



Picture: Fiona Carter

Welcome to the Northern Midlands, one of the largest and most diverse municipalities in Tasmania

Key infrastructure upgrades

Council backs streetscape upgrades, EV expansion and AI strategy

NORTHERN Midlands Council has moved ahead with key infrastructure, planning and innovation initiatives, including upgrades in Campbell Town, expanded electric vehicle infrastructure and the development of a council-wide artificial intelligence strategy. This is a snapshot of the key decisions and community updates from the Ordinary meeting of council held on April 20, 2026.

STREETSCAPE UPGRADES AND LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS MOVE AHEAD

NORTHERN Midlands Council has progressed a broad suite of initiatives at its April meeting, focusing on infrastructure improvements, strategic planning and emerging technologies.

A major outcome was the advancement of Stage 2 of the Campbell Town Streetscape Redevelopment, with council endorsing a range of design refinements following community feedback.

These include improved parking arrangements, enhanced pedestrian access, clearer traffic movement, and further

consultation with the State Government on opportunities for additional public car parking.

Locally focused improvements were also supported, including enhanced bicycle infrastructure in Evandale. Existing bicycle racks in the town centre will be retained and repainted, alongside installation of distinctive new racks at Time Traveller Park.

EV EXPANSION AND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

COUNCIL approved significant upgrades to electric vehicle charging facilities in Campbell Town, supporting the expansion of infrastructure at Commonwealth Lane to accommodate additional charging bays.

Further infrastructure decisions included endorsing a speed limit reduction on Hobart Road between Kerry Lodge Bridge and the Youngtown municipal boundary and awarding the construction tender for William Street upgrades in Campbell Town.

Funding was also reallocated to prioritise upgrades to the Napoleon Street Park toilet facility in Perth, ensuring

delivery of improved community amenities.

PLANNING REFORMS AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION

PLANNING and heritage matters were a key focus, with council agreeing to prepare and certify two amendments to the Northern Midlands Local Provisions Schedule. These amendments will introduce archaeological overlays at selected Cressy sites, and update local heritage listings and mapping.

Council also endorsed submissions to the State Planning Office on proposed reforms to development assessment timeframes and planning legislation.

In addition, officers have been asked to provide a detailed report on the implementation of the Perth Structure Plan, including priorities and implications for future budgeting and strategic planning.

FUTURE FOCUS WITH AI STRATEGY

IN a move reflecting future-focused governance, council endorsed the development of an organisation-wide Artificial Intelligence strategy to guide

the responsible and staged adoption of AI across council operations.

GOVERNANCE, SERVICES AND COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

COUNCIL confirmed key emergency management appointments, ensuring continuity in local disaster preparedness and response. Arrangements were also approved to seek a new tenant for the Ross Caravan Park lease, supporting continued operation of the facility.

MAYOR: BALANCING LOCAL PRIORITIES AND LONG-TERM PLANNING

MAYOR Mary Knowles said the meeting reflected council's ongoing commitment to delivering practical improvements while planning for the future.

"This work spans everything from local infrastructure upgrades to long-term planning and innovation," she said. "It ensures our communities continue to benefit from thoughtful, forward-looking decision-making."

Longford waste facility reopens



WASTE NOT, WANT NOT: Council staff member Baydon Sharman with Mayor Mary Knowles OAM at the upgraded waste facility.

The upgraded Longford Waste Transfer Station is now fully operational, delivering safer, more efficient services for residents.

Improvements include new weighbridges, clearer traffic flow and upgraded signage, making it easier to dispose of waste responsibly while supporting better environmental outcomes. The facility is also contributing to national recycling efforts, with local e-waste collections helping reduce carbon emissions and recover valuable resources.

Mayor Mary Knowles OAM said the upgrades made it easier for residents to play their part in protecting the environment. "These improvements make it easier and safer to reduce waste and recycle responsibly," she said.

The reopening also paves the way for the return of the popular Tip Shop now run by charity Rekindle, supporting reuse and reinforcing the "waste not, want not" approach.

FREE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS – SHARE YOUR STORY

These workshops will be welcoming, practical sessions where community members can talk openly about drought impacts and what resilience looks like for the future of our region.

CAMPBELL TOWN WORKSHOP

10.30am–1.30pm (light lunch included)

Saturday, 16 May 2026

The Guide Hall

20–30 King St, Campbell Town

Register now: www.trybooking.com/DKYME

LONGFORD WORKSHOP

10.30am–1.30pm (light lunch included)

Saturday, 23 May 2026

Longford Memorial Hall

55 Wellington St, Longford

Register now: www.trybooking.com/DKYMI

Or share your stories any time: Email gordon.williams@nmba.asn.au or phone 0402 636 769.

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OPENING HOURS

Monday-Friday
8.45am–4.30pm