listed, for example when there is an Annual Plan update in the Agenda which includes many items being worked on by Council officers, this provision enables a councillor to move any motion they like as long as the words appear in the Agenda.</p> <p>What is the Office of Local Government trying to achieve with this change?</p> <p>Has the Office of Local Government taken legal advice on this proposed change?</p> <p>This has the potential to significantly disrupt the smooth flow of a Council meeting.</p>	
<p>Do you think the changes will help the chairperson manage questions and motions in meetings?</p>	<p>The proposed changes will assist the chairperson to manage questions at a meeting. Concerns have been expressed in the previous discussion about the impact of changes to motions and the proposed changes are not an improvement in the management of motions as currently proposed.</p>	



The **Part C** is addressing the proposed changes to the Local Government (General) Regulations 2015 as outlined below:

Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART C: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2015		
Snapshot of changes 1. Introduce mandatory reporting of councillor training activities in council annual reports. This will enhance transparency and promote ongoing professional development. 2. Update and increase councillor allowances. The increase will provide a financial contribution to compensate for the lack of superannuation. 3. Introduce two new sets of questions related to 337 land information certificates.		
PROPOSED CHANGES	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
Mandate the reporting of councillor training <i>Subregulation 37(d)</i> <i>Under this proposal, councils must include in their annual reports details of core learning activities undertaken by each councillor. This will:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improve transparency for the community • reinforce the importance of ongoing training to increase councillor capability • support good governance • signal council commitment to providing councillors with the skills and knowledge needed to address complex challenges and serve their communities effectively. • This change was initiated at the December 2023 Premier's Local Government Council meeting. The regulations will require councillors to publicly report on the completion of core learning and development activities as determined by the Director of Local Government. This will be documented in councils' annual reports. 	Officers support this recommendation	
Question:	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
Are there other learning and development activities that should also be recorded publicly?	This will require the reporting on the completion on core learning and development activities as determined by the Director of Local Government. It is presumed that this will be the Learning and Development Framework modules, but it doesn't explicitly say this. The Director will determine what is disclosed. The General Manager believes that the disclosure should reflect the modules only.	
Updated councillor allowances <i>Schedule 4 – Allowances for elected members</i> <i>Section 340A of the Act provides that councillors are entitled to an allowance as prescribed. They are prescribed in regulation 42 and schedule 4 of the General Regulations. Tasmania's 29 councils are varied, and allowances payable to councillors are set in a</i>	Officers support this recommendation.	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART C: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2015		
<p>way to ensure good governance while balancing councils' financial sustainability and the interests of the ratepayers. There are currently seven council categories based on the number of voters and revenue base for each council. Using this relatively simple methodology, allowances are set and aligned with council categories.</p> <p>The base amount payable to councillors is specified in the General Regulations. These amounts are adjusted for inflation each November using an indexation process. The council categories were reviewed and updated in 2016. Consistent with the Government's Priority Reform Program, a straightforward recalculation of allowances has been undertaken as part of the remaking of the Regulations, by reapplying the existing methodology (i.e. recalculating allowances on the basis of current numbers of voters and revenue basis) – this has seen three councils move up to the next category (Clarence City, Devonport City and Glamorgan-Spring Bay Councils).</p> <p>Further to this, the matter of superannuation has been reviewed. In 2004, a 9% increase in allowances was provided to compensate for the lack of councillor superannuation. Australia's superannuation guarantee is currently sitting at 11.5% and will increase to 12% in July 2025. Therefore, councillor allowances as proposed in the draft General Regulations have been adjusted to incorporate the equivalent of a 12% superannuation compensation component.</p> <p>To ensure councillor allowances are fair and equitable in all respects however, the Government has also committed to a comprehensive review of councillor allowances and councillor numbers at a future date.</p>		
Question:	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
Do you have any comments about the updated councillor allowances?	Through previous discussions at Council, concerns have been expressed that the level of the allowance is a dis-incentive to some sections of the community to participate in local government as they will be financially disadvantaged by not being able to work.	

337 certificate questions	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
Schedule 6 - Questions Under section 337 of the Act, a certificate is provided by general managers to people on request. The certificate may be requested by people buying, selling or developing land. The	Officers support this recommendation.	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART C: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2015		
<p><i>certificate is provided with answers to a number of prescribed questions from schedule 6 of the General Regulations.</i></p> <p><i>These questions have been updated to include new questions as suggested by councils and the State Planning Office. These questions relate to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>weed management (or invasive plant species) to ensure landowners are aware of significant weed issues on properties</i> • <i>land that is subject to the 'Major Projects' provisions in the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.</i> 		
Questions	Officers Comments	Councillors' comments:
<p>Are questions 56 and 57 on weed management necessary or appropriate? Why?</p>	<p>This will add further to the extensive questions which Council currently deals with, the fee for a 337 Certificate will need to be increased to address this additional work.</p> <p>The proposed Question 56 is supported however we need to ensure that the required data source to answer this question is available.</p> <p>Question 57 should be amended to include Weed Control Notifications. "Have any enforcement measures under the <i>Weed Management Act 1999</i> (now repealed) or <i>Biosecurity Act 2019</i> (such as notices, requirements or directions) been served in the last ten years in relation to the land?"</p> <p>Alternatively, amended to include notices in the "Note":</p> <p>".. (Note: Enforcement measures may be in the form of <u>written Weed Control Notifications</u>, a Requirement Notice issued under section 13 of the <i>Weed Management Act 1999</i> (now repealed) or an Individual Biosecurity Direction issued under section 193 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2019</i>, or a Biosecurity Action Requirement.).</p>	
<p>Is the set of questions (no. 21) on land subject to Major Projects necessary or appropriate? Why?</p>	<p>This is a logical inclusion.</p>	

<p>There are now a number of 337 questions, which in turn create a burden for councils. Could questions be simplified or would this lead to information not being provided? An example of simplified questions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Have approvals been granted under any relevant Act to perform plumbing work? 	<p>Agree with simplified questions as suggested. The introduction of the Building Act 2019, particularly the introduction of Notifiable Work (Form 80), Notifiable Work requiring approval and Permit work means that additional level of research is required</p>	
---	--	--



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
PART C: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2015		
<p>Are they still in force and is the completion of any required work still outstanding?’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Have any compliance actions (such as notices or orders) been served in relation to the land that are still outstanding?’ 	<p>for each certificate issued including the provision of those records. In BODC experience solicitors and conveyances are struggling to understand whether matters are outstanding or not, particularly in reference to the “Negative-Negative” questions relating to completion certificates.</p> <p>There are some questions that would need to remain however providing answers in its current format is onerous.</p> <p>The alternative would be to increase the fee applicable to the amount of research required, particularly for properties which are multiple developments since the introduction of the Building Regulations 1994. The current fee does not resonate with the amount of work required.</p> <p>A further consideration might be to remove any questions relating to previous legislation. The current 337 does not make reference to the Building Regulations 1978, perhaps consideration could be given to remove any references to the Building Regulations of 1994 or Building Act 2000.</p>	

The discussion paper and correspondence are included as attachments to this report.

Feedback on this submission must be provided by the 1 April 2025.

12 ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter - Minister for Local Government - consultation on remaking Local Government Regulations [14.3.1 - 2 pages]
2. Discussion Paper - Local Government Regulations (Meeting Procedures) Regulations remake 2025 [14.3.2 - 11 pages]
3. Attachment 1- Draft Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - Consultation [14.3.3 - 67 pages]
4. Attachment 2 - Draft Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 - Consultation [14.3.4 - 102 pages]
5. Tables showing changes to provisions in consultation versions of Local Government Meeting Procedures and General Regulations 2025 [14.3.5 - 8 pages]



14.4 DISCUSSION PAPER: TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT'S LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL BILL

File: *N/a*
Responsible Officer: *Des Jennings, General Manager*
Report prepared by: *Kristy Nutting, Executive Officer*

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- a) Agree to submit the enclosed submission as written;
- or
- b) Do not agree to provide a submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet;
- or
- c) Agree to submit a submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet following amendments and discussion made at the next workshop.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to outline the suggested inclusions for Northern Midlands submission to the Department of Premier and Cabinet in regard the Local Government Electoral Bill Discussion Paper.

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

As part of the state government's commitment to local government reform, the Office of Local Government has released a discussion paper on a proposed standalone Electoral Bill and supporting regulations. It is intended that the new legislation will be in place in readiness for the council elections due to occur in October 2026.

The proposed reforms outlined in the paper aim to:

- create a more flexible format for local government elections
- strengthen donations disclosure and electoral advertising requirements
- improve the quality of public information at elections
- make changes to the franchise for electors and eligibility to run for office, alongside a suite of changes intended to improve the integrity of (and community confidence in) council elections more generally.

It should be noted that there are two areas that are out of scope in the reform. Specifically, voting in local government elections will remain compulsory and councils will continue to bear the costs of elections.

Public comment on the discussion paper is open **until midnight 4 April 2025**.

A Discussion Paper, and a two-page 'at a glance' summary were included as attachments to the correspondence; and are held as attachments to this report.

The correspondence and attachments were included in the 21 February 2025 briefing report to Councillors.



3 STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2027

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Lead: Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride

Leaders with Impact

Strategic outcomes:

- 1.1 Council is connected to the community
- 1.2 Councillors serve with integrity and honesty

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

Not applicable.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

5 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1993

Electoral Act 2004

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None relating to this report.

7 RISK ISSUES

There is no risk in making a submission; however, should Council not consider this matter and make a submission the risk is that Council will not have had input into the consultation process.

8 CONSULTATION WITH STATE GOVERNMENT

Correspondence received from Minister Kerry Vincent MLC has invited Council to participate in the process and make a submission.

9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

10 OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Council may wish to make a submission or not.



11 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

The paper is delivered in two parts.

Firstly, the paper presents two scenarios for the future format of elections:

- the first is an upfront change to an attendance voting mode, either with a single polling day or a polling period, which would represent a substantial departure for local government elections in Tasmania.
- the second relies upon continued distribution by mail of ballot papers, with electors encouraged and enabled to complete and return ballots by hand to physical issuing places, creating a 'hybrid' electoral system. This responds to challenges, namely decreasing postal services standards and increasing costs, which will continue to challenge the conduct of elections by universal postal ballot.

Officers Comments:

The government acknowledges in their discussion paper that quantifying the cost implications of either scenario is challenging. Given that voting is compulsory, officers believe that a hybrid model offers the most equitable way to participate in the voting process. Specifically, they propose a single polling day with the option of postal voting for those unable to attend in person.

Secondly the paper discusses proposed reforms as outlined below:

Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
Potential new directions: who should vote in local government elections, and how should we elect the deputy mayor?		
<i>Reforming the franchise: should non-citizens enjoy a continuing entitlement to vote at local government elections?</i>		
<p>If this entitlement were to continue, it is proposed a person's ordinary place of residence must have been in Tasmania for the 12 months prior to making an application for enrolment (or otherwise must own property in Tasmania in a personal capacity).</p> <p>This would be, in effect, a 'non-citizens' electoral category.</p>	<p>Officers support retaining the voting entitlements for non-citizens who own property within the municipal area and for permanent residents of the municipality.</p>	
<i>Reforming the entitlement to nominate as councillor</i>		
<p>If an entitlement for non-citizens to vote is preserved, require that a person must appear on the House of Assembly electoral roll to be eligible to hold the office of councillor, in addition to appearing on that roll or the supplementary electoral roll at an address in the municipal area.</p>	<p>Officers support this recommendation</p>	
<i>Remove the direct election of the deputy mayor</i>		
<p>Instead, the councillors are to elect the deputy mayor at the first ordinary meeting of the term of the council. Otherwise, the role of deputy mayor could be removed entirely or made optional in favour of provision for acting mayors, including supplementary allowances.</p>	<p>Officers support the proposal to appoint the Deputy Mayor at the first ordinary meeting after an election. Officers do not support the removal of the role of deputy mayor.</p>	
Local Government Elections: technical reforms		



Proposed Reform Measure		Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
1. A more flexible and accessible format for local government elections			
	Reform 1: reduce prescription in the statutory framework to enable the Tasmanian Electoral Commission to approve the electoral process.	Supported. Providing flexibility will enhance accessibility and participation rates including for hybrid voting model.	
	Reform 2: enable the Tasmanian Electoral Commission to approve procedures for voting, including by telephone and electronic means, for interstate and overseas electors and electors with impediments to ordinary participation, or for other classes of person prescribed by regulation.	Supported. Providing flexibility will enhance accessibility and participation rates including for hybrid voting model.	
	Reform 3: legislate that the Tasmanian Electoral Commission is required to approve procedures in accordance with universal franchise principles, namely all electors, including electors with additional barriers to participation, are to be afforded an opportunity to vote in an independent, secret and verifiable manner.	Supported. Providing flexibility will enhance accessibility and participation rates including for hybrid voting model.	
	Reform 4: require the Electoral Commissioner to publish after each election a statement on the implementation of the accessibility principles, after information, including relevant statistics and initiatives undertaken to promote universal participation in the election.	Supported. Demonstrates the enhanced accessibility and participation rates.	
2. A better franchise for electors and changes to eligibility to run for office			
	Reform 5: <i>increase the number of elector signatures required to support a notice of nomination to the lesser of 30 or one per cent of the number of electors in the municipal area.</i>	Supported. This reform requires the candidate to demonstrate genuine commitment to engage and represent the community. Government should also consider a requirement for candidates to participate in information session on understanding local government prior to nomination.	
	Reform 6: <i>move administration of the 'general managers' roll' from councils to the Tasmanian Electoral Commission, including administration of the process through which land occupier and corporate nominee (supplementary electoral roll) electors are to enrol.</i>	Supported. The general managers elector rolls places an administrative burden on councils and is better aligned with the Tasmanian Electoral Commission.	
	Reform 7: <i>provide a definition for the purposes of 'occupier' of land that establishes an occupier holds a leasehold interest or licence over land, and/or the person's ordinary place of residence is in the municipal area.</i>	Supported. Provides greater clarity.	
	Reform 8: <i>provide that a person seeking enrolment on the supplementary roll must complete a land occupier declaration and provide documentation of the leasehold or licence over land, or evidence of their period of residence in Tasmania to the satisfaction of the Commissioner.</i>	Supported. Provides for a more robust process.	



Proposed Reform Measure		Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
	Reform 9: <i>implement the 'one person, one vote' principle and require a nominee of a corporate landowner or occupier of land may nominate one natural person who is an officeholder of the company to be its nominee.</i>	Supported. Provides a more balanced democratic process.	
	Reform 10: <i>provide that all intending candidates (other than incumbent councillors) must complete a prescribed program of pre-nomination training prior to their submission of a notice of nomination.</i>	Supported. The training (or information session) should be accessible and available to participate by digital means and in person. New candidates will gain a greater understanding of the responsibilities, opportunities, but also the limitations associated with the role.	
3. Better quality public information at elections			
	Reform 11: <i>require that the TEC provides all people submitting a notice of nomination the opportunity to provide a candidate information statement (in an approved format, providing prescribed information) and the Tasmanian Electoral Commission is to publish candidate information through appropriate means.</i>	Supported. Provides electors with at least some understanding of the candidate's motivation for nomination and how they intend to represent the community.	
	Reform 12: <i>provide that the Director of Local Government may provide a statement to be published by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission alongside the candidate information.</i>	Supported. Provides for sector wide transparency. The sector should be engaged in the development of the performance measures and data inputs to ensure consistency across all councils.	
	Reform 13: <i>establish that nomination by a registered party is to be included in the information published by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission, and printed on the ballot paper, with the candidate's name to be printed alongside the name of the registered party.</i>	Supported. Provides for greater transparency by disclosing political party endorsement for the candidate. This reform does not require disclosure of party membership however.	
	Reform 14: <i>provide for candidates whose nomination form is not lodged by a registered party to request to be identified with a group name.</i>	Not supported. Candidate collectives should either register as a party in accordance with the <i>Electoral Act 2004</i> , or stand independently. Providing the ability for an unregistered 'membership' of candidates may lend itself to frivolity or vexation.	
4. Strengthened donations disclosure and electoral advertising requirements			
	Reform 15: <i>corresponding to the Electoral Act Review Final Report and the amended section 197 of the Electoral Act 2004, introduce new prohibitions on the dissemination of misleading and deceptive statements.</i>	Supported.	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
<p>Reform 16: <i>remove the general restriction upon a person, without the consent of the candidate or intending candidate, printing, publishing or distributing any electoral advertising that contains the name, photograph or a likeness of a candidate or intending candidate at an election; other than 'how-to-vote' material intended to instruct an elector in the completion of their vote.</i></p>	<p>Supported in part. Consent from announced candidates should not be required, however consent should be sought from 'intending' candidates prior to publication of 'intending' candidate details. Consider providing greater definition on what constitutes publicly declared 'intending' candidate under the Electoral Act 2004.</p>	
<p>Reform 17: <i>clarify the definition of electoral advertising.</i></p>	<p>Supported</p>	
<p>Reform 18: <i>provide that only a candidate, intending candidate, or a person so nominated in the notice of nomination by a candidate, may incur electoral expenditure; and provide that expenditure by other persons to promote or procure the election of a candidate or intending candidate is an offence.</i></p>	<p>Supported. Provides for a more robust system.</p>	
<p>Reform 19: <i>institute authorisation requirements for electoral advertising and associated material.</i></p>	<p>Supported. Reform is consistent with the Electoral Act 2004.</p>	
<p>Reform 20: <i>replace advertising expenditure limits with a general expenditure limit, with reference to the expenditure limit for Legislative Council elections under the Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023.</i></p>	<p>A general expenditure limit gives more flexibly (and appropriately) captures the range of campaigning activities open to candidates at contemporary elections.</p>	
<p>Reform 21: <i>require that a candidate is to report expenditure made on their behalf in their electoral expenditure return, in the same manner as personal expenditure. The present requirement to attribute, in full, to each candidate so featured the value of advertising featuring multiple candidates (for instance, multiple party candidates) will be retained.</i></p>	<p>Supported</p>	
<p>Reform 22: <i>prohibit any person from incurring any expenditure for or on behalf of a registered party with a view to promoting or procuring the election of a candidate or intending candidate.</i></p>	<p>Supported</p>	
<p>Reform 23: <i>maintain the \$50 threshold for the disclosure of gifts and benefits and extend this requirement from incumbent councillors to all candidates, who will be required to lodge two candidate donation returns with the Tasmanian Electoral Commission. The new Bill will also require the publication of initial donations disclosures on the Commission's website during the polling period and until the certificate of election.</i></p>	<p>Supported</p>	
<p>Reform 24: <i>provide that it is an offence for a person other than a candidate or intending candidate to accept a gift or benefit for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate, or for the dominant purpose of influencing the way electors vote in an election; and that it is an offence to make a gift or donation to a person other than a candidate or intending candidate for this purpose.</i></p>	<p>Supported</p>	



Proposed Reform Measure		Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
	<p>Reform 25: provide that it is an offence for a councillor, intending candidate or candidate, at any time, to accept a donation for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate or intending candidate at a local government election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • over \$50, including services or goods valued in kind, without recording the basic details of that donor • over \$50 in cash • over \$50 from a foreign donor. 	Supported	
5. Other changes to support the integrity of elections			
	<p>Reform 26: provide that a local government election or by-election may not be held such that the polling period overlaps the date of a Tasmanian or Australian Government parliamentary election.</p>	Supported	
	<p>Reform 27: provide the Tasmanian Electoral Commission with powers of investigation.</p>	Supported. Enhances integrity of system.	
	<p>Reform 28: alignment of electoral offences and sanctions with the Electoral Act.</p>	Supported. provides consistency and clarity.	
	<p>Reform 29: provide a statutory caretaker framework, applying from the notice of election to the date of the issue of the certificate of election for all elections other than by-elections and countbacks.</p>	Supported. Prevents future councils being unrealistically committed to action and prevents the use of council resources for 'campaigning'.	
	<p>Reform 30: provide that during the caretaker period, prohibit a council from making any major policy or financial decisions, namely decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relating to the appointment, reappointment, remuneration or termination of a general manager, other than a decision in respect of the appointment of an acting general manager under section 61B • committing the council to expenditure greater than one per cent of general and service rating and fees and charges revenue raised in the preceding financial year, or \$100,000, whichever is the larger • directing council resources in a manner intended, or likely to, influence voting at the election • relating to a matter the council considers it could reasonably defer until after the election period, other than: • decisions relating to a matter the council is required to determine in that period under statute • decisions of a routine and operational nature. 	Supported. Prevents future councils being unrealistically committed to action and prevents the use of council resources for 'campaigning'.	
	<p>Reform 31: provide that during the caretaker period, it is an offence for a council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • publish any material in any format which promotes any candidate or group of candidates for election, or otherwise seeks to influence voters in the election • publish material in relation to the election other than information to promote participation in the election and in relation to election process, or other material of a kind published by the Electoral Commissioner 	Supported. Prevents future councils being unrealistically committed to action and prevents the use of council resources for 'campaigning'.	



Proposed Reform Measure	Officers Comments	Agree / Not Agree
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>make resources available to the advantage of any candidate, which are not equally available to all candidates for election.</i>		
<p>Reform 32: <i>provide that major policy or financial decisions of a council during the caretaker period are of no effect and provide that persons who incur loss or damage due to an ineffectual decision of a council, who acted in good faith, are entitled to recover compensation from the council.</i></p>	Supported. However further clarity on compensation limitations is required	
<p>Reform 33: <i>increase the proportion of electors signing a petition required to compel a council to hold an elector poll to 20 per cent; while restricting the matters about which an elector poll may be held to matters with a legitimate connection to the exercise of a council's functions or powers or to the incorporation of the council, as determined by the council.</i></p>	Supported. Demonstrates genuine engagement with the elector base.	

The discussion paper and correspondence are included as attachments to this report.

Feedback on this submission must be provided by the 4 April 2025.

12 ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter - Minister for Local Government to Cr Knowles [14.4.1 - 2 pages]
2. AT A GLANCE - two page summary - Local Government Electoral Bill discussion paper [14.4.2 - 2 pages]
3. DISCUSSION PAPER - Local Government Electoral Bill - Designed version [14.4.3 - 40 pages]



14.5 SUBMISSION ON THE TARGETED AMENDMENTS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993

File: {custom-field-file}
Responsible Officer: Des Jennings, General Manager
Report prepared by: Kristy Nutting, Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- a) Agree to submit the enclosed submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet as written;
- or
- b) Do not agree to provide a submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet;
- or
- c) Agree to submit the enclosed submission to Department of Premier and Cabinet with the following amendments
 - i)
 - ii)

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to outline the inclusions for Northern Midlands submission to the Department of Premier and Cabinet in regard to the targeted amendments to the *Local Government Act 1993*.

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The targeted amendments to the *Local Government Act 1993* are part of the Local Government Reform Program (2024-2026). The Priority Reform Program integrates key recommendations from the Future of Local Government Review and the earlier Local Government Legislation Review. It also includes additional reforms based on strong sector feedback addressing ongoing concerns about elected member conduct and council governance. Submission to the Department of Premier and Cabinet are **due by the 21 March 2025**.

The amendments to the *Local Government Act 1993* aim to enhance governance, transparency, accountability, democracy, financial sustainability, and service delivery within local councils. The reforms introduce more significant consequences for breaches of the Act or Code of Conduct, empowering the Office of Local Government to intervene and redirect councils if necessary. Additionally, the reforms focus on increasing training for councillors, particularly those from diverse backgrounds, to support their roles in planning, business, and governance.

The Discussion Paper outlined targeted amendments to the *Local Government Act 1993* and includes 2 strategic priority areas and a total of 11 key reforms:

Strategic Priority 1: Lifting standards of professionalism, conduct, and integrity

1. Legislating the Good Governance Principles
2. Introducing serious misconduct provisions for Councillors
3. Broadening Performance Improvement Direction provisions
4. Introducing Temporary Advisors for Councils
5. Clarifying Work Health and Safety obligations
6. Mandating council learning and development obligations



Strategic Priority 2: Driving a high-performing, transparent, and accountable sector

7. Introducing a contemporary role statement and a Charter for local government
8. Improving the strategic planning and reporting frameworks
9. Improving consistency in data collection and reporting methodologies
10. Enhancing transparency of information in council rates notices
11. Mandating internal audit for councils.

Each of these reforms is detailed below and includes feedback from previous council workshops and officer comments.

Draft response of Northern Midlands Council to Targeted Amendments to the Local Government Act:-

Strategic Priority 1: Lifting standards of professionalism, conduct, and integrity	
<p>1. Legislating the good governance principles</p>	<p>This reform introduces what DPAC view as positive obligations for local councils to conduct their duties and exercise their powers in a manner that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountable • Transparent • Law-abiding • Responsive • Equitable and inclusive • Participatory • Effective and efficient • Consensus-oriented <p>Under the new legislation, all councils will be required to uphold and act in accordance with these principles when performing their statutory roles and functions.</p> <p>Recognising that these principles are high-level and open to interpretation, the Minister for Local Government will have the authority to issue guidelines outlining the expected standards under these principles. This will help councils understand and apply the principles in various circumstances and contexts.</p> <p>To ensure compliance, the legislation provides a mechanism for early regulatory intervention. If a council is found to be acting contrary to the established standards, the Director for Local Government can recommend to the Minister for Local Government the issuance of a performance improvement direction or the appointment of a temporary advisor. This is aimed at addressing serious and material failures by councils to adhere to the good governance principles.</p> <p>Northern Midlands Councillors are largely in support of including guidelines related to good governance principles in the Act if there is an inclusion which ensure that these regulatory interventions are substantive and not merely symbolic, it is crucial to include mechanisms for accountability and enforcement.</p>
<p>2. Introducing serious councillor misconduct provisions for councillors</p>	<p>Councillors play a crucial leadership role in their communities and are expected to uphold community values and expectations. While most councillors act with professionalism and integrity, there have been a few instances of misconduct in recent years. These incidents have exposed weaknesses in the current legislative framework for holding councillors accountable. Presently, a councillor can only be removed from office for Code of Conduct violations if they have been suspended three times by an investigating panel. However, no councillor has been removed under this provision to date.</p>



	<p>It is proposed that serious misconduct in the Local Government Act would rely on the meaning of serious misconduct as defined in the <i>Integrity Commission Act 2009</i> which states that serious misconduct is an act by any public officer that could, if proved, be –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a crime or an offence of a serious nature; or (b) misconduct providing reasonable grounds for terminating the public officer's appointment; <p>This definition is broad, and DPAC further clarifies that the following guidelines will assist the Director of Local Government if they need to rely on it: -</p> <p>“Serious councillor misconduct would be defined as conduct representing a serious or severe breach of the local government Code of Conduct, which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • if proven, would constitute a serious offence; or • materially and negatively impact the operations of a council; or • presents a material risk to the health and safety of another person or persons; or • otherwise demonstrates the councillor is not a fit and proper person to hold the office of councillor.” <p>Please note the Office of Local Government is actively considering whether further, specific detail should be provided to support the above definition and invites community and sector feedback on this question.</p> <p>Northern Midlands Councillors are generally in support of the introduction of these provisions to the Act and although Northern Midlands Council are aware that section 28ZL of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> already gives the ability to the Minister to remove an elected member from Council should they have been found to have breached the Code of Conduct 3 times; the meaning of serious misconduct and further information should be available for discussion of this before implementation.</p>
<p>3. Broadening performance improvement direction provisions</p>	<p>A broadening of the circumstances and conditions in which the Minister of Local Government can issue a Performance Improvement Direction would see that the original regulatory intent illustrated however the currently narrow statutory interpretation is at times hindering the original intent.</p> <p>The proposed changes aim to adjust the existing Public Interest Disclosure (PID) provisions by broadening the circumstances and conditions under which a PID may be recommended. This includes instances of material non-compliance with a council's own policies, applicable to both individual councillors and the council as a whole. Additionally, a PID may be issued if a council fails to act in accordance with good governance principles. Finally, there will be a review of the current statutory language to ensure it does not overly restrict the use of PIDs as an early intervention or mitigation tool.</p> <p>Northern Midlands Council suggests that this reform requires further information be made available and recommends an operational guide released in relation to the changes to PIDs which will give guidance on what would trigger a PID.</p>
<p>4. Introducing temporary advisors for councils</p>	<p>The reform of introducing a temporary advisor to guide and assist Councils who have been identified by the Director and the Minister of Local Government would see advisors be granted the necessary powers to enter council premises, review its operations, request information from the council administration and its audit panel, provide guidance to elected members and senior staff, and make recommendations for governance improvements. At the end of their appointment, advisors would submit a final report to the Minister for Local</p>



	<p>Government, recommending any further actions, including potential regulatory interventions.</p> <p>Northern Midlands Council feels that having this support available could be of assistance to Councils but as the financial ramifications on a council will be great this needs to be fully explored before the implementation of this reform. As a Council who have recently experienced this type of model, the costs exceeded \$40,000 and there is an expectation that more expense is to be incurred through recommendations made by the Advisor.</p>
<p>5. Clarifying work health and safety obligations</p>	<p>The current confusion in relation to elected members obligations under Work, Health and Safety regulations is expected to be clarified through this reform. It is intended that the ambiguity that elected members are bound by, and have obligations under, existing WHS legislation.</p> <p>The proposed provisions will support non-legislative work supporting councils to develop consistent and effective policies and procedures for managing WHS risks and addressing inappropriate behaviours, including bullying and harassment. Policies and procedures need to include clear, effective, and timely intervention and response strategies for managing elected member conduct deemed to represent a workplace hazard. This should also ensure councils are well placed to confidently and effectively escalate matters to regulators, as and where this is appropriate and necessary.</p> <p>Northern Midlands Council welcomes the expected clarification this reform will provide. However, we request that consideration is given to ensuring that the language used is clear and provides clear guidelines which can be used when developing policies and procedures for the workplace.</p>
<p>6. Mandating council learning and development obligations</p>	<p>Although not being included in the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> but will be included in the Local Government Election Bill reform it is included for discussion in this paper.</p> <p>The training would need to be undertaken all elected members within 12 months of their election and regardless of if they have been elected previously. Pre-election education would be introduced and could be completed up to six months before an election is to be held.</p> <p>Likely topics/modules for inclusion as part of the core program are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good governance and professional conduct; • legal responsibilities (including work health and safety); • council and committee meeting procedures; • council as a planning authority; • financial management and reporting; • strategic asset management; and • community engagement, representation, and advocacy. <p>Councils will be required to publicly report on each councillor's completion of mandated learning and development activities. Failure to comply with these new requirements may lead to the issuance of a performance improvement directive for the council or individual councillor.</p> <p>The introduction of mandatory learning and development is not fully supported by Northern Midlands Council. Northern Midlands Council have been attempting to establish training for elected members within the organisations and to date the costs associated with the training and finding qualified trainers in the state is proving difficult.</p>



	<p>If the State are mandating this training, they should be finding qualified cost-effective trainers or assisting in the costs. Furthermore, Northern Midlands Council are supportive of further training in relation to Council as a Planning Authority but feel that pre-election training should not be introduced in the currently suggested format. To date the reform shows that it would be detailed and include many area related to governance but if a person is not elected it would be pointless.</p>
<p>Strategic Priority 2: Driving a high-performing, transparent, and accountable sector</p>	
<p>7. Introducing a contemporary role statement and a Charter for local government</p>	<p>The proposed reform will see an attempt to modernise and clarify the role of local government in Tasmania. This clarification will be included in <i>the Local Government Act</i> as a local government role statement. Alongside this will be the introduction of the authority to the Minister for Local Government to issue a Local Government Charter through a Ministerial Order. The purpose of this Charter is to support the implementation of the new role of local government. Essentially, it provides a formal mechanism for the Minister to outline and enforce specific guidelines, responsibilities, and standards that local governments must follow to fulfill their roles effectively.</p> <p>It would guide Councils to ensure that they are supporting communities by: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on local strengths and capabilities. • Providing locally tailored infrastructure and services. • Advocating for community needs in broader decision-making. • Promoting sustainability and planning for climate change impacts. <p>Northern Midlands Council supports the formalising of the role of local government in the community. Northern Midlands Council considers that these guidelines already form the guidance by which the Council operates and forms part of the strategic plan of Council already.</p>
<p>8. Improving the strategic planning and reporting frameworks</p>	<p>This reform will see councils retain the current 10-year strategic planning period however will require councils to link strategic plans to community wellbeing.</p> <p>Some key areas where local governments contribute to community well-being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health: ensuring access to healthcare services, promoting healthy lifestyles, and assisting in the management of public health emergencies. • Economic Development: through the supporting of local job opportunities, supporting local businesses, and working towards economic stability. • Social Services: Providing support for vulnerable persons in the community, which can include housing assistance, food programs, youth or aged care assistance programs and mental health services. • Environmental Sustainability: Implementing policies for clean air and water, waste management, and green spaces. • Safety and Security: attempting to assist in low crime rates, effective emergency services, and safe public spaces. • Community Engagement: Encouraging civic participation, fostering social connections, and building a sense of belonging and community. <p>Northern Midlands Council already uses community wellbeing in their strategic planning and welcomes the introductions of statutory requirements to further guide them in this and report to the local community on the ways in which these priorities are being implemented. Northern Midlands Council values the importance of community engagement and financial and asset management obligations align.</p>



<p>9. Improving consistency in data collection and reporting methodologies</p>	<p>Introducing reform in relation to data collection and reporting methodologies should ensure there is greater clarity, consistency, and confidence in relation to how councils are collecting and reporting important performance data.</p> <p>Currently section 84 of the Local Government Act 1993 outlines the requirements of financial reports submitted by Council annually however this reform would see an expanded version of these provisions, in which the Minister for Local Government would be given the authority to specify, by Ministerial Order, a broader range of performance metrics or indicators of councils' financial (including rating), regulatory, statutory compliance, and service level, cost, and quality performance.</p> <p>Northern Midlands Council hopes that this reform will see a more consistent approach in reporting which will allow the financials of smaller councils to be reviewed accordingly.</p>
<p>10. Enhancing transparency of information in council rates notices</p>	<p>Reform in relation to the inclusion of information on council rates notices needs further information provided prior to Northern Midlands Council giving support for this. It is noted that as with other proposed reforms utilising Ministerial Orders, the Minister for Local Government would be required to consult with councils before finalising and issuing the rates notice requirements.</p>
<p>11. Mandating internal audit for councils</p>	<p>Northern Midlands Council supports the concept of mandating internal audits for councils however feel there needs to be further information provided regarding the framework of this reform.</p> <p>The Northern Midlands Council has established a process for conducting internal audits across various departments for internal purposes. We seek further information on potential modifications or support needed to enhance this process.</p>

3 STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2027

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Lead: Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride

Leaders with Impact

Strategic outcomes:

- 1.2 Councillors serve with integrity and honesty
- 1.3 Management is efficient, proactive and responsible

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

Not applicable.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

5 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act 1993

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS



There are no implications related directly to the submission or this report.

7 RISK ISSUES

There is no risk in making a submission; however, should Council not consider this matter and make a submission the risk is that Council will not have had input into the consultation process.

8 CONSULTATION WITH STATE GOVERNMENT

Correspondence received from Department of Premier and Cabinet has invited Council to participate in the process and make a submission.

9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

N/A

10 OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Council may wish to make a submission or not.

11 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

The changes to the Local Government Act are intended to aid Councils in areas which have been identified as requiring assistance. This assistance and support should be viewed as a positive however the lack of clarity in some areas and likely increase in financial burden on council needs to be considered by the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

12 ATTACHMENTS

1. Submission to DPAC re Targeted Amendments to the Local Government Act [14.5.1 - 4 pages]
 2. Priority- Reform- Program- Discussion- Paper- Dec-2024 (2) [14.5.2 - 37 pages]
-



15 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORTS

15.1 MONTHLY REPORT: FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Responsible Officer: Maree Bricknell, Corporate Services Manager

Report prepared by: Maree Bricknell, Corporate Services Manager

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- i) receive and note the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending 28 February 2025; and
- ii) authorise Budget 2024/25 alterations as listed in Item 4.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to present the monthly financial reports as at 28 February 2025.

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

The Monthly Financial Summary for the period ended 28 February 2025 is circulated for information.

3 STRATEGIC PLAN & INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Progress: Economic health and wealth - grow and prosper

Strategic Project Delivery - Build Capacity for a Healthy Wealthy Future

Strategic outcomes:

2.1 Strategic, sustainable, infrastructure is progressive

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

This plan has been developed with a coordinated perspective to align with local, regional, state and federal plans. Rather than grouping projects by town or assembling a long list of 'nice to have' projects, this plan takes a Council-wide view of needs and opportunities in relation to the strategic investment drivers in the region.

4 ALTERATIONS TO 2024-25 BUDGET

Following a budget review of income and expenditure items the following alterations/variances are highlighted and explained:

SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

For Month Ending:

28-Feb-25

8

A. Operating Income and Expenditure						
	Budget	Year to Date Budget 25%	Actual	(\$,000)	Target 100%	
Rate Revenue	-\$14,648,178	-\$14,648,178	-\$14,529,222	-\$119	99.2%	
Recurrent Grant Revenue	-\$5,626,119	-\$4,219,589	-\$1,233,436	-\$2,986	29.2%	
Fees and Charges Revenue	-\$3,132,403	-\$2,088,269	-\$2,312,283	\$224	110.7%	
Interest Revenue	-\$904,650	-\$603,101	-\$431,937	-\$171	71.6%	
Reimbursements Revenue	-\$128,890	-\$85,927	-\$150,303	\$64	174.9%	
Other Revenue	-\$2,219,104	-\$1,479,403	-\$797,805	-\$682	53.9%	
	-\$26,659,344	-\$23,124,466	-\$19,454,986	-\$3,669	84.1%	
Employee costs	\$8,488,466	\$5,658,977	\$5,682,506	-\$24	100.4%	
Material & Services Expenditure	\$7,107,000	\$4,738,000	\$5,180,259	-\$442	109.3%	



Depreciation Expenditure	\$7,656,898	\$5,104,599	\$5,104,599	\$0	100.0%	
Government Levies & Charges	\$1,242,013	\$828,009	\$606,678	\$221	73.3%	
Councillors Expenditure	\$225,424	\$150,283	\$158,958	-\$9	105.8%	
Interest on Borrowings	\$22,225	\$14,817	\$0	\$15	0.0%	
Other Expenditure	\$1,047,249	\$698,166	\$950,611	-\$252	136.2%	
Plant Expenditure Paid	\$601,400	\$400,933	\$347,256	\$54	86.6%	
	\$26,390,675	\$17,593,783	\$18,030,867	-\$437	102.5%	
	-\$268,669	-\$5,530,683	-\$1,424,119			
Gain on sale of Fixed Assets	\$0	\$0	-\$68,874	\$69	0.0%	
Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	\$418,967	\$279,311	\$57,451	\$222	20.6%	
Underlying (Surplus) / Deficit	\$150,298	-\$5,251,372	-\$1,435,542			1*
	\$16,000		-\$828,450			
Capital Grant Revenue	-\$14,444,447	-\$9,629,631	-\$3,118,802	-\$6,511	32.4%	
Subdivider Contributions	-\$375,608	-\$250,405	0	-\$250	0.0%	
Capital Revenue	-\$14,820,055	-\$9,880,037	-\$3,118,802			
	-		-			

Budget Alteration Requests

- For Council authorisation by absolute majority

Budget **Budget** **Actuals**
Operating **Capital**

Capital works budget variances above 10% or \$10,000 are highlighted

February

No budget changes for February 2025

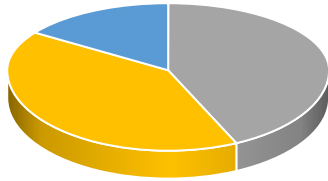
A. Balance Sheet Items

	Year to Date Actual	Monthly Change	Same time last year
Cash & Cash Equivalents Balance	Year to Date		
- Opening Cash balance	\$19,266,373	\$16,513,164	
- Cash Inflow	\$25,043,398	\$6,171,224	
- Cash Payments	-\$23,438,504	-\$1,813,122	
- Closing Cash balance	\$20,871,266	\$20,871,266	
Account Breakdown			
- Trading Accounts	\$1,299,316		
- Investments	\$19,571,951		
	\$20,871,266		

Summary of Investments	Investment Date	Maturity Date	Interest Rate%	Purchase Price	Maturity Value
Tas Corp 24hr Call Account	18/02/2025	28/02/2025	4.10	\$5,958	\$5,965
Commonwealth 24hr Call Account	1/02/2025	28/02/2025	0.25	\$0	\$0
Commonwealth Business Online Saver Account	28/02/2025	1/03/2025	4.10	\$2,506,588	\$2,506,869
Westpac Corporate Regulated Interest Account	1/02/2025	28/02/2025	4.35	\$1,815,698	\$1,815,698
	0.00	0/01/1900	0.00	\$0	\$0
CBA	5/02/2025	6/03/2025	4.40	\$1,000,000	\$1,003,496
CBA	27/02/2025	28/04/2025	4.49	\$2,500,000	\$2,518,452
My State Financial	18/12/2024	16/06/2025	5.05	\$3,743,707	\$3,836,940
My State Financial - Online Saver Business Account	31/10/2024	28/02/2025	0.00	\$25	\$25
Westpac - Stimulus	0/01/1900	0/01/1900	0.00	\$0	\$0
Westpac	26/02/2025	28/07/2025	4.68	\$3,000,000	\$3,058,468
Westpac	3/02/2025	5/05/2025	4.73	\$2,000,000	\$2,023,585
Westpac	25/11/2024	24/04/2025	4.98	\$3,000,000	\$3,061,397
Total Investments				\$19,571,976	\$19,830,896

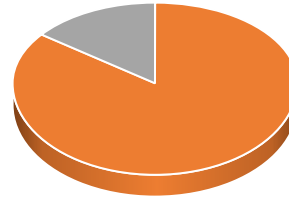


Investments by Institution



■ Bank of Us (B&E) ■ Tascorp ■ Westpac ■ CBA ■ MyState

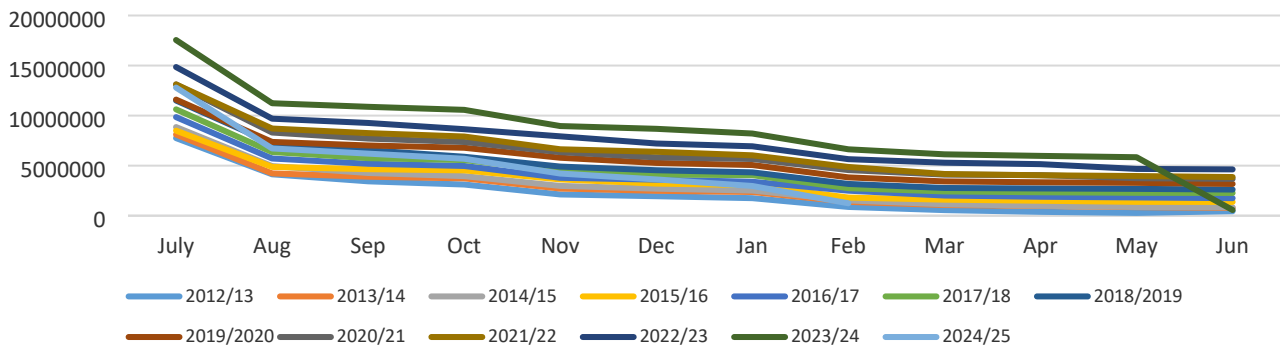
Total Investments by Rating
(Standard & Poor's)



■ AA+ ■ AA- ■ BBB ■ Unrated

Rate Debtors	2024/25	% to Raised	Same Time Last Year	% to Raised
Balance b/fwd	-\$44,208		\$4,626,436	
Rates Raised	\$14,561,726		\$14,524,404	
	\$14,517,519		\$19,150,841	
Rates collected	\$12,656,630	86.9%	\$11,926,211	82.1%
Pension Rebates	\$0		\$0	
Discount & Remissions	\$600,814	4.1%	\$567,551	3.9%
	\$21,375	0.1%	\$24,600	0.001693694
Rates Outstanding	\$13,278,819		\$12,518,362	
Advance Payments received	\$1,238,700	8.5%	\$6,632,462	34.6%
	-376227.02	0.025836705	-466230.8	0.032099822

Outstanding Rates



Trade Debtors			
Current balance	\$427,143		
- 30 Days	\$178,754		
- 60 Days	\$178,627		
- 90 Days	\$5,511		
- More than 90 days	\$64,251		
Summary of Accounts more than 90 days:			
- Norfolk Plains Book sales	-		
- Hire/lease of facilities	5,952		
- Removal of fire hazards	17,029		
- Dog Registrations & Fines	20,736		
- Private Works	14,049		
- Regulatory Fees	7,155		
- Govt Reimbursements	670		





C. Capital Program				
	Budget	Actual (\$,000)	Target 67%	Comments
Renewal	\$24,270,485	\$5,385,137	22%	
New assets	\$9,936,984	\$2,793,286	28%	
Total	\$34,207,469	\$8,178,423	24%	
Major projects:				
- Ctown Urban Streetscape Improvements	\$8,234,000	\$282,232	3%	Tender stage
- Pth Bridge/Culvert Replacements (4)	\$3,331,690	\$53,113	2%	Tender stage
- Pth Urban Streetscape Improvements	\$3,141,000	\$540,860	17%	In progress
- Fleet Replacement Program	\$1,648,300	\$1,196,929	73%	In progress
- Lfd Urban Streetscape Improvements	\$1,713,985	\$637,817	37%	In progress
- Ashby Road reconstruction	\$1,135,790	\$581,599	51%	In progress
- Lfd Caravan Park Amenities replacement	\$625,000	\$731,976	117%	Complete
- Lfd Laycock Street Reserve	\$500,768	\$564,035	113%	Complete
- Elphinstone Road Reconstruction	\$365,000	\$313,440	86%	Complete
- Pth Junior Soccer Field	164,421	\$153,855	94%	Complete
* Full year to date capital expenditure for 2024/25 provided as an attachment.				
D. Financial Health Indicators				
	Target	Actual	Variance	Trend
Financial Ratios				
- Rate Revenue / Total Revenue	54.9%	74.7%	-19.7%	↘
- Own Source Revenue / Total Revenue	79%	94%	-14.8%	↘
Sustainability Ratio				
- Operating Surplus / Operating Revenue	-0.6%	7.4%	-7.9%	↘
- Debt / Own Source Revenue	35.3%	40.7%	-5.4%	↔
Efficiency Ratios				
- Receivables / Own Source Revenue	2.0%	0.0%	2.0%	↘
- Employee costs / Revenue	31.8%	29.2%	2.6%	↗
- Renewal / Depreciation	317.0%	105.5%	211.5%	↗
Unit Costs				
- Waste Collection per bin	\$13.56	\$20.06		↔
- Employee costs per hour	\$70.74	\$48.61		↗



- Rate Revenue per property	\$1,916.55	\$1,900.98	↔	
- IT per employee hour	\$5.45	\$5.41	↘	

B. Employee & WHS scorecard

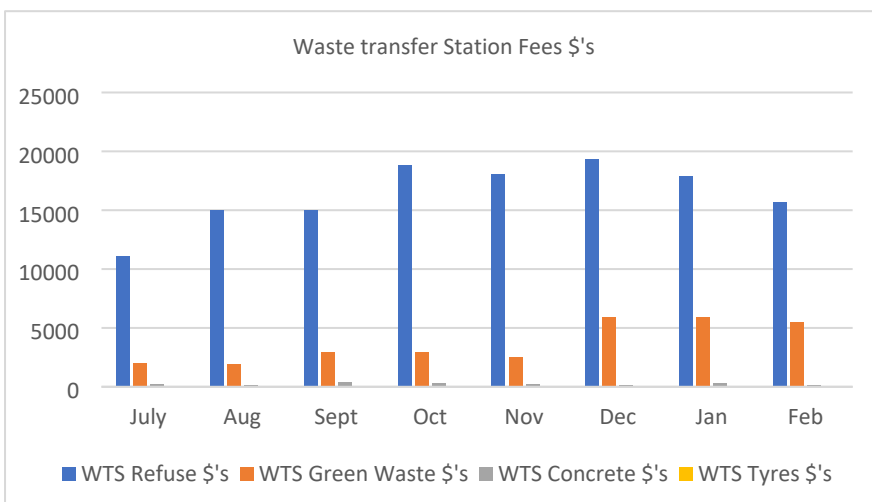
	YTD	This Month		
Number of Employees	112	112		
New Employees	19	1		
Resignations	14	1		
Total hours worked	116,904	15,094		
Medical Treatment Injury	6	0		
Property Damage Incident		0		
Safety Incidents Reported	7	3		
Hazards Reported	0	0		
Workplace Inspections	52	3		
Risk Incidents Reported	11	0		
Insurance claims - Public Liability	0	0		
Insurance claims - Industrial	0	0		
Insurance claims - Motor Vehicle	0	0		
IT - Unplanned lost time	5	0		
Open W/Comp claims	4	1		

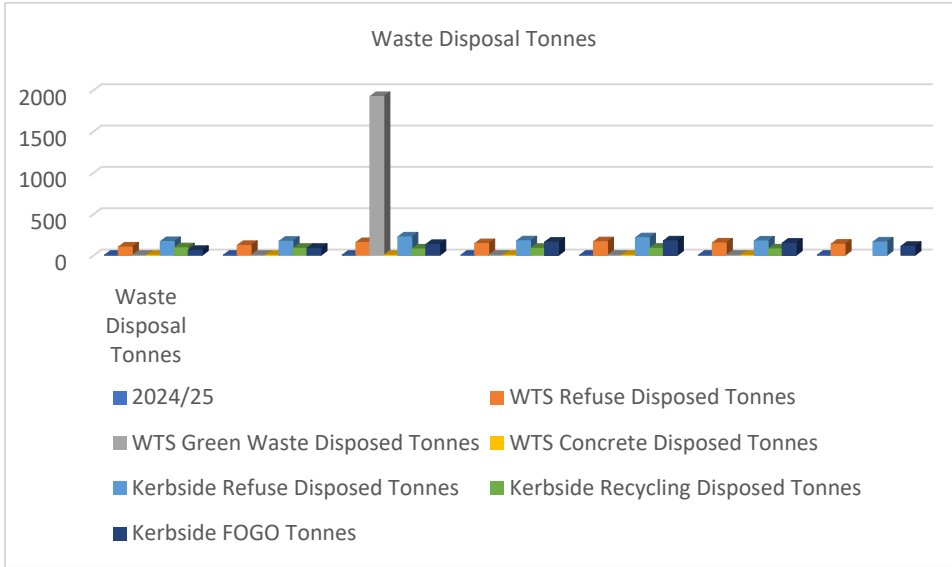
C. Waste Management

Waste Transfer Station	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Year to Date	% change for same period last year	% change for same period
Takings						
- Refuse	\$146,790	\$148,749	\$81,869	\$130,719	122%	
- Green Waste	\$77,811	\$60,216	\$33,500	\$29,665	0%	
- Concrete	\$4,861	\$4,767	\$2,625	\$1,852	-100%	



					last year
- Tyres Total	257	\$0	\$2,917	\$0	
Takings	\$229,719	\$213,732	\$120,910	\$162,236	
Tonnes Disposed					
WTS Refuse Disposed Tonnes	1298	1276	744	961	% change for same period last year 122%
WTS Green Waste Disposed Tonnes	5970	0	3,109	1920	0%
WTS Concrete Disposed Tonnes	0	0	-	0	0%
Kerbside Refuse Disposed Tonnes	2341	2507	1,462	1278	% change for same period last year -32%
Kerbside Recycling Disposed Tonnes	1035	1029	600	497	% change for same period last year -35%
Fogo Disposed Tonnes	488	1308	763	860	% change for same period last year -13%
Total Waste Disposed	11132	6120	6679	5516	





5 OFFICER COMMENTS

Copies of the financial reports are also made available at the Council office.

6 ATTACHMENTS

Nil



15.2 NOMENCLATURE - NAMING OF NEW ROADS, PERTH

Responsible Officer: Maree Bricknell, Corporate Services Manager

Report prepared by: Natalie Horne, Administration / Records Management Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve Sleat Street, Skyview Rise, Fingan Way and Sconser Close as new street names for the subdivision off Napoleon Street, Perth.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is for Council to approve four new road names created by a 119-lot subdivision and public open space in Perth off Napoleon Street.

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

A 119-lot subdivision has been created in Perth with 31 lots created off existing Napoleon Street and four new roads created with 9 lots off road 1, 58 lots off road 2, 15 lots off road 3 and 6 lots off road 4.

After consultation with the developer and an officer from Placenames Tasmania the four names were decided upon.

Road 1 – Sleat Street – Sleat is a peninsular with lush vegetation reaching down to rocky shorelines and sandy beaches commonly known as the garden of Skye.

Road 2 – Skyview Rise – This road is on the high side of the development looking over the new roads.

Road 3 – Fingan Way – named after Clan history.

Road 4 – Sconser Close - Sconser is a small township on the Isle of Skye.

The developer, Mackinnon Estates Pty Ltd, proposed the names as the Mackinnon Family came to Tasmania from the Isle of Skye in the 1820's. Their aim is to commemorate the family with street names that reflect their origin.

3 STRATEGIC PLAN & INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.

Lead: Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride

Leaders with Impact

Strategic outcomes:

- 1.1 Council is connected to the community
- 1.3 Management is efficient, proactive and responsible

People: Culture and society - a vibrant future that respects the past

Sense of Place - Sustain, Protect, Progress

Strategic outcomes:

- 3.2 Developments enhance existing cultural amenity
- 3.4 Towns are enviable places to visit, live and work

Place: Nurture our heritage environment

Environment - Cherish, Sustain our Landscapes and Preserve, Protect Our Built Heritage for Tomorrow

Strategic outcomes:

- 4.2 Meet environmental challenges.



3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

Not applicable.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

5 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

As the new roads are within the Town Boundary, under Section 20E of the Act urban roads which are wholly contained within a town boundary the Council has the authority to assign names.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Developer is responsible for purchase and installation of road/street signs.

7 RISK ISSUES

The Nomenclature Board's guiding principles for the assignment of place names state:

Existing road names should not be duplicated within adjoining municipalities and ideally within the state. More critically they should not be duplicated within adjoining localities or suburbs (as recently gazetted for addressing purposes). Even the re-arrangement of the generic or type from say "Court to Place" may still result in potential misinformation and confusion to the user.

8 CONSULTATION WITH STATE GOVERNMENT

Consultation was undertaken with Placenames Tasmania.

9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable.

10 OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Council may approve / not approve the new road names.

11 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council approve the developers preferred names 'Sleat, Skyview, Fingan and Sconser'.

12 ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed New Street Names - MacKinnon Subdivision Perth [15.2.1 - 1 page]
-



16 WORKS REPORTS

16.1 PAVEMENT DAMAGE, WELLINGTON ST, LONGFORD

Responsible Officer: Leigh McCullagh, Works Manager

Report prepared by: Jonathan Galbraith, Engineering Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council liaise with the Department of State Growth to have them carry out the pavement repairs on Wellington Street around the Lyttleton St junction as soon as practical.

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide information regarding road pavement damage on Wellington Street in the area around the Lyttleton Street intersection.

2 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

Over recent months pavement failures have developed on Wellington Street, Longford in the area around the Lyttleton Street intersection. Most of the failures run longitudinally along the edge of the traffic lane on the eastern side of Wellington Street.

Wellington Street is owned by the Department of State Growth (DSG) and the traffic lanes are maintained by the Department of State Growth. Generally, the traffic lanes are defined as being the central 7.2m of the road but where there is a turning lane in the centre of the road this is also counted as part of the DSG maintained section of the road meaning that the area of road which is the responsibility of DSG is wider.

Council officers have had discussions and an onsite meeting with Mr Phil Goss, a Road Network Supervisor from the Department of State Growth who has confirmed that these pavement failures are the responsibility of the Department of State Growth. Mr Goss has advised that there are reseals planned for this road in the next financial year and this area will be repaired. Due to the depth of some of the failures some repairs should also be carried out prior to the proposed reseal works.



3 STRATEGIC PLAN & INTEGRATED PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN

3.1 Strategic Plan 2021-2027

The Strategic Plan 2021-2027 provides the guidelines within which Council operates.



Lead: Serve with honesty, integrity, innovation and pride

Leaders with Impact

Strategic outcomes:

1.4 Improve community assets responsibly and sustainably

Progress: Economic health and wealth - grow and prosper

Strategic Project Delivery - Build Capacity for a Healthy Wealthy Future

Strategic outcomes:

2.1 Strategic, sustainable, infrastructure is progressive

3.2 Integrated Priority Projects Plan 2021

This plan has been developed with a coordinated perspective to align with local, regional, state and federal plans. Rather than grouping projects by town or assembling a long list of 'nice to have' projects, this plan takes a Council-wide view of needs and opportunities in relation to the strategic investment drivers in the region. This matter has relevance to:

Not applicable.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Based on the advice provided by State Growth in areas where there is a central median strip or turning lane their responsibility extends to the edge of the traffic lane and Council should not be expected to do works within this area.

5 STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The following acts are relevant to this matter:

- *Roads and Jetties Act 1936*
- *Local Government Highways Act 1982*

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be no cost to Council as these works will be carried out by the Department of State Growth.

7 RISK ISSUES

There is a risk that the road may continue to deteriorate further before works are carried out. Council should lobby the Department of State Growth to complete repair works as soon as possible.

8 CONSULTATION WITH STATE GOVERNMENT

These works are the responsibility of DSG and Council Officers have liaised with the Department regarding these works.

9 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Concerns have been raised about the condition of the road by a number of community members and these concerns have been passed on to the Department of State Growth.

10 OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

Council should continue to lobby the Department of State Growth to have these repairs completed.

11 OFFICER'S COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

The pavement has been failing in this section of road for a significant period of time and is continuing to worsen. Council should lobby the Department of State Growth to carry out repair works as soon as possible.

12 ATTACHMENTS

Nil



17 ITEMS FOR THE CLOSED MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move into the “Closed Meeting” with the General Manager, Corporate Services Manager, Works Manager, Project and Building Compliance Manager, Senior Planner, Executive Officers and Executive Assistant to discuss Closed Council Items.

Item	Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 Reference
Confirmation of Minutes	15(2)(g)
Applications for Leave of Absence	15(2)(h)
Personnel Matters	15(2)(a)
Action Items: Closed Council Status Report	15(2)(g)
Legal Matter	15(2)(i)
Personnel Matters	15(2)(a)
SES Flood Mapping Project	15(2)(i)
Contract/Tender	15(2)(d)
District Committee Membership	15(2)(g)
LGAT Nomination General Management Committee Election	15(2)(g)
Independent Governance Review – Training	15(2)(g)
Independent Governance Review - Policy	15(2)(g)

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Part 2 - Meetings

- (a) *personnel matters, including complaints against an employee of the council and industrial relations matters;*
- (b) *information that, if disclosed, is likely to confer a commercial advantage or impose a commercial disadvantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposes to conduct, business;*
- (c) *commercial information of a confidential nature that, if disclosed, is likely to -*
 - (i) *prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it; or*
 - (ii) *confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council; or*
 - (iii) *reveal a trade secret.*
- (d) *contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal;*
- (e) *the security of -*
 - (i) *the council, councillors and council staff; or*
 - (ii) *the property of the council.*
- (f) *proposals for the council to acquire land or an interest in land or for the disposal of land;*
- (g) *information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential;*
- (h) *applications by councillors for a leave of absence;*
- (i) *matters relating to actual or possible litigation taken, or to be taken, by or involving the council or an employee of the council;*
- (j) *the personal hardship of any person who is a resident in, or is a ratepayer in, the relevant municipal area.*



18 CLOSURE

RECOMMENDATION

That Council move out of the "Closed Meeting".

Mayor Knowles closed the meeting at