



**ORDINARY MEETING
OF COUNCIL**

**AGENDA
OPEN MEETING**

19 January 2026

14 January 2026

Notice of Meeting – Ordinary Meeting of Council

In accordance with the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* NOTICE is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Waratah-Wynyard Council will be held at the Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard on Monday 19 January 2026 with the Business of the meeting to be in accordance with the following agenda paper.

Chief Executive Officer's Certification

“Legislative terminology – Chief Executive Officer/General Manager: At the Waratah-Wynyard Council, the title Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant to section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993*; and carries the same meaning for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993* and all other legislation administered by or concerning the Council.”

PURSUANT to Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993* I hereby certify, with respect to the advice, information and/or recommendation provided for the guidance of Council in this Agenda, that:

1. Such advice, information and/or recommendation has been given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice; and
2. Where any advice is given by a person who does not have the required qualifications or experience, that person has obtained and taken into account the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person.



Vanessa Adams
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (GM)

Enquiries: Mayor Duniam
Phone: (03) 6443 8311
Our Ref: 004.01

14 January 2026

Mrs Vanessa Adams
Chief Executive Officer
Waratah-Wynyard Council
PO Box 168
WYNYARD TAS 7325

Dear Vanessa,

COUNCIL MEETING

In accordance with regulation 5 (2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Regulations) 2025* which states:

4. *Convening meetings of council*
 - (1) *The mayor of a council may convene council meetings.*

I request that you make the necessary arrangements for the next ordinary meeting of Council to be convened on Monday 19 January 2026 commencing at 6.00pm, Council chambers, 21 Saunders Street Wynyard.

Yours sincerely



Cr Mary Duniam
MAYOR

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THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT IT IS COUNCIL POLICY TO RECORD THE PROCEEDINGS OF MEETINGS OF COUNCIL ON DIGITAL MEDIA TO ASSIST IN THE PREPARATION OF MINUTES AND TO ENSURE THAT A TRUE AND ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF DEBATE AND DISCUSSION OF MEETINGS IS AVAILABLE. THIS AUDIO RECORDING IS AUTHORISED BY THE *LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2025*

AGENDA OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WARATAH-WYNYARD COUNCIL TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 21 SAUNDERS STREET, WYNYARD ON MONDAY 19 JANUARY 2026, COMMENCING AT 6:00 PM

	From	To	Time Occupied
Open Council			
Planning Authority			
Open Council			
Closed Council			
Open Council			
TOTAL TIME OCCUPIED			

DIGITAL RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY

The Chairman is to declare the meeting open (time), welcome those present in attendance and advise that the meeting will be digitally recorded, in accordance with the Council Policy **GOV.017 – Digital Recording of Council Meetings** to “record meetings of Council to assist in the preparation of minutes and to allow live streaming of Council Meetings.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we meet today, the Tommeginne people, and to pay our respect to those that have passed before us, their history and their culture.

1.0 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

1.1 ATTENDANCE

Mayor Mary Duniam
Deputy Mayor Celisa Edwards
Councillor Gary Bramich
Councillor Andrea Courtney
Councillor Kevin Hyland
Councillor Michael Johnstone
Councillor Leanne Raw
Councillor Dillon Roberts

IN ATTENDANCE

Vanessa Adams – Chief Executive Officer
Daniel Summers - Director Infrastructure and Development Services
Mitchell Smith – Chief Financial Officer
Sallie Moore-Wood – Director Governance and Information Services
Alan Cattermole – Director Community and Engagement
Sally Blanc - Executive Officer

1.2 APOLOGIES

Nil received

1.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

Nil received.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**2.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING****RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Waratah-Wynyard Council held at Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard on Monday 15 December 2025, a copy of which having previously been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, be confirmed as a true record.

Any corrections to the Minutes are to be identified and agreed at this point prior to taking a vote to adopt the minutes.

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor and Agenda Item Number

Staff and Agenda Item Number

4.0 COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT

4.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR

I wish to congratulate the Wynyard Yacht Club who hosted the successful International Mirror Class Australian Championships on January 3-7 2026.

This event attracted sailors from around Australia with 25 boats and crews participating in the championships. This successful event was supported by many volunteers, sponsors and donors, who helped make the event possible.

The Wynyard Yacht Club is a welcoming sailing club that promotes safe and fun water sports, offering training sessions for various skill levels and regular sailing events. The Club is located on the banks of the Inglis River and has recently undergone upgrades including a new parking area and coastal pathway connection.

4.2 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Mayor's Communications:

MAYOR DR MARY DUNIAM	
11/12/25	Cr Bramich/Cr Raw – Childcare Christmas Parade
15/12/25	Wonders of Wynyard 20 Year Photos
15/12/25	Cr Hyland – Table Cape Primary School Grade 6 Leavers Assembly
15/12/25	Somerset Primary School – Grade 6 Leavers Assembly
15/12/25	Meeting with Anita Dow
15/12/25	Council Meeting
16/12/25	Deputy Mayor – Boat Harbour Primary End of Year Assembly
16/12/25	Cr Roberts – Yolla School Presentation Assembly
16/12/25	Meeting with Premier Rockliff
16/12/25	ABC Radio Interview re Christmas Parade
4/1/26	Welcome evening, Australian Mirror Class (Sailing) Championships.
12/1/26	Councillor Workshop

4.3 REPORTS BY DELEGATES

Nil received.

4.4 NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the following Workshops:

12/1/25	Community Grants Review Financial Management Strategy Review Council Digital Security check Animal Control
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Councillor attendance – 1/7/25 –12/1/26 (last updated to 12/1/26)

	Ordinary Meetings 2025/26 (6)	Special Meetings / AGM 2025/26 (1)	Workshops 2025/26 (15)	Community Conversations 2025/26 (0)	Weeks Leave Approved
Mayor Mary Duniam	5	1	14	0	2
Deputy Mayor Celisa Edwards	5	1	13	0	2
Cr Gary Bramich	5	1	14	0	0
Cr Andrea Courtney	6	1	12	0	0
Cr Kevin Hyland	5	1	14	0	1
Cr Michael Johnstone	5	1	15	0	0
Cr Leanne Raw	5	1	15	0	0
Cr Dillon Roberts	6	1	10	0	1

5.0 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS
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5.1 RESPONSE(S) TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil received.

5.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING

Nil received.

5.3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

A summary of questions without notice and response(s) and the name of the person asking the question will be recorded in the minutes.

5.4 PUBLIC STATEMENTS RECEIVED IN WRITING

Nil received.

5.5 PUBLIC STATEMENTS WITHOUT NOTICE

A summary of statements without notice and the name of the person making the statement will be recorded in the minutes.

6.0 PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS**6.1 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS****6.1.1 PETITION - B POLSON - RABBIT CONTROL SOMERSET**

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Executive Officer
Responsible Manager: Director Infrastructure and Development Services
Report Date: 16 December 2025
File Reference: 0101
Enclosures: 1. Petition - Rabbit Control Somerset 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the petition requesting that Council immediately implement rabbit control measures and, in accordance with advice received from NRE, defer control until Calicivirus can be released in 2026 with follow up action with other measures such as controlled pindone release to occur after if required.

DETAILS

The following petition has been received:

Subject matter	The rabbit population in ANZAC park, the Esplanade, Bells Parade and the greater Somerset area is out of control which is causing significant nuisance and damage to private and public property.
Statement of subject matter and action requested	The petitioners call on Waratah-Wynyard Council to immediately implement rabbit control measures and not wait until biocontrol measures like Calicivirus can be released in 2026.
Signatories	83

A copy of the petition is attached. The petition was handed to the General Manager on 16 December 2025 by Mr Brian Polson and Mr Rod Morse. The petition complies with *s.57 of the Local Government Act 1993*. The petition is accordingly able to be tabled as required under the Act.

The petition is listed on the meeting agenda for receipt and noting.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

A related public question in writing was received and answered in the August 2025 Council meeting agenda, minutes extract below: -

5.0 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

5.1 RESPONSE(S) TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil received.

5.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING

5.2.1 MR B POLSON - RABBITS ON SOMERSET ESPLANADE

QUESTION

I have been in contact with Sally Blanc at the council about the rabbit problem, Somerset Esplanade, ANZAC Park and Bells Parade area. Sally told me to get in contact with the appropriate people which I did.

Lisa Edwards Senior Biosecurity Inspector, then got back to the council. I believe the council's NRE officer has spoken to the department.

The outcome of this was that the Biosecurity Operations Branch will schedule the next RHDV1 release when conditions are optimum and resources are available. This is a major problem as the RHDV1 cannot be released until around May 2026.

I am led to believe that the council were approached to supply labour to pre-feed out carrots before the Department baited with the Virus in May 2025, the council declined to supply the labour as this was then unsuccessful. The council must participate with the Department when they are baiting on council land.

What does the council plan to do with the Rabbit's now. They are out of control and causing much damage and financial difficulties to the rate payers in the area.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

Correspondence was sent to Mr B Polson, dated 25 July 2025, to address the enquiry. Council remains committed to working with Biosecurity Tasmania to identify opportunities for biological controls, subject to alignment with appropriate timing and weather conditions. A copy of the letter has been included below:-

Thank you for your recent correspondence outlining your concerns regarding the rabbit infestation affecting your property and surrounding areas in Somerset.

Council acknowledges the impact that invasive pests such as rabbits can have on residents, especially in coastal environments. In accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2019 (Tas) and the General Biosecurity Duty (GBD), all individuals, including homeowners, share responsibility for managing biosecurity risks. As such, all property owners are legally obliged to take reasonable steps to prevent, manage or respond to the presence of declared pests on their land.

Council has proactively engaged with Biosecurity Tasmania to explore coordinated control measures in response to rabbit activity in the Somerset area. Seasonal timing and regulatory considerations are key factors in the implementation of effective programs. Regretfully, on this occasion, sufficient notice was not given to Council to participate in a coordinated and planned

manner with due regard for workplace health and safety and environmental best practice.

Despite this, Council remains committed to ensuring that all planning is undertaken and we continue to work closely with Biosecurity Tasmania to identify suitable opportunities for future initiatives, including the release of biological controls. Successful outcomes depend on carefully aligned timing and conditions, and Council is committed to supporting these efforts to deliver sustainable long-term results for the community.

Regarding your recent submission, please note that it was received after the formal deadline for written statements to be included in the agenda for the 21 July Council meeting.

Should you require further guidance on control measures or available resources, we recommend contacting Biosecurity Tasmania directly or visiting www.nre.tas.gov.au.

Thank you again for your correspondence.

Following the August Council meeting there has been ongoing dialogue between Council officers and Mr Brian Poulson regarding his concerns with the rabbits at the Somerset Esplanade location including Council's role as a lease holder of the Crown land and the State Department's role under the banner of Natural Resource and Environment (NRE) as authority for rabbit control measures (among other invasive species).

Consistent with the petition received, the enquiries have been to undertake rabbit control at the Somerset Esplanade location sooner than the next opportunity for Biosecurity Tas (NRE) to release calicivirus; and specifically, it has been requested that Council undertakes rabbit control using pindone (poison) as an alternative.

Council officers have researched Mr Polson's enquiries and can provide the following background and context: -

- There are two types of core control methods: Chemical (Pindone poison) and Biological (Calicivirus or RHDV1)
- Any use of pindone requires an approval permit from Game Services (NRE) and compliance with permit conditions. Calicivirus is only released by Biosecurity Tas (NRE) but with support from landowners for signage and pre-feeding and requires seasonal planning (next opportunity March, April 2026).

A comparative summary of the two core control methods based on Council officer research and consultation with NRE is as per the below: -

Calicivirus (RHDV1)

Benefits

- Species-specific (targets rabbits only).
- No risk to humans, domestic animals or native wildlife.
- Provides longer-term population suppression.
- Rapid results; often within 6 to 36 hours of release (in right conditions).

-
- Lower risk to Council.
 - Supported by Game Services as the preferred first-line option.

Risks / Limitations

- Timing constrained to seasonal release windows (next release Autumn 2026, approximately March/April).
- Reliant on Biosecurity Tasmania schedule – dependent on advance warning of release date.
- Requires pre-feeding, signage installation and other comms

Pindone

Benefits

- Can deliver short-term population reduction.
- Familiar method with an available antidote.
- Can be effective if tightly managed and resourced.

Risks / Limitations

- Increased risk to non-target species (primary and secondary poisoning).
- Elevated public and pet safety risks in high-use areas.
- Slower results; visible signs within 6-10 days of first baiting.
- Risk of harm due to the potential to poison non-target species.
- Requires:
 - Pre-feeding, signage installation and other comms
 - Daily monitoring
 - Carcass recovery
 - Repeated applications over time
- Higher operational cost and staff/contractor oversight.
- Residual risk to non-target species can be mitigated but not fully eliminated.

The key takeaway from consultation with Game Services Tasmania is that Pindone can be used with mitigation measures and is not considered to pose a significant risk to native wildlife or domestic dogs when best practice is followed (though this risk cannot be eliminated).

The risk of pindone, however, increases in high use public areas, particularly during warmer months due to increased pedestrian, dog and child activity and difficulty in fully monitoring and controlling access and behaviour.

Game Services' recommended course of action is to defer chemical control until calicivirus release can be undertaken and then be prepared to follow up with controlled pindone release after, if required.

The considerations for Council, in responding to the petition received, become: -

- Any pindone use requires approval from Game Services Tasmania and may be modified or refused.
- The release of Calicivirus is contingent on Biosecurity Tasmania (it has been recommended to Biosecurity to consider this site as high risk).

-
- Community response will likely be mixed regardless of the option chosen.
 - Clear communication will be essential to manage expectations:
 - Signage installation at entrances to the reserve
 - Flagging off areas if risk of access without seeing signage is high
 - Letter drop to residents in the foreshore area

Options available to Council

1. **Defer control until calicivirus release (Recommended by NRE)** – Follow up with pindone if required for greater rabbit control.
(least environmental and operational risk and consistent with advice from Game Services)
2. **Staged approach** – limited pindone in low-use areas followed by calicivirus.
(reduces risk of Option 3 and goes some way to responding to the request received by petition to act).
3. **Full pindone program** – request permission to release pindone across the foreshore area and Anzac Park.
(meets community expectations on action but highest risk and resource requirement).

7.0 PLANNING AUTHORITY ITEMS

THERE ARE NO PLANNING AUTHORITY ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA.

8.0 MATTER RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**8.1 RESPONSE(S) TO COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING****8.1.1 CR COURTNEY - COMMUNITY BATTERIES****QUESTION**

Cr Andrea Courtney asked if councillors could be provided details of where the four Community Batteries have been installed by the State Government.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

TasNetworks identified optimal locations for community battery installations through a comprehensive analysis, assessing infrastructure suitability, distribution network demand, land use, zoning requirements, and levels of solar power generation.

The following sites now have community batteries installed and are currently undergoing commissioning tests:

1. Shorewell Park, Burnie
2. Glebe Hill, Howrah

The following sites are currently being investigated via council consultation, community engagement and planning approval processes:

1. Glamorgan Spring Bay
2. Hobart City Council
3. Kingsborough Council
4. Brighton Council
5. Launceston City Council
6. West Tamar Council

More information about community batteries can be found on the TasNetworks site:

[FAQs | Community batteries | Talk With TasNetworks](#)

8.1.2 CR JOHNSTONE - RAILWAY CORRIDOR MAINTENANCE SOMERSET**QUESTION**

Cr Michael Johnstone asked who the land owner was for the rail corridor from the Cam River Bridge to start of Coastal Pathway on the Corner of the Esplanade in Somerset and who was responsible for maintenance as it was currently a fire hazard and it shouldn't be let get to this state before maintenance is completed. He noted that this area is the entry to municipal area and should be maintained regularly.

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised that State Rail was the land owner and Burnie City Council (BCC) is the corridor manager from Cooe through to Wynyard.

He also advised that Council would have to have a conversation with BCC around any maintenance requirements and that this may result in WWC having to take on additional maintenance costs.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

Coming budget deliberations and the current year annual plan task of reviewing Council's Open Space, Sports and Recreation Asset Management Plan and service level review will allow consideration of future maintenance standards and required resourcing from 2026/27 onwards in consultation with Burnie City Council as the Corridor manager.

8.1.3 CR ROBERTS - ADVERTISING OF THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVES

QUESTION

Cr Dillon Roberts asked if Council could advertise more broadly that funding is available for state and national representatives.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

Officers have updated Council's website to ensure that the details of funding available for community members who achieve State and National representation in sport are easier to find.

Officers also advise that staff actively ensure that groups and schools are aware of the availability of these grants and numbers of applications received have increased significantly over the last few years.

8.1.4 CR COURTNEY - BASS HIGHWAY REPAIR SCHEDULE

QUESTION

Cr Andrea Courtney noted the response to her previous question regarding repairs to Bass Highway and asked if details of when design and scheduling of works would occur could be provided.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

Council officers understanding is that the scheduling of any more substantive repairs to the Bass Highway is subject to annual State budget decision making and/or Department of State Growth gaining Federal funding grants.

8.1.5 CR COURTNEY - DEVELOPMENT OF BIODIVERSITY PLAN

QUESTION

Cr Andrea Courtney asked if a Biodiversity Plan could be developed for council.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

The Integrated Council Environmental Plan (iCEP) includes a specific action (Action 38.1) to assess the extent of Waratah-Wynyard's areas of significant ecological value and to develop

biodiversity management plans for high-priority areas not currently addressed by other agencies.

In progressing this action, Council officers have been developing site-specific master plans and/or management plans for identified locations, including Fossil Bluff, Camp Creek, Ballad Avenue and the French's Road Nature Reserve.

The current iCEP Delivery Plan does not include a specific action for the development of a comprehensive, overarching Biodiversity Plan. However, the proposal does have merit and the development of such a plan would align with the broader intent and principles of the iCEP.

During the current year, Council is building the foundational blocks for the development of a vegetation framework, which may encompass some elements typically included within a Biodiversity Plan, subject to clarification of scope and integration with existing work.

Officers are also preparing a short-term iCEP Delivery Plan, to enable resource planning for the next one to two years.

In addition, a targeted review of the iCEP is proposed during the 2026/27 financial year (subject to council approval) to ensure alignment with contemporary needs, environmental best practice and community expectations.

It is recommended that the scoping of a Biodiversity Plan be incorporated in the planned targeted review of iCEP to ensure strategic alignment and coordination of resources.

8.1.6 CR COURTNEY - AMBULANCE RAMPING

QUESTION

Cr Andrea Courtney noted she has been advised that, under the State Government's push to reduce ramping at hospitals, the Health Dept. has banned the transfer of patients where there are no confirmed beds available for the patient to go into to. This could include someone having a heart attack and needing urgent scans that can't be provided at a smaller hospital. Cr Courtney asked that Council write to the Minister and ask whether this is correct, and if so, how the government is ensuring patients are not worse off.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

A letter was prepared and sent to the Minister on 18 December 2025. The Minister, the Hon Bridget Archer MP is now scheduled to meet with the Mayor and CEO in early February.

8.1.7 CR HYLAND - WARATAH BOARD MINUTES

QUESTION

Cr Kevin Hyland asked why they had been no Waratah Board Meeting minutes included in the Council Agenda since the Board changeover. He noted that he was of the understanding that they have been sent through.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

Waratah Community Board meeting minutes were sent to Council Officers on Monday 15 January (the day of the Council Meeting).

It is standard practice for the Waratah Board Minutes to be put into the Council Agenda at the next available meeting after they are received; in this case the minutes will be in the January 2026 Agenda. Minutes for the July 25 meeting were in the August 2025 Agenda.

8.1.8 CR JOHNSTONE - SOMERSET SPORTS PRECINCT - PICKLEBALL COURTS

QUESTION

Cr Michael Johnstone noted the Somerset Sports Precinct Masterplan update did not include allowance for outdoor Pickleball Courts and asked that they be included.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

The Somerset Sports Stadium is intended to be a multi-user facility. Standalone Pickleball Courts are not included, rather it is intended that line marking provides for this use along with basketball and tennis (and other sports as needed) similar to other facilities around the country.

8.1.9 CR EDWARDS - SISTERS BEACH SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION

QUESTION

Cr Celisa Edwards asked when speed reduction work likely to occur, and if the Police will monitor the area when the change is made including down in Sisters Beach Village.

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised that implementation will be in new year.

The Director took the question on notice to discuss with Tas Police about monitoring the area. This would most likely be dependent on their resourcing and availability.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

The process to enact the speed reduction and associated works in the Sisters Beach area was triggered upon the motion being carried at the December meeting. From here a signage installation plan needs to be developed and approved, this will ascertain the quantum of signage and associated infrastructure required. An order to purchase the signage will then be made and once received a works schedule to install the signage will be developed, including the preparation of safety documentation, traffic guidance schemes, service locations and project management documents. This work will be completed early in the new year of 2026 with signage installation occurring by the middle of February 2026.

Tasmanian Police will be notified of the changes as they occur; however any additional monitoring of the area or enforcement of the new speed limit will be subject to the resources and capacity of the Tasmanian Police to undertake these activities.

8.1.10 CR ROBERTS - UPDATES TO WIKIPEDIA PAGE

QUESTION

Cr Dillon Roberts noted that there are limited details on the Wikipedia Page for Council and asked if council officers could update these pages with additional photos and achievements of locals.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

Officers advise that updating Wikipedia is not something that Council would usually do; there are lots of cases that caution against Councils updating wikis, mainly due to conflicts of interest and the perception of promotion of a specific point of view. There is nothing to stop community members, clubs, groups and associations from uploading and entering data and selected photos though and Council can encourage them to do so.

8.2 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING

Nil received.

8.3 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE


A summary of question(s) without notice and response(s) will be recorded in the minutes.

9.0 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil received.

10.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

10.1 ANNUAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT - 1 JULY 2025 TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

To:	Council
Reporting Officer:	Information Management Officer
Responsible Manager:	Director Governance and Information Systems
Report Date:	1 January 2026
File Reference:	Corporate Management - Planning
Enclosures:	1. Annual Plan Progress Report - December 2025 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the 2025/26 Annual Plan Progress Report for the period 01 July 2025 to 31 December 2025.

PURPOSE

By providing a regular update, Council can see how the organisation is tracking in the delivery of commitments made to the community through the Annual Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Annual Plan and Budget Estimates is developed by Council each year, outlining key activities and initiatives for the year.

The Council adopted the 2025/26 Annual Plan and Budget Estimates on 23 June 2025. There are 44 actions being reported on with 32 new actions adopted, and 12 actions rolled over from the 2024/25 period.

The strategic planning framework guides Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Our Mission, Vision & Values), medium term (Strategic Plan) and short term (Annual Plan and Budget Estimates) and holds itself accountable through the Audited Financial Statements and Annual Report.

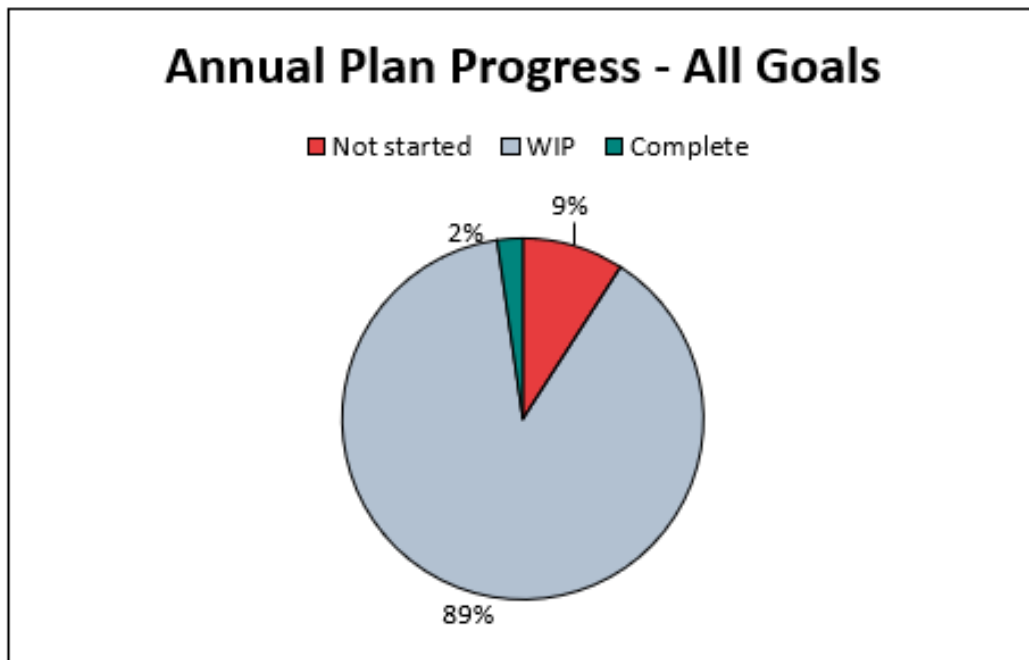
The activities and initiatives included in the Annual Plan and Budget Estimates contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Strategic Plan.

DETAILS

The attached report provides a progress report of actions against Council's 2025/26 Annual Plan.

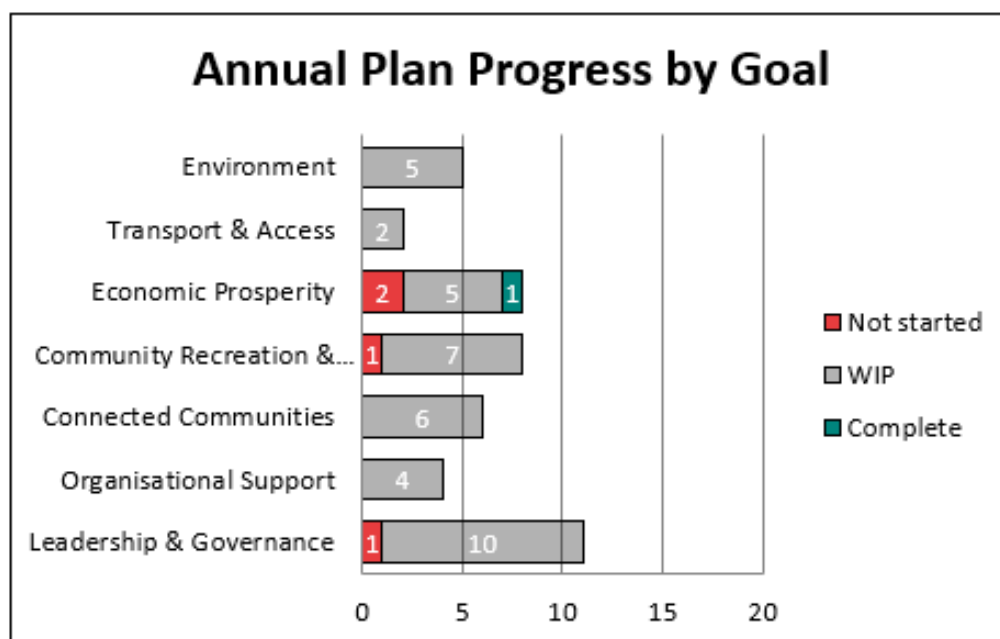
As of 31 December 2025, 1 action has been completed (2%), 39 actions are in progress (89%) and 4 actions have not started (9%).

44 actions were adopted in the Annual Plan and Budget. The below graphs present overall progress to date.



- 1 action has been completed
- 18 actions are between 70% – 90% complete
- 21 actions are less than 70% complete
- 4 action has not started

The following graph outlines progress against each of Council’s strategic goals:



Outstanding Actions Progress 2024/25:

Status on actions which remain uncompleted from the 2024/25 financial year is provided below -

Action	Progress
Advocate for positive outcomes for the Waratah Wynyard community in any local government reform discussions (1.3.1.1)	Ongoing, awaiting legislation.
Progress the Table Cape Amenities Project (5.1.3.1)	An early works package to deliver the AR experience and signage is planned for delivery by 30 June 2025.
Stormwater modelling for urban catchments (7.3.3.1)	Consultant services being procured to complete.
Complete Planning Services Review recommendations (1.6.2.1)	Not commenced.
Develop a plan for the former school site at Little Goldie Street (5.1.1.1)	The State Governments Emergency Services Hub Project location needs to be resolved before progressing.
Complete detailed design and permits for new Childcare facility in Wynyard (4.4.2.1)	Revised project scope (120 places) endorsed. Revised concept signed off early September 2025. DA lodged. Completion timeline May 2026 (subject to DA process).
Big Creek Flood Mitigation Works (5.4.2.1)	Investigation into alternative design options is being undertaken to provide a more effective flood mitigation outcome. All affected residents have been consulted and now a multi-criteria assessment will be conducted to determine the preferred option.
Undertake review of CBD parking provision and compliance (6.1.1.1)	Data collection to prepare report currently being undertaken.
Develop a Tree and Vegetation Management Framework (7.3.1.1)	Draft vandalism protocols completed, early discussions with Tas Fire Service underway and some research has gone into good practice for significant vegetation. Local natives policy workshopped with councillors. Consultant engaged to progress research with final amendments to be made to their papers on fire management and wildlife corridors.
Develop an investment prospectus for the municipality (5.3.1.1)	Initial videos have been received with work expected to be finalised for launch in 2026
Penguin viewing experiences (7.3.2.1)	An allocation has been identified in the 2025/26 budget to support the necessary reports and concept designs for the Doctors Rocks area.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

The Annual Plan is prepared as part of the Budget Estimate process and is required under the Local Government Act 1993:

71. Annual plan

(1) A council is to prepare an annual plan for the municipal area for each financial year.

(2) An annual plan is to –

- (a) be consistent with the strategic plan; and
- (b) include a statement of the manner in which the council is to meet the goals and objectives of the strategic plan; and
- (c) include a summary of the estimates adopted under section 82; and
- (d) include a summary of the major strategies to be used in relation to the council's public health goals and objectives. The Annual Plan is part of a larger strategic planning framework.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

The plan is consistent with the Waratah-Wynyard Corporate Strategic Plan 2017/27 and the Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040.

Council Strategy or Plan	Date Adopted:
Annual Plan and Budget Estimates 2025/26	23 June 2025

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

Council provides quarterly reports as part of the Council meeting process to ensure Councillors and the public can see progress against annual plan actions.

CONCLUSION

That Council notes the 2025/26 Annual Plan Action Report for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025.

10.2 TASMANIAN DISABILITY INCLUSION PLAN CONSULTATION SUBMISSION

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Community Activation
Responsible Manager: Director Community Services
Report Date: 3 December 2025
File Reference: 001
Enclosures: 1. Tasmanian Disability Inclusion Plan Consultation Submission 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the attached submission to the Tasmanian Disability Inclusion Plan

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement of Waratah–Wynyard Council’s submission to the Tasmanian Government’s consultation on the development of the first Tasmanian Disability Inclusion Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) has commenced statewide consultation to inform the Tasmanian Disability Inclusion Plan, a requirement of the Disability Rights, Inclusion and Safeguarding Act 2025, which took effect on 1 July 2025.

The Plan will guide Tasmania’s long-term approach to improving safety, fairness and inclusion for people with disability. Consultation is open until 10 March 2026 and will involve written submissions, online surveys, community forums, and other engagement opportunities.

DPAC has invited local governments, community organisations, advocacy groups, and individuals to contribute. Council has prepared a draft submission reflecting local priorities, lived-experience insights drawn from existing engagement, and Council’s ongoing commitment to improving accessibility across the municipality.

Given the significance of the Disability Inclusion Plan and its likely implications for future expectations of local government, it is appropriate that Council formally endorses the submission prior to lodgement.

DETAILS

Council delivers and manages a wide range of facilities, services, infrastructure and community programs that directly influence accessibility and participation. The development of a statewide disability inclusion plan provides an opportunity to improve alignment across levels of government, strengthen collaboration, and support more consistent standards for access and inclusion.

The draft submission (attached):

- Outlines Council’s current work to build a more inclusive community
- Identifies areas where a statewide framework can support regional councils

- Highlights key issues, including universal design, accessible communication, public infrastructure needs, workforce capability, and ongoing lived-experience involvement
- Encourages a practical, collaborative, and flexible approach to implementation.

Endorsing the submission will ensure that Waratah-Wynyard Council’s perspective is represented in the statewide planning process and demonstrates Council’s commitment to enhancing accessibility and inclusion for community members of all abilities.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 3: Connected Communities
Desired Outcomes
3.5 Our community uses its voice to shape its future alongside a strong Council willing to listen and implement where reasonable and practical.
Our Priorities
3.2.1 Deliver engagement strategies that adapt to community needs to ensure effective communication and collaboration.

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
Strong communities and social capital	Enduring community capital – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities.
Access and infrastructure	Local, regional and global transport and infrastructure access – Safe and efficient access alternatives, growing freight capacity, renewable energy, water management and contemporary communications. Community infrastructure that supports economic development.
Health and Wellbeing	Maintaining good health and wellbeing – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities.
Place making and liveability	Liveable places for all ages – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with endorsing and submitting the draft response.

Future financial considerations may arise depending on the content of the final Tasmanian Disability Inclusion Plan and any expectations placed on local governments.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There is minimal risk associated with providing a submission. Not submitting may diminish Council's influence in shaping statewide priorities relating to disability inclusion that will likely affect local government responsibilities in the future.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

Internal discussions have occurred with officers in the Community Activation department. Insights have been informed by ongoing engagement with community members, including people with lived experience of disability through Council advisory groups and community programs.

CONCLUSION

Endorse the draft submission to the Tasmanian Disability Inclusion Plan consultation

10.3 SENIOR MANAGEMENT REPORT

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Executive Officer
Responsible Manager: Chief Executive Officer
Report Date: 11 December 2025
File Reference: 0304
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Senior Management Report.

PURPOSE

To provide information on issues of significance or interest, together with statistical information and summaries of specific areas of operations.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Listed below is a summary of activities undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer from 6 December 2025 to 9 January 2026.

Corporate

- Numerous internal meetings

Community

- Mr B Polson

Industry/Infrastructure

- Regional Land Use Strategy meeting x 2

Other

- CCA Board Meeting
- State Fire Commission
- General catch-up meeting with Anita Dow MP
- Joint Executive Team meeting with Circular Head Council
- NW General Managers' regular meeting

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

The following Community Conversations have been scheduled for 2026.

DATE	TOWN	VENUE
9 February	Yolla	Yolla Tavern 6.00 – 7.00pm
9 March	Boat Harbour	Boat Harbour Beach Surf Club
15 April	Waratah	Atheneum Hall
1 June	Sisters Beach	To be Confirmed
6 July	Somerset	To be Confirmed
3 August	Wynyard	To be Confirmed

Communication and advertising for each Community Conversation will be issued 4-6 weeks prior to the event.

Dates of each Community Conversation and UpToDate details will be included on Council's website: [Community Conversations - Waratah-Wynyard Council](#); additional advertising and reminders will be on Council's social media sites and posters will be put up as appropriate.

ADMINISTRATION – Use of Corporate Seal

22/12/25	Grant Deed – Policy & Reform DPAC	Changing Places – Accessible Aus. BHB SLSC Community Hub accessibility.
5/1/26	Letter of Variation	LRCI Round 4 – Change of completion date approved.

POLICY

Council currently has 47 policies. Nine (9) of those policies will need to be reviewed over the next six months; four policies are outstanding as at the end of November with the Senior Leadership Team currently in the process of conducting reviews of all outstanding policies.

POLICIES TO BE RESCINDED

NIL		
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WORKING GROUPS

	Elected Member Representatives	Responsible Officer(s)	Status
Somerset Sporting Precinct	Cr Johnstone Deputy Mayor Edwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ CEO ☐ Manager Community Activation ☐ Manager Recreation Planning and Environment ☐ Recreation Liaison Officer 	The tender for Construction works for the Langley Park Upgrades was approved at the December Council meeting, with construction earmarked to commence in early 2026.
Wynyard Sports Precinct	Cr Johnstone Cr Roberts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Director Infrastructure and Development Services ☐ Strategic Projects Manager ☐ Manager Community Activation 	<p>Discussions with DECYP were progressing positively however are now at a standstill as Wynyard High School (WHS) is not supportive of the project (advised 2 December 2025 following lodgement of DA submission to DEYCP for land owner’s consent). We understand there is a concern about WHS. To date the specific nature of the concern has not been shared with us. Officers had sought an urgent meeting with representatives of DECYP and WHS to resolve the impasse, however, were advised that due to leave arrangements any meeting could not occur before February 2026.</p> <p>Detailed design of the indoor training facility is at 80% completion.</p> <p>The formal advertising process for Austin Street road closure has concluded . A number of submissions were received. Officers will progress the statutory referral process to TASCAT for determination.</p> <p>Construction remains dependant on external grant funding.</p>
Boat Harbour Masterplan	Cr Hyland Cr Roberts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Director Infrastructure and Development Services ☐ Executive Officer (CEO Office) ☐ Strategic Projects Manager 	The ground floor has reached the lock up stage.
Frederick Street Reserve Working Group	Cr Johnstone Cr Roberts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ Director Community and Engagement ☐ Manager Community Activation 	The Frederick Street Reserve Master Plan was adopted by Council at the September Meeting. Progress will be staged, subject to resource availability.

PLANNING PERMITS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATION – December 2025

DA No.	Applicants Name	Location	Development	Date Permit Issued	No of Days to Process	(D)Discretionary (P)Permitted
DA 170/2025	Lachlan Walsh Design	91 Shires Lane Wynyard	Dwelling Extension	11.12.2025	32	D
DA 122/2025	K Morrison & T Coffey	399 Murchison Highway Somerset	Residential Outbuilding (Shed)	11.12.2025	34	D
DA 172/2025	PLA Designs Pty Ltd	65 Calder Road Wynyard	Dwelling	11.12.2025	32	D
DA 187/2025	L Galea & M Caruana	58 Dodgin Street Wynyard	Change of Use (Visitor Accommodation)	16.12.2025	15	P
DA 194/2025	T Anderson	1 Kingsmill Street Wynyard	Change of Use (Visitor Accommodation)	16.12.2025	6	P
DA 133/2025	PLA Designs Pty Ltd	61B Pelissier Street Somerset	Secondary Residence Extension (Verandah) – As Constructed	16.12.2025	28	D
DA 171/2025	Abel Design Tas	6A Elfrida Avenue Sisters Beach	Dwelling Extension	16.12.2025	31	D
DA 165/2025	PLA Designs Pty Ltd	Bravo Street Wynyard	Warehouse & Signage	17.12.2025	42	D
DA 178/2025	O Beamish	6 Lagoon Avenue Sisters Beach	Dwelling Extensions – as constructed	17.12.2025	29	D

BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED – December 2025

Permit Number	Applicants Name	Location	Development	Date Permit Issued	No of Days to Process	Related Planning Approval
PSC-W-2025-14-01	D Holmes	668 Waratah Road Waratah	As Constructed Shed	2-12-2025	7	NPR
PSC-W-2025-15-01	B & T Florance	12 Inglis Street Wynyard	As constructed dwelling addition and alterations	12-12-2025	1	NPR

COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS – OPEN COUNCIL

DATE	ITEM	TOPIC	ACTION/STATUS	OFFICER	STATUS
16/12/24	8.1	NOM - Cr Johnstone – Speed Limit Old Bass Highway	MOTION CARRIED: That Council undertake an assessment of the Old Bass Highway for a future report to Council for the consideration of speed limit reduction. <i>Assessment in Progress – currently with the Transport Commissioner for consideration.</i>	MES	In Progress
16/12/24	9.2	ROC – AGM Motion C Hutchison RTI Findings	MOTION CARRIED: Note that parts 1-3 of motion were for noting only. Part 4 of motion: Once appraised of any requirements from the Local Government Priority Reform Program 2024-2026, develop any policies or practices as required by any changes to the <i>Local Government Act</i> , that seeks to promote good governance principles of openness, honesty, and transparency, to continually improve existing practices.	CEO	Pending
17/3/25	9.5	ROC - Sisters Beach – Speed Reduction Request	AMENDED MOTION CARRIED - That Council receives and notes the assessment of the speed limit on Sisters Beach Road and determines to reduce the speed limit to 80km/h from the Bass Highway and all connecting roads through to Sisters Beach and forward that recommendation to the commissioner for transport. FORESHADOWED MOTION CARRIED - That Council Officers investigate traffic calming measures at Sisters Beach. <i>Traffic Calming review of Sisters Beach has been tendered and awarded, works pending.</i>	MES	Closed
28/4/25	6.1.1	Petition - Boat Harbour Beach Store Signage, Public Toilets and Rubbish Services	Petition Noted –“Council to consider the urgent provisions of public toilet and rubbish facilities near the Boat Harbour Store along with approaching signage on the Highway”. <i>Officers are progressing the signage option to advise travellers of the nearest public toilet facility. Signage approvals are underway.</i>	DIDS	In Progress
20/10/25	7.3.1	CQWN – Cr Courtney – community Grants.	Cr Andrea Courtney asked if the Community Grant Program could be discussed at a Councillor Workshop to review the guideline, including how to select successful applicants if the grant round is over subscribed. She also asked if the amount currently allocated could be reviewed to consider if additional funds are required. The CEO agreed to discuss the matter at a workshop. <i>Workshop held 12 January 2026.</i>	CEO	Closed

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance
Desired Outcomes
1.4 We cherish fairness, trust and honesty in our conduct and dealings with all.
Our Priorities
1.5.2 Maintain accountability by ensuring council decisions are evidence based and meet all legislative obligations.

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
Governance and working together	Working together for Murchison – Everyone plays a part in achieving the objectives of the Sustainable Murchison Community Plan. There is cooperation, resource sharing and less duplication between Councils. Leadership is provided across all community sectors.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council notes the Senior Management Report.

10.4 COMMUNITY AND ENGAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Community Activation
Responsible Manager: Chief Executive Officer
Report Date: 15 December 2025
File Reference: 001
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Quarterly Information Report for the Community and Engagement Directorate

PURPOSE

To provide statistical information and a quarterly update on the activities of the Community and Engagement Directorate. This report covers the following areas:

- Community Activation
- Tourism & Corporate Communications
- Wonders of Wynyard
- Warawyn Early Learning

BACKGROUND

The quarterly report is to provide an overview of statistical information on the activities of Council for each Directorate.

Following a review of organisational reporting to ensure consistent and improved information sharing to Council, a quarterly information report is provided for each Directorate with a snapshot of activities undertaken.

DETAILS

COMMUNITY ACTIVATION

Recreation

Progress across the Recreation portfolio has continued steadily. For the Somerset Sports Precinct (SoSP) Stadium component, additional stakeholder feedback has been incorporated as the concept design phase concludes, with updated plans to be distributed to all stakeholders in the coming weeks. The SoSP Langley Park project has progressed to tender award, with construction expected to commence in 2026, supported by grant funding secured from Active Tasmania.

The much-anticipated online booking system is now live for nearly all Council facilities and has received positive public feedback for ease of navigation.

The 2025 Try Skills program, delivered during the October school holidays, engaged 86 students from Grades 5–7, an increase of 18 participants from the previous year, with strong volunteer involvement from 15 clubs and groups, new activities introduced, and most sessions reaching capacity. Positive feedback from parents and volunteers reinforced the

program's value, with the revised one-week delivery model proving more efficient and effective.

Planning is well underway for the 10th anniversary of the Gone Nuts event, with Council providing more than \$13,000 in support by introducing a new event "Village" experience to enhance community engagement and promote local produce and tourism.

At the Wynyard Recreation Ground, despite significant weather-related challenges, staff adapted plans and worked diligently to prepare the pitch, achieving readiness only two weeks later than originally scheduled.

Public Art

Incentives for businesses to decorate their window to help beautify the streets and generate good will. Good support for both Spring Loaded, with Lifeline being the winner, and also Christmas where 16 residences and 6 businesses entered.



One of the beautiful Lifeline window displays for Spring Loaded

Local Artist, Tammy Martin, was the successful applicant for the Sensory Garden mural, installed on the amenities block in East Wynyard. Tammy's mural has been created to inspire conversation and has been a welcome addition to the Foreshore.



The Sensory Garden in Wynyard

Christmas spirit was shared amongst the communities with bags of lollies being delivered to the Somerset, Yolla, Sisters Beach, Boat Harbour and Waratah communities. Christmas trees were placed in Wynyard, Somerset and Waratah, along with additional decorations. Of note in Wynyard is an interactive Santa bench, designed to get people out and about, interacting with displays.



EVENTS

Spring Loaded

The Spring Loaded 2025 program, was a vibrant, month-long celebration of community, creativity, and connection held throughout October 2025. Designed to showcase the region's

spirit and seasonal beauty, the program featured a diverse calendar of events including art workshops, live music, markets, seniors' activities, and family-friendly experiences.

Signature highlights include the ever-popular Wynyard Tulip Festival on 11 October 2025 at Gutteridge Gardens, complete with local produce, artisan stalls, entertainment, and a fireworks finale, as well as engaging community activities such as the Chalk Art Creative Session and Kite Making Workshop using up-cycled materials.

Tulip Festival

The Wynyard Tulip Festival was delivered on 11 October 2025 at Gutteridge Gardens, marking its 33rd year and successfully bringing the community together despite challenging wet-weather and high wind conditions. The free, family-friendly event showcased strong local entertainment and participation, supported approximately 70 stallholders and 50 food and beverage vendors, and continued to strengthen community connection, local pride and regional economic activity. Accessibility and sustainability outcomes were improved, with enhanced inclusive access and recycling contamination reduced below 10% for the first time, while more than \$50,000 in sponsorship and grant support enabled delivery of a high-quality event. Learnings from the 2025 festival will inform future planning to further strengthen resilience, safety and sustainability.



Tulip Festival 2025

Health & Wellbeing

A powerful RACT road safety installation was set up along Old Bass Highway near Nurses Retreat, Wynyard, as part of the "More than a Statistic" campaign.

The installation featured a crashed vehicle displayed within a large, secure container. A confronting but important reminder of the devastating impact of road trauma on Tasmanian families.

It is hoped that Waratah-Wynyard Council's support of this RACT initiative will help families and communities start a conversation and consider the effects of decisions made when driving a car and the profound impact they can have.



Community Christmas Collection

In December Council hosted the Community Christmas Collection 2025, bringing together the spirit of giving and kindness to help those in need this holiday season. The Wonders of Wynyard once again collected donations under the tree to support families across the municipality. Representatives from service clubs from across our community, including the Rotary Club of Wynyard and Lions Club of Wynyard participated and items collected will be given to local charities for distribution.



Age Friendly Communities

Planning is currently underway for youth activities scheduled for 2026. In addition, an End of Year Celebration was held on 3 December, providing an opportunity to acknowledge youth contributions throughout the year and to strengthen peer connections. The event was

well received, with positive feedback from participants, reinforcing ongoing engagement and retention in future youth programs.

Council continued to strengthen school engagement initiatives through targeted educational activities. On 22 October, 12 students from the Indie School participated in a Council Chambers and Depot Tour, engaging in discussions with Council staff to gain insights into local governance, Council operations, and the maintenance of community infrastructure.

This activity enhanced students' understanding of civic responsibilities and potential career pathways. Further engagement occurred on 5 November through an Indie School Waste and Recycling session, where students participated in sustainability discussions and toured the Wynyard Transfer Station to learn about waste management and recycling practices. This session increased awareness of Council's practical approach to waste reduction and environmental sustainability.

Billie Henrick was awarded Council's Bill French Memorial Bursary, a \$5,000 scholarship supporting Waratah-Wynyard students attending UTAS.



Bill French Bursary recipient Billie Henrick with Mayor Mary Duniam

A successful Expression of Interest Round was opening for interested community members to join the Accessibility Working Group. The round augmented the existing group with another four people joining the group, bringing a complementary breadth of experience with them.

On 15 October, Council hosted the Senior Citizens Open Day, welcoming 35 community members. The event featured 10 stallholders and offered a range of activities and services, including free health checks provided by Rural Health, informational displays, and a social game of carpet bowls. The Open Day successfully increased awareness of available health services and social opportunities for seniors, supporting Council's commitment to active and healthy ageing within the community.



Senior Citizen's Open Day

On Wednesday December 3 Council celebrated International Day of People with Disability by hosting a morning tea. It was a wonderful opportunity to recognise the value people with disability bring to our community and to highlight the importance of fostering inclusion. At the morning tea, Council also shared its ongoing efforts to improve accessibility across the region, including accessible playgrounds, public toilets and communications.



International Day of People with Disability Morning Tea

Reconciliation Action Plan

Council continues to progress its Reconciliation Action Plan through research into best practice, strengthened partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, and actions that promote positive race relations and cultural respect. These commitments were demonstrated at the Wynyard Tulip Festival, where Proud Trawoolaway woman Karen Smart and the Treenoner Dance Mob delivered a Welcome to Country, smoking ceremony and cultural performances. Ongoing engagement with Reconciliation Tasmania and Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation is supporting stronger alignment with broader government initiatives and the delivery of culturally safe, inclusive events across the community.

Community Assistance

We congratulated Somerset local James Hyland on his successful application to attend the International Youth Science Forum in London. James was nominated by his science teacher, Sue Saunders, at Hellyer College.

Through Council's Community Activation Grant program, \$500 was contributed towards James' travel costs. He spent 15 days in London with students from around the globe, visiting the Fusion Reactor in Cambridge and hearing from leading scientist Sir Steven Cowley.

Q4 (Oct - Dec)			
Community Support Requests			
Community Support Group	Event Name	Item	In-Kind Value
Wynyard RSL	Spring Loaded - Point & Shoot	Photocopying (A4)	\$24.00
Saints Church	Young Adults Event - The Don	Bean Bags	\$120.00
Wynyard Folk & Roots Club	Tulip Festival Event - Yolla Tavern	Photocopying (A3)	\$10.00
		Photocopying (A4)	\$10.00
ArtsCape	The Wynyard Landscape Challenge	Witches Hats	\$90.00
Waratah Community Board	Community Newsletter	Photocopying (A4)	\$80.00
Senior Citizen Club	Bowls	Photocopying (A4)	\$200.00
Sea Eagle Spinners Wynyard	Sea Eagle Spinners Open Day	Chairs	\$50.00
Warawyn Early Learning	Childrens Christmas Party	Bean Bags	\$200.00
Wynyard Yacht Club	National Sailing Championships	Photocopying (A4)	\$20.00
Waratah Community Board	Community Newsletter	Photocopying (A4)	\$80.00
Total			\$884.00

School Awards

A total of \$5,920 was sponsored across 12 local school awards.

Community Activation Grants (CAG) 2025/26 – Round 1:

A total of \$39,382.07 was granted to 22 recipients.

Use of Facility Requests

This quarter recorded an increase in casual facility bookings, with Council receiving 49 bookings between October and December. These bookings included a diverse mix of uses, comprising 12 events, 13 birthday parties and family gatherings, 11 workshops, 11 school-related activities, and additional miscellaneous uses, reflecting strong and varied community demand for Council facilities.

Social Recovery

Throughout the reporting period, Council continued to strengthen its social recovery and emergency management capacity through active participation in training, planning, and regional collaboration. This included attendance at the Local Government Incident Management Training on 8 October, regular Emergency Management internal working group meetings held on 16 October, 20 November, and 18 December, and participation in the North West Regional Social Recovery meeting on 6 November.

Key presentations during this period addressed managing individuals under the influence of drugs and alcohol in evacuation centres (Damien Collins, YFCC) and the RSPCA's Ready Pet Go initiative, promoting emergency preparedness for pets.

Council also attended the North West Regional Emergency Management Committee and Social Recovery Sub-Committee meeting on 12 November, which included bushfire preparedness insights from the Tasmania Fire Service and participation in Exercise Cooperate, a simulated fuel truck rollover incident.

Further governance engagement occurred through attendance at the WEMC meeting on 13 November. Operational improvements included updating the WEMC Social Recovery Plan

(Appendix for Waratah–Wynyard Council), developing a comprehensive evacuation centre folder with site floor plans, and collaborating with Live Well and the Tasmania Fire Service to support community emergency preparedness initiatives at Sisters Beach.

Frederick Street evacuation centre was activated during the October weather event for those without power needing a safe place to rest, use the amenities or charge their phones.

CHILDCARE

Celebrating Professional Practice Through Planned Events and Experiences

Throughout the year, our service delivered a thoughtfully planned calendar of events that reflected best practice in early childhood education and care. Each initiative was intentionally designed to enhance children’s learning, strengthen community partnerships, support family engagement, and align with the National Quality Standard.

Strengthening Community Partnerships and Children’s Safety Awareness

Engagement with community professionals formed a key focus of our events program. Visits from Tasmania Police, surf lifesaving representatives, first aid trainers, and wildlife educators provided children with authentic, real-world learning experiences. These interactions supported children to build confidence, develop safety awareness, and form positive relationships with trusted community members.

Police visits promoted road and bike safety while also reinforcing that emergency services are approachable and supportive. Beach and water safety sessions delivered by qualified trainers equipped children with practical skills, knowledge and confidence to navigate Tasmania’s natural environments safely. Reptile education sessions supported risk awareness and environmental understanding, particularly relevant to our local context.

These professionally facilitated experiences empowered children to be active, informed and responsible participants within their community.

Intentional Program Design and Learning Through Events

Our holiday and special events programs were intentionally planned to support children’s social, emotional and physical development. Group excursions, team challenges and shared experiences encouraged collaboration, problem-solving, empathy and respectful communication.

Children were supported to develop independence, resilience and agency through decision-making opportunities, goal setting and participation in meaningful activities. Educators intentionally embedded learning outcomes through play-based experiences, ensuring children’s voices, interests and strengths guided program design.

Family Engagement and Community Connection

Celebrations such as National Families Week and inclusion-focused events were professionally planned to strengthen partnerships with families and foster a strong sense of belonging. Activities such as the Family Tree project, shared food experiences, and family

displays created meaningful opportunities for connection and reflection on the importance of support networks.

These events reinforced our commitment to inclusive practice, recognising the diversity of family structures, cultures and experiences within our community.

Environmental Responsibility and Citizenship

Participation in Clean Up Australia Day provided a structured opportunity to embed sustainability education into practice. Educators supported children to take responsibility for caring for their environment, developing early citizenship skills and an understanding of collective responsibility.

Continuous Improvement of Learning Environments

Capital works projects and outdoor environment upgrades were strategically aligned with children's needs, safety considerations and curriculum goals. Educators actively involved children in discussions about changes, supporting understanding of construction processes and fostering curiosity through real-world experiences.

Completed improvements enhanced safety, accessibility and the quality of learning environments, supporting both active and quiet play while meeting regulatory and best-practice standards.

Professional Leadership and Sector Engagement

Staff participation in professional events such as reconciliation symposiums, alongside engagement in national initiatives including NAIDOC Week and National Simultaneous Storytime, reflected our service's commitment to continuous professional growth and culturally responsive practice.

Educators actively translated new knowledge into practice, strengthening reconciliation initiatives, literacy programs and inclusive approaches across the service.

Celebrating Educators and Professional Impact

Early Childhood Educators' Day provided an opportunity to formally recognise the professionalism, dedication and expertise of our educators. Their daily practice—often unseen—creates lasting impacts on children's learning, wellbeing and development, strengthening families and shaping our community.

Collectively, these professionally planned and delivered events demonstrate our service's commitment to high-quality practice, reflective programming and strong partnerships, contributing to our achievement of an Exceeding National Quality Standard rating.



TOURISM & COMMUNICATION

Wonders of Wynyard 20-Year Milestone

Waratah-Wynyard Council acknowledged the 20th anniversary of the Wonders of Wynyard Exhibition & Visitor Information Centre in December, recognising two decades of service to the community and visitors. The milestone offered an opportunity to reflect on the Centre's evolution into an award-winning visitor experience, its nationally significant Ransley Veteran Car Collection, and the vital contribution of volunteers and staff. With eighteen active volunteers supporting daily operations, the WOW continues to deliver warm, knowledgeable and welcoming visitor services, providing significant value to the community through local engagement, pride of place and enhanced visitor experiences. The occasion highlighted the Centre's vital role in showcasing the region's heritage, culture and tourism offering, while reinforcing its ongoing commitment to excellence into the future.



Pictured: Tourism Coordinator, Susan Kooistra and Mayor Dr Mary Duniam at the Wonders of Wynyard Exhibition & Visitor Information Centre.

Wynyard Tulip Festival – Marketing Campaign Performance

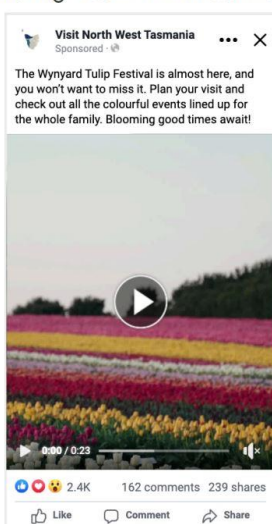
The Tourism & Corporate Communications team played a key role in delivering a successful marketing campaign and community messaging for the Wynyard Tulip Festival, with planning and strategy developed months ahead of the event in close collaboration with the Community Activation Team. A strong working partnership with **West x North West** was central to the event marketing campaign's success, delivering measurable year-on-year growth across all key performance indicators. Campaign results included more than doubling audience reach, a six-fold increase in click-through rates, significantly improved cost efficiency, and substantial growth in event responses and website traffic. The results demonstrate the strength of the partnership, improved targeting, and an increasingly effective approach to digital event marketing.

Best Performing Ads

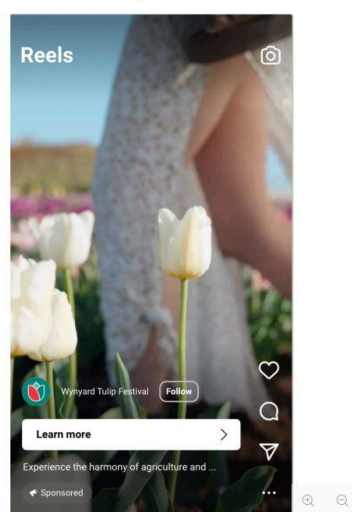
Family Friendly Carousel



Existing Post – TF Almost Here



Tulip Reel



Pictured: Best performing Wynyard Tulip Festival advertisements on digital media.

Visiting Journalists & Media Exposure

Journalist engagement continues to deliver strong outcomes for the region, with several destination stories confirmed and scheduled for publication into 2026. Upcoming coverage is expected in **Explore Travel**, the **NZ Herald**, **ESCAPE**, **RACT Magazine** and **Wanderer Magazine**, featuring our municipality and Circular Head. These stories build on recent press trips supported by Tourism Tasmania and Council partnerships with industry. In addition, media visits have recently taken place and other's scheduled in early 2026, including travel writers from **Forty South**, **Mindfood**, **SMH/The Age Traveller**, **Luxury Escapes Magazine**, and regional and interstate publications. While the formal journalist hosting contract has concluded, continued interest from media and self-funded visits highlights the region's strong appeal and ensures ongoing exposure for Waratah-Wynyard and the wider north west Tasmania destination.



Sand and solace

Just two nights, a scenic drive, and the right company turned a short trip to Sisters Beach into a restorative getaway. From pristine beaches to gourmet treats and a serene luxury stay, it was the perfect pause from everyday life

Story CAS GARVEY
Main photograph JESS BONDE

Sometimes the best trips are the shortest ones. Just two nights, one tank of fuel, and the right company. For me, that was my younger sister and the aptly-named destination of Sisters Beach, alongside two work friends eager to explore a stretch of Tassie coastline that reminded us how good it feels to slow down, breathe in salt air and just be.

We'd set off from Hobart in the early morning – a midweek escape before the chaos of summer – and the drive itself felt like a mini holiday, stopping into the small towns along the 364km drive.

We pulled into Ghost Rock Wines in Northdown, just 15 minutes from Devonport, where not only did we find some of the best wines Tassie has to offer, but my newest food obsession: spiced fried cauliflower.

Paired with fresh Tarkine oysters, we also chose to sample the chargrilled

Stanley octopus – which was just a taste of what was to come on our North-West road trip.

Sisters Beach sits tucked inside Rocky Cape National Park, a stretch of Tasmania's North-West Coast known for its pristine beaches, wild headlands and unhurried pace.

Our home for two nights was the five-star-rated Airbnb luxury home named Sol, just a couple of minutes' stroll to the sand – a timber-and-glass retreat designed for slow days.

We arrived on a cool afternoon, the kind where clouds drift lazily across Bass Strait and the sea almost looks brushed with silver.

Stepping inside the house though, Sol was all warmth: light and polished tones, linen throws, and an electric fireplace we couldn't wait to fire up.

We dropped our bags and immediately



headed out the door to the beach to dip our toes in the sand before the sun set.

The property description definitely didn't lie when it promised beach access, with the timber staircase leading to the gorgeous white sand and blue sea with barely another soul in sight.

DAY TRIPS AND DETOURS: EXPLORING THE COAST

Sisters Beach is perfectly placed for short drives that unfold like a local's secret itinerary.

The next morning, my sister and I headed east to Boat Harbour Beach, just 10 minutes away, for breakfast at Seekers Bar and Cafe where their loaded potato gems and eggs were a treat with a much-needed coffee before yet another beach walk. From there, we meandered towards Stanley, first taking a detour to Dip Falls at Mawbanna, flowing beautifully with the recent rain.

Another must-visit is Blue Hills Honey, where you can have a bite to eat at the cafe or as we did, a taste test of all the variations of local honey from leatherwood to manuka, natural and meadow or their specialty, Tarkine Wilderness Honey.

Pictured: Tas Weekend published a story based at Sisters Beach in November 2025.

Tannin at the Tarkine Hotel, Corinna

It doesn't get much more remote than Corinna's Tarkine Hotel, a timber-clad tavern with no Wi-Fi or phone reception deep in the island's north west. While mostly catering to guests at the Corinna Wilderness Village (cabins and camping spots are on offer), the restaurant welcomes all for lunch and dinner from mid-September to mid-May, when it's open daily. Meals are hearty, with seafood pastas and thick steaks with lashings of béarnaise.



Pictured: Corinna featured in RACT Mag, and our municipality will continue to pop up with features across diverse publications both intrastate and interstate scheduled into 2026.

Communicating our Major Projects & Plans

Waratah- Wynyard Council continues to inform community through digital media and traditional media, such as the easily accessible free community news featured in the monthly *Western Echo* newspaper and through local radio interviews.

Some of the stories that have resonated with our digital media community include Council's education bursaries and grants programs on Facebook, natural features of Waratah- Wynyard including our beautiful coastal drone footage on Instagram was a hit and the Council business visit to Fonterra had a high reach on Linked In.

The Boat Harbour Beach Master Plan continues to be a major project that the community and broader public are following with interest across multi-media as it takes shape.



Pictured: Boat Harbour Beach Master Plan key stakeholders including the Surf Lifesaving Club, Seekers Café & Bar, Waratah-Wynyard Council and Fairbrother Construction feature in a December update for broad use multi-media communications.

Council’s Facility Booking System

Council has completed a full revision of the facility booking system used by both the public and council officers. Built in WordPress and integrated natively with Council’s website, the new system enables community members to view availability and submit bookings online 24/7 for Council facilities.

The platform automatically calculates pricing, generates the relevant confirmation emails, and alerts staff to new requests. All bookings are reviewed by Council staff, with officers approving appointments and completing any required follow up. The system also supports club and group reservations in a controlled, transparent way.

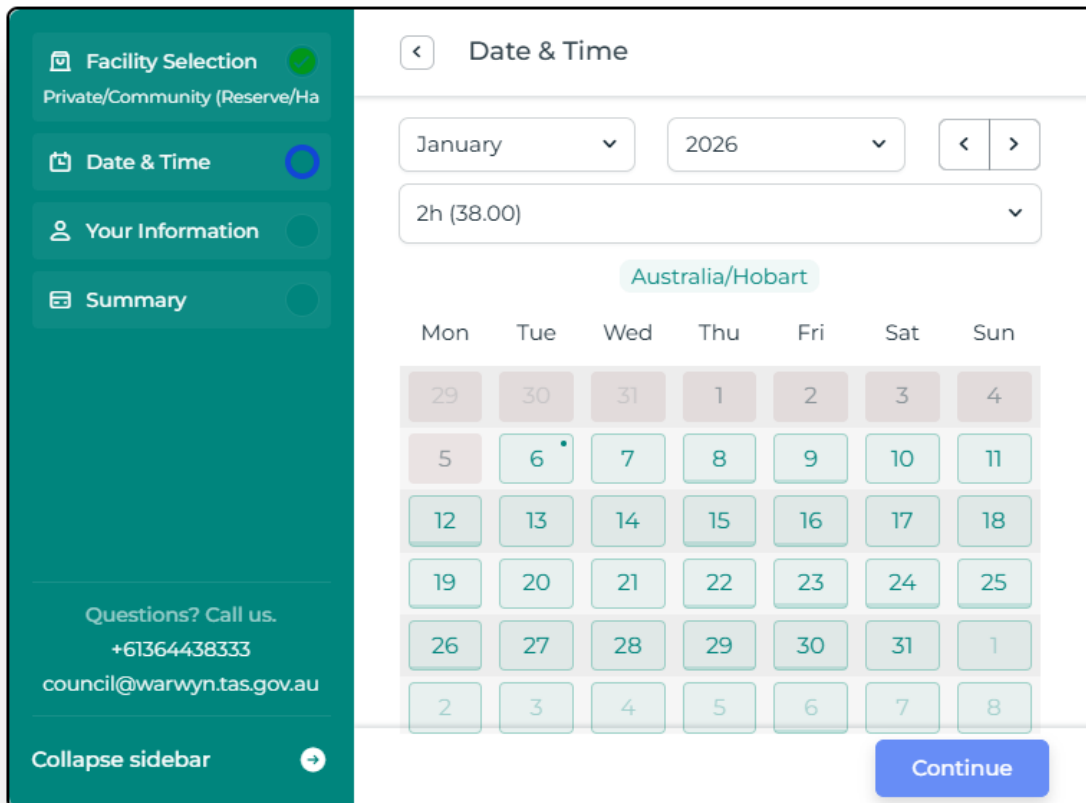
Internally, the upgrade has simplified the financial transaction process by removing multiple staff members from the booking loop. This is improving turnaround times for payments and speeding up access to keys and facilities.

To support clearer customer decision-making, over one hundred new facility images have been uploaded to the website, and each venue page has been updated. Information is now clearer and more consistent, making it easier for community users to understand exactly what they are booking, inclusions, and the associated costs.

Once your request is submitted, our team will review it and confirm availability as soon as possible.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the booking process, please contact Council on (03) 6443 8333 or email council@warwyn.tas.gov.au.

Note: by booking this space you reserve exclusive use of this facility during your booking window.



Pictured: Community members, clubs and user groups can now book Council facilities via the Waratah Wynyard Council website with clear direction, images, and online payment capability.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 3: Connected Communities
Desired Outcomes
3.3 Our natural and built environment aids the community with an active and healthy lifestyle.
Our Priorities

3.5.1 Build community capacity through services and programs that strengthen, support and care for our community.
GOAL 4: Community Recreation and Wellbeing
Desired Outcomes
4.2 Our community values, encourages and supports physical, social and cultural activities.
Our Priorities
4.2.1 Focus on the value of recreation in promoting the health and wellbeing of our community.
GOAL 3: Connected Communities
Desired Outcomes
3.5 Our community uses its voice to shape its future alongside a strong Council willing to listen and implement where reasonable and practical.
Our Priorities
3.2.1 Deliver engagement strategies that adapt to community needs to ensure effective communication and collaboration.

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
Business & Industry	Specialised diversity of the economy – Value adding, diversification, innovation and employment. A resilient economy with global brand recognition and growing exports.
Tourism	Memorable visitor experiences all year round – The must see destination, quality product, easy access, popular events and festivals with coordinated marketing. A longer season with increasing yields.
Strong communities and social capital	Enduring community capital – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities.
Health and Wellbeing	Maintaining good health and wellbeing – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities.
Place making and liveability	Liveable places for all ages – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.


CONCLUSION

The Community and Engagement Directorate oversees a broad and influential portfolio that plays a critical role in enhancing the health, wellbeing, and liveability of the Waratah-Wynyard region.

Through strong strategic leadership across early childhood services, tourism, communications, and community activation, the Directorate delivers initiatives that foster connection, resilience, and long-term community benefit.

This report highlights key initiatives and achievements delivered during the period. It is recommended that Council notes the report and formally acknowledges the Directorate's continued contribution to delivering values-driven, community-centred outcomes.

10.5 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Accountant
Responsible Manager: Chief Executive Officer
Report Date: 6 January 2026
File Reference: Financial Management - Reporting - Council
Enclosures: 1. Program Monthly Progress Report - December 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

- 1) notes the Financial Report for the period ended 31 December 2025
- 2) approves the new childcare fees and charges to apply from 1 February 2026 shown in the schedule included in this report.

PURPOSE

To provide an overview, summarising the financial position of the organisation on a monthly basis.

BACKGROUND

The financial reports presented incorporate:

- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cashflow Statement
- Investments
- Rate Summary
- Grant Summary
- Operating Performance by Department
- Capital Works Summary
- Project Progress Report (attached)

DETAILS

Council's year to date financial performance is generally consistent with the budget estimates. A number of favourable and unfavourable variances have been identified. Overall Council is forecasting an unfavourable variance of \$67,006. Council officers are actively working to improve the forecast to bring it back in line with the approved budget.

Childcare Fees

It is recommended that Council increase its childcare fees and charges from 1 February 2026. This increase is to align the 2026 fee increase and increases in future years with the calendar

year rather than financial year. The proposed fee increases are within the legislated maximum fee increase imposed by the Federal Government of 4.2%.

CHILDREN/YOUTH SERVICES		Current	Proposed	Increase %
Wynyard Child Care Centre - Weekly	per week	\$549.00	\$571.50	4.10%
Wynyard Child Care Centre - Day	per day	\$122.00	\$127.00	4.10%
Wynyard Child Care Centre - (7.30 am - 5.30 pm) - Day	per day	\$122.00	\$127.00	4.10%
Wynyard Child Care Centre - (7.00 am to 1.00 pm)	per session	\$79.00	\$82.00	3.80%
Wynyard Child Care Centre - (1.00 pm to 6.30 pm)	per session	\$73.00	\$76.00	4.11%
Wynyard Child Care Centre - Before School	per session	\$27.50	\$28.50	3.64%
Wynyard Child Care Centre - After School	per session	\$39.50	\$41.00	3.80%
	Cancellation made more than 2 weeks before booking		Half fee charged	
Wynyard Child Care Centre - Cancellation	Cancellation made less than 2 weeks before booking		Full fee charged	
School Holiday Programme Fees	per day	\$73.00	\$76.00	4.11%
After School Hours Care	per session	\$39.50	\$41.00	3.80%

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

This special purpose financial report is prepared under *Australian Accounting Standards* and the *Local Government Act 1993*.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL
Desired Outcomes
We make publicly transparent decisions on spending and future directions while encouraging community feedback.
Our Priorities
1.8 Review and adjust service levels to provide value for money.
2.2 Facilitate effective knowledge management practices.

Council Strategy or Plan Reference

Council Strategy or Plan	Date Adopted:
Financial Management Strategy 2025-2035	Adopted November 2024

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

CONCLUSION

All details are included in the attached reports.

Income Statement

The Income Statement shows the performance of Council's operations year to date.

Income Statement as at 31 December 2025

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	%	YTD Variance	Budget	Forecast	Forecast Variance	
Recurrent Income								
Rate Revenue	15,752,928	15,706,556	0%	✓ 46,372	15,806,556	15,836,199	✓ 29,643	1
User Charges	1,881,565	1,813,137	4%	✓ 68,428	3,727,923	3,797,156	✓ 69,233	2
Reimbursements/Contributions	277,497	348,760	-20%	✗ (71,263)	965,274	966,223	⚠ 949	
Grants and Subsidies	1,042,344	2,281,080	-54%	✗ (1,238,736)	4,676,310	4,685,810	✓ 9,500	
Interest	192,786	298,626	-35%	✗ (105,840)	597,500	597,500	✗ -	
Distributions from Water Corporation	309,100	309,100	0%	✓ -	730,600	730,600	✗ -	
Total Recurrent Income	19,456,219	20,757,259	-6%	✗ (1,301,040)	26,504,163	26,613,488	✓ 109,325	
Recurrent Expenditure								
Employee Costs	5,187,713	5,441,361	5%	✓ 253,648	10,896,484	10,930,967	✗ (34,483)	3
State Levies	271,063	459,323	41%	✓ 188,260	863,378	858,878	✓ 4,500	
Remissions & Discounts	390,236	383,769	-2%	✗ (6,467)	413,769	390,766	✓ 23,003	4
Materials & Contracts	3,849,823	3,779,095	-2%	✗ (70,728)	7,177,886	7,347,237	✗ (169,351)	5
Depreciation	3,151,884	3,151,884	0%	✗ -	6,280,283	6,280,283	✓ -	
(Gain)/Loss on Disposal	-	13,776	100%	✓ 13,776	27,574	27,574	✓ -	
Borrowing Costs	19,264	18,776	-3%	✗ (488)	37,048	37,048	✓ -	
Other Expenses	154,131	142,739	-8%	✗ (11,392)	332,818	332,818	✓ -	
Total Recurrent Expenditure	13,024,114	13,390,723	3%	✓ 366,609	26,029,240	26,205,571	✗ (176,331)	
Surplus/(Deficit)	6,432,104	7,366,536	-13%	✗ (934,432)	474,923	407,917	✗ (67,006)	
Capital Items								
Capital Grants/Contributions	3,061,972	3,061,972	0%	✓ -	8,230,989	8,285,989	✓ 55,000	
Derecognition of Assets	-	-	0%	✓ -	-	-	✓ -	
Asset Recognition	-	-	0%	✓ -	-	-	✓ -	
Comprehensive Surplus/(Deficit)	9,494,076	10,428,508	-9%	✗ (934,432)	8,705,912	8,693,906	✗ (12,006)	

Council is forecast to have an unfavourable variance to the budget of \$67,006 at 30 June 2026. Commentary on variances of \$20,000 or higher are provided below:

1) Rate Revenue

Rate Revenue is expecting a favourable forecast variance of \$29,643, due to higher than budgeted waste collection income.

2) User Charges

User charges are expecting a favourable variance to budget of \$69,233 due to higher than expected income from development fees, plumbing permits and building fees.

3) Employee Costs

The unfavourable variance of \$34,483 relates to increase costs for vandalism repairs and event setup costs for the Tulip Festival.

4) Remissions & Discounts

The favourable variance for remissions & discounts is due to fewer ratepayers taking up the rates discount.

5) Materials & Contracts

Materials and contracts are expected to be higher than budget due to increased legal expenses, repairs and maintenance costs, and higher turf maintenance costs. This has been partially offset by savings in insurance cost which were \$25,021 lower than budgeted.

Balance Sheet

Council continues to be in a financially strong position. Council is forecasting a current ratio of 0.86 as at 30 June 2026 compared to a current ratio of 1.76 as at 31 December 2025.

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2025

	YTD Actual	Budget	Forecast
	\$	\$	\$
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	7,622,427	5,075,922	5,033,442
Receivables	3,276,828	976,854	976,854
Inventories	115,013	108,317	108,317
Other Current Assets	53,212	430,602	430,602
Total Current Assets	11,067,479	6,591,695	6,549,216
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	363,179,608	372,933,957	372,963,435
Investment in Water	48,787,164	48,787,164	48,787,164
Total Non-Current Assets	411,966,772	421,721,121	421,750,599
Total Assets	423,034,251	428,311,816	428,299,815
Current Liabilities			
Payables	3,975,710	5,328,178	5,328,178
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	190,537	333,497	333,497
Provisions	2,127,938	1,975,519	1,975,519
Total Current Liabilities	6,294,185	7,637,194	7,637,194
Non-Current Liabilities			
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	1,350,187	5,847,696	5,847,696
Provisions	42,110	268,322	268,322
Total Non-Current Liabilities	1,392,296	6,116,017	6,116,017
Total Liabilities	7,686,481	13,753,211	13,753,211
Net Assets	415,347,770	414,558,606	414,546,604
Equity			
Current Year Result	9,494,076	8,705,912	8,693,906
Accumulated Surplus	178,297,718	178,295,718	178,295,718
Reserves	227,555,976	227,556,976	227,556,976
Total Equity	415,347,770	414,558,606	414,546,604
Current Ratio	1.76	0.86	0.86

Cashflow Statement

As of 31 December Council had \$7.622m cash on hand. Based on budgeted income and expenditure, Council is forecast to have \$5.033m of cash on hand as of 30 June 2026.

A key assumption of the budget is the completion of the capital works program as set by Council.

Cashflow Statement as at 31 December 2025

	YTD Actual	Budget		Balance	Forecast
	\$	\$	%	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities					
Employee Costs	(4,956,597)	(10,806,564)	46%	(5,849,967)	(10,841,045)
Materials and Contracts	(5,378,023)	(7,066,290)	76%	(1,688,267)	(7,244,810)
State Levies	(271,063)	(863,378)	31%	(592,315)	(858,878)
Other Expenses	(544,367)	(746,587)	73%	(202,220)	(723,584)
Rates and Charges	13,540,085	15,762,591	86%	2,222,506	15,923,330
User charges	2,243,400	3,727,923	60%	1,484,523	3,797,156
Interest	192,786	597,500	32%	404,714	597,500
Reimbursement of Expenses	277,497	965,274	29%	687,778	966,223
Government Grants	1,042,344	4,807,406	22%	3,765,062	4,685,810
Net Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	6,146,061	6,377,875	96%	231,814	6,301,702
Cash flows from investing activities					
Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment	(7,979,584)	(22,564,595)	35%	(14,585,011)	(21,494,066)
Investment revenue from Water Corporation	309,100	730,600	0%	421,500	730,600
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	-	1,672,690	0%	1,672,690	572,690
Capital grants	3,061,972	8,230,989	37%	5,169,017	8,285,988
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(4,608,512)	(11,930,316)	39%	(7,321,804)	(11,904,788)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Borrowing Costs	(19,264)	(37,048)	52%	(17,784)	(37,048)
Loan Drawdowns	-	4,800,000	0%	4,800,000	4,800,000
Loan Repayments	(189,114)	(427,845)	44%	(238,731)	(419,680)
Net cash provided by financing activities	(208,378)	4,335,107	-5%	4,543,485	4,343,272
Net (Decrease) in Cash Held	1,329,171	(1,217,334)	-109%	(2,546,505)	(1,259,814)
Cash at beginning of year	6,293,256	6,293,256	100%	-	6,293,256
Cash at end of period	7,622,427	5,075,922	150%	(2,546,505)	5,033,442

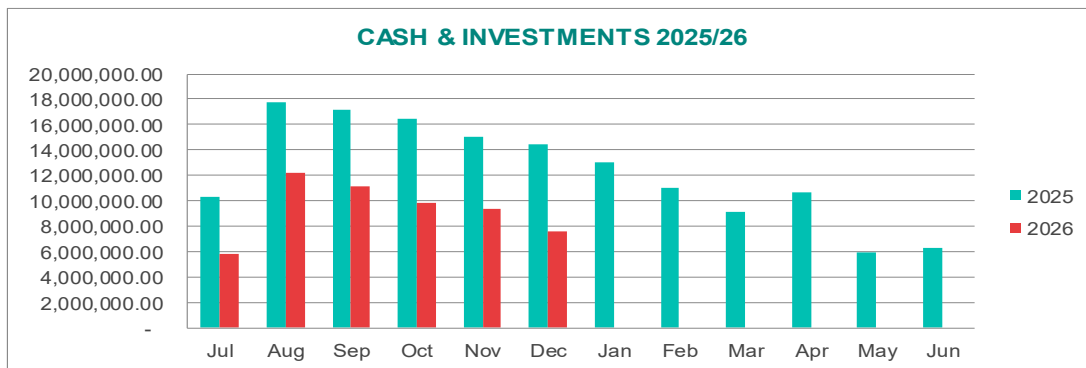
Investments

The following table provides an outline of Council’s cash and investment portfolio as of 31 December 2025. Total cash and investments on hand as of 31 December is \$7.622m. The weighted average return on investment earned on Council’s investment portfolio is 4.08%.

Investments as at 31 December 2025

	\$	INVESTMENTS	\$	Weighted Average Return
Deposits	7,500,000	Commonwealth Bank	120,927	
Petty Cash and Till Floats	1,500	Investments		
Trading Account	120,927	CBA	1,000,000	4.00%
		WBC	6,500,000	4.09%
		Petty Cash and Till Floats	1,500	

Balance - All Accounts	7,622,427	7,622,427	4.08%
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Rates Summary

The following table provides the detail of Council's Rates and Charges levied compared with the same time last year.

Council has several policies to assist in debt collection efforts, including interest penalties, financial hardship provisions providing flexibility for payment arrangements, and the ability for payment of rates and charges by four equal instalments. Ratepayers continue to be encouraged to contact Council if they are having difficulty paying.

15.12% of the total rates levied for the year were outstanding as at 31 December 2025; this includes all aged rates and charges outstanding. This compares with 14.70% outstanding as at 31 December last year.

Rates Summary to 31 December 2025

	2025-26		2024-25	
	%	\$	%	\$
<i>Notice Issue Date - 18 July 2025</i>				
Outstanding Rates Debtors (1 July 2025)		423,588		356,192
Less: Rates in Credit		(956,105)		(878,209)
NET RATES OUTSTANDING (1 July 2025)	(3.50)	(532,517)	(3.61)	(522,017)
Rates and Charges Levied	103.39	15,751,084	103.50	14,951,235
Interest Penalties Charged	0.10	15,952	0.12	16,798
GROSS RATES AND CHARGES DEMANDED	100.00	15,234,519	100.00	14,446,016
LESS RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTED	79.86	12,166,758	82.03	11,850,438
REMISSIONS AND DISCOUNTS**	7.45	1,135,519	7.69	1,110,527
	87.32	13,302,276	89.72	12,960,965
ADD PROPERTIES IN CREDIT	(2.44)	371,736	(4.42)	637,882
UNPAID RATES AND CHARGES *	15.12	2,303,979	14.70	2,122,933
(includes Deferred Rates)				
**REMISSIONS AND DISCOUNTS		2025-26		2024-25
Early Payment Discount		353,761		343,558
Pensioner Rebates		745,283		730,674
Council Remissions and Abandonments		36,475		36,295
		1,135,519		1,110,527
Number of Rateable Properties		8,152		8,093
Number of Unpaid Rateable Properties		2,208		2,153
% not fully paid		27.09%		26.60%

Grant Summary

Grant Schedule as at 31 December 2025

	YTD Actual	Budget 2026	Forecast 2026
Capital Grants			
Boat Harbour Beach Masterplan	2,250,000	4,250,000	4,250,000
Wynyard Childcare Centre Expansion	-	500,000	500,000
ECU Minor Infrastructure Grant	-	12,551	12,551
Roads to Recovery	734,091	1,637,091	1,637,091
LRCI	-	469,099	469,099
Inglis River Walking Track Study	-	184,422	184,422
IGA Carpark	-	320,000	320,000
Recreation Infrastructure	-	20,473	20,473
ANZAC Park Staged Development	-	46,000	46,000
Waratah Active Living Projects - Saunders & Miners Siding Park	34,906	116,353	116,353
Langley Park Upgrade	32,975	100,000	100,000
Biodiversity Projects	-	50,000	50,000
Blackspot Funding - Raglan St Roundabout	-	425,000	425,000
Caravan and Motorhome Plan - Council Infrastructure Grants	10,000	-	55,000
Sensory Garden	-	100,000	100,000
	3,061,972	8,230,989	8,285,989

Operational Performance by Department

This statement provides an overview of Council's forecast operating performance by department based on year-to-date performance.

Directorate/Department	Annual Budget	Forecast	Variance to Forecast	Note
Community & Engagement				
Children's Services	(258,688)	(252,604)	(6,084)	
Community Activation	694,370	694,212	158	
Corporate & Community Services	249,581	249,473	108	
Tourism & Marketing	518,808	524,307	(5,499)	
Community & Engagement Total	1,204,071	1,215,388	(11,317)	
Council & CEOs Office				
Council & CEOs Office	1,235,688	1,213,776	21,912	1
Council & CEOs Office Total	1,235,688	1,213,776	21,912	
Infrastructure & Development Services				
Asset Services	(40,578)	(40,578)	0	
Cemeteries	92,339	92,249	90	
Development Services	945,637	953,366	(7,729)	
Engineering Services	372,437	372,426	11	
Footpaths	392,679	392,679	0	
Garbage	(56,869)	(70,404)	13,535	2
Public Halls	470,099	473,971	(3,872)	
Public Toilets	448,391	460,135	(11,744)	3
Recreational Planning	719,336	722,946	(3,610)	
Reserves	1,191,096	1,203,462	(12,366)	4
Sports	1,417,081	1,503,495	(86,414)	5
Stormwater Drainage	(298,039)	(299,005)	966	
Transport	3,070,737	3,077,394	(6,657)	
Waste	395,599	385,656	9,943	
Works & Services	215,497	224,698	(9,201)	
Infrastructure & Development Services Total	9,335,442	9,452,490	(117,048)	
Governance & Information Systems				
Governance	436,403	436,403	0	
Information Systems	(874)	(2,535)	1,661	
Human Resources	433,453	433,453	0	
Governance & Information Systems Total	868,982	867,321	1,661	
Financial Services				
Economic Development	91,812	93,164	(1,352)	
Financial Services	(26,956)	(43,491)	16,535	6
General Revenue	(13,606,245)	(13,628,049)	21,804	7
Customer Service	422,285	421,486	799	
Financial Services Total	(13,119,104)	(13,156,890)	37,786	
Total	(474,921)	(407,915)	(67,006)	

Commentary for departmental forecast variance of \$10,000 or greater is provided below:

1) Council & CEO's Office

The favourable variance for the CEO's Office is due to lower than expected insurance costs.

2) Garbage

Garbage Services is forecasting a favourable variance of \$13,535 due to higher than budgeted waste rate revenue. Council identified several properties that had been receiving waste collection services but had not been charged accordingly. These properties have now been correctly rated for the services provided.

3) Public Toilets

Public Toilets has an unfavourable forecast variance of \$11,744 due to vandalism repairs.

4) Reserves

The unfavourable variance for Reserves relates to increase repair costs and tree maintenance costs.

5) Sports

Sports is expecting an unfavourable forecast variance of \$86,414 due to higher than expected repairs and maintenance expenses, as well as increased turf maintenance costs at the Wynyard and Somerset Recreation Grounds.

6) Financial Services

Financial Services is forecasting a favourable variance of \$16,535 due to lower than expected insurance costs.

7) General Revenue


General Revenue is forecasting a favourable variance of \$21,804, primarily due to fewer ratepayers taking up the rates discount.

Capital Works Summary

The Capital Works Summary provides a snapshot of the percentage of expenditure against the 2025/26 Capital Works Budget Estimates. Timing of expenditure is based on the works plan and actual spending and is not always reflective of the actual progress of the Capital Works project. The Monthly Progress Report is attached for the information of the Council.

	YTD Actual \$	Budget Estimate \$	Remaining Budget \$	% Spent	Forecast \$	Forecast Variance \$
Buildings						
Amenities	233,004	151,908	(81,096)	153%	156,105	(4,197)
Community Facilities	3,418,184	8,586,148	5,167,964	40%	8,591,175	(5,027)
Childcare	216,510	615,529	399,019	35%	615,529	-
Council Operational Buildings	67,521	99,064	31,543	68%	107,156	(8,092)
Total Buildings	3,935,219	9,452,649	5,517,430	42%	9,469,965	(17,316)
Parks & Open Spaces						
Other Infrastructure	1,816,404	2,470,851	654,447	74%	2,441,373	29,478
Playgrounds	184,583	768,653	584,070	24%	768,653	-
Walkways & Tracks	257,338	963,651	706,313	27%	981,362	(17,711)
Recreational Reserves	6,971	539,551	532,580	1%	539,551	-
Total Parks & Open Spaces	2,265,296	4,742,706	2,477,410	48%	4,730,939	11,767
Plant & Equipment						
Other Plant & Equipment	76,207	116,503	40,296	65%	116,752	(249)
Plant & Vehicle Replacements	362,990	1,495,703	1,132,713	24%	1,496,729	(1,026)
Software & IT Replacements	50,601	334,218	283,617	15%	334,433	(215)
Total Plant & Equipment	489,798	1,946,424	1,456,626	25%	1,947,914	(1,490)
Sporting Facilities						
Indoor Recreational Facilities	233,585	358,664	125,079	65%	369,548	(10,884)
Outdoor Sporting Facilities	32,042	1,829,213	1,797,171	2%	1,829,213	-
Total Sporting Facilities	265,627	2,187,877	1,922,250	12%	2,198,761	(10,884)
Stormwater						
Flood Mitigation Works	6,464	36,756	30,292	18%	37,923	(1,167)
Other Stormwater Works	406,243	672,139	265,896	60%	672,139	-
Total Stormwater	412,706	708,895	296,189	58%	710,062	(1,167)
Transport						
Bridge Renewals	151,269	1,011,796	860,527	15%	1,011,796	-
Footpaths & Kerbs	31,670	63,152	31,482	50%	63,152	-
Other Transport	148,002	886,182	738,180	17%	896,556	(10,374)
Resheeting	188,444	822,069	633,625	23%	822,069	-
Rural Upgrades	227,841	293,388	65,547	78%	293,388	-
Rural Reseals	55,505	1,911,180	1,855,675	3%	1,911,180	-
Urban Reseals	24,489	165,599	141,110	15%	165,599	-
Total Transport	827,219	5,153,366	4,326,147	16%	5,163,740	(10,374)
Total	8,195,866	24,191,917	15,996,051	34%	24,221,381	(29,464)

10.6 CRADLE COAST WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP 2024/25 ANNUAL PLAN REPORT

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Executive Officer
Responsible Manager: Director Infrastructure and Development Services
Report Date: 12 January 2026
File Reference: 0308
Enclosures: 1. Cradle Coast Waste Management Group 2024-25 Annual Report 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives this report and notes the Annual Report of the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the activities of the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group (CCWMG).

BACKGROUND

The Cradle Coast Waste Management Group (CCWMG) was formed in 2007 to improve waste management from a regional perspective, providing efficiencies and economies of scale, and to provide specialty waste reduction services in the North-West of Tasmania. CCWMG represents all nine North-West Tasmanian municipal councils, being Burnie City, Circular Head, Central Coast, Devonport City, Kentish, King Island, Latrobe, Waratah Wynyard and West Coast.

The attached Annual Report highlights the changes, achievements and challenges for the 2024/25 Financial Year.

CCWMG is one of the three regional waste groups in Tasmania, with the other two being Circular North, representing the eight Councils in the northern region, and TasWaste South, who represent the twelve Councils in the south of the state.

DETAILS

This Annual Report covers the actions achieved in the third year of the *CCWMG 2023 – 2028 Strategic Plan*. The objectives of the plan are supported through four key focus areas of regional management and planning, waste diversion, partnerships and community engagement.

The *Strategic Plan* has 43 actions to be completed by 2028. Progress to date shows that of these 43 actions:

- 25 have been completed;
- 11 are in progress, with 5 of these being Ongoing actions;
- 3 are no longer an action of the CCWMG as they have been adopted into the TWRRB Strategy and will be implemented at a state level – these actions relate to single use plastic bans; and
- 4 are yet to be started and will be assessed in the development of the 2026/27 Annual Plan and Budget. These are Actions:

15. Develop a regional contract for plaster recovery and recycling at WTS;

16. Advocate for development of Tasmanian standards for C&D recycling;

20. Consider development of additional C&I waste recycling infrastructure in the long term; and

23. Advocate for implementation of state-wide hazardous waste tracking system by the Environmental Protection Agency

The key waste diversion achievements for the region were:

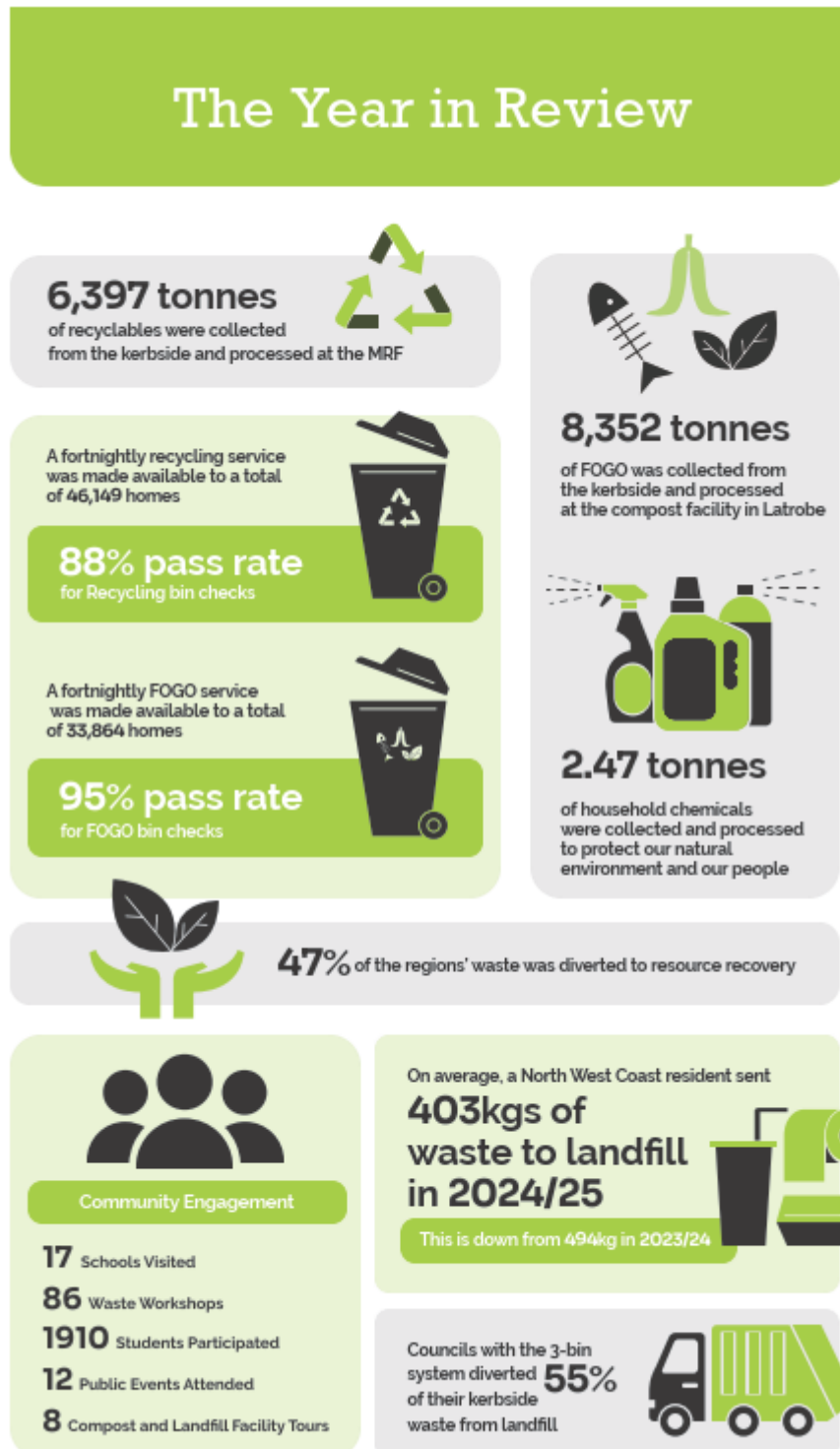
- 6,397 tonnes of recyclables collected from the kerbside and processed by Veolia at their Material Recovery Facility in Spreyton.
- 8,352 tonnes of FOGO collected from the kerbside and processed into compost at the DWM facility near Railton.
- 47% of the regions waste was diverted from landfill.
- Councils with the 3-bin system diverted 55% of their kerbside waste from landfill.
- 91% of checked kerbside FOGO and recyclable bins achieved a pass through the bin assessment program.
- \$606,149 savings in landfill levy payments on kerbside waste for Councils with the 3-bin system; of which \$374,837 was due to the introduction of the FOGO recycling program.

The key actions and projects that were delivered by the CCWMG in 2024/25 were:

- Implementation of a regional kerbside Food Organic and Garden Organic (FOGO) collection and processing contract. The regional service commenced in July 2024 for Central Coast, Devonport, Kentish, Latrobe and Waratah Wynyard Councils (Burnie and Circular Head Councils commenced in September 2025).
- Upgrade and installation of illegal dumping preventative signage in hotspot areas, in conjunction with an advertising campaign to raise community awareness on how to report dumping activity.
- Commencement of regional concrete crushing, waste oil and vape recycling contracts and the continued management of regional service agreements and contracts for various hard to recycle waste streams at participating waste transfer stations (WTS) and resource recovery centres (RRC), such as e-waste, paint, tyres, cooking oil, x-rays, cardboard and green waste.
- Household hazardous waste collection events at 9 WTS's which collected nearly 2.5 tonnes of hazardous chemicals to prevent environmental harm and safety issues occurring through incorrect disposal.
- Collaboration with the other regional groups to develop the *2025-2028 Rethink Waste Tasmania Strategy* and securing state government funding of the actions through a 3-year grant deed with the Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board (TWRRB).
- Co-ordination of the Recycling Bin Assessment Program which checked 17,983 recycling and FOGO bins across the region in two campaigns.
- The delivery of 8 landfill and composting facility tours, 17 school visits (involving 86 workshops and 1,910 students) and attendance at 12 public events across the region to educate and engage with the community to raise awareness on the importance of waste diversion and correct waste disposal practices.
- Management of the region-specific website North West Recycling and Resource Recovery (www.nwrrr.com.au) to provide information on optimising the use of the 3-bin suite

The below image is an excerpt from the Annual Report which summarises, in infographic form, the achievements of the group for the year. The full Annual Report is attached for your information.

Image 1: The Year in Review Infographic from the 2024/25 CCWMG Annual Report.



STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

The Waste and Resource Recovery Act is applicable to this matter, which encourages the diversion of waste from landfill, increases the recovery of resources from waste and imposes a state levy on waste received at landfill facilities.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 7: Environment
Desired Outcomes
7.1 Council and the community minimise its resource consumption and carbon footprint.
Our Priorities
7.1.1 Divert waste from landfill and build awareness around sustainable waster generation and management.

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
Natural resource management	Managing abundant, natural and productive resources – Natural resource management is valued and development is environmentally sustainable. The environment is clean and healthy with unspoilt beauty and biodiversity.
Place making and liveability	Liveable places for all ages – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised.
Governance and working together	Working together for Murchison – Everyone plays a part in achieving the objectives of the Sustainable Murchison Community Plan. There is cooperation, resource sharing and less duplication between Councils. Leadership is provided across all community sectors.

The CCWVG strategic vision is to:

Deliver a sustainable community in the Cradle Coast region of Tasmania, by implementing strategies which minimise waste through increases in waste diversion and recovery.

The objectives of the *CCWVG 2023-2028 Strategic Plan* are:

- 1. By 2028, establish regionally consistent practices for waste management in all member council areas for consistent waste contracts, services and best practice principles:**

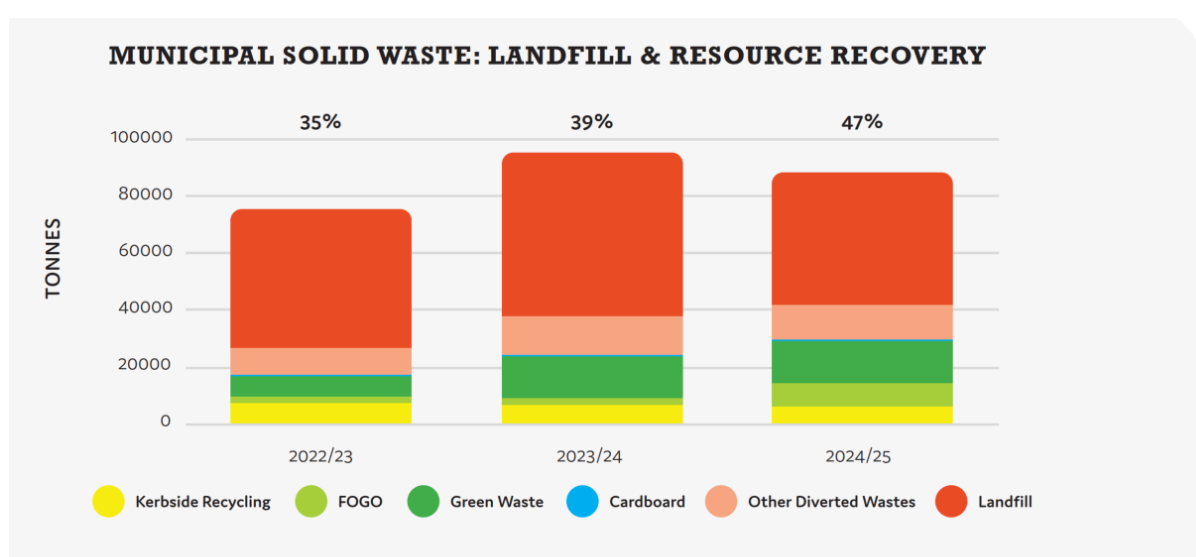
The CCWVG manages the following contracts and service agreements on behalf of Council:

- Kerbside FOGO collection and processing.
- Kerbside Recycling collection and processing.
- Green waste mulching.
- Cardboard recycling.
- Mandalay software for waste levy reporting requirements.
- Concrete crushing.

- Waste oil recycling
- E-waste, household battery, globe and x-ray recycling.
- Paint recycling.
- Tyre recycling.

2. By 2028, target 60% MSW resource recovery:

Chart 1 displays the total tonnes of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) landfilled by the region compared with the tonnes of waste diverted. The MSW that was sent to landfill by the CCWMG in the 25FY was 46,779 tonnes. This equates to an annual average of 403kg's per person, a significant reduction from 494kg's per person in the 24FY.



* Other diverted wastes include the recycling of oil, concrete, steel, e-waste, tyres, fluoro tubes/globes, paint, batteries and cooking oil.

Chart 1: Municipal Solid Waste sent to landfill and recovered

The diversion rate of 47% remains lower than the national average of 60% (Australian Circular Economy Hub, 2023) but continues to increase steadily. The regional average is expected to improve again with the addition of 2 more Councils into the regional FOGO service in the 26FY.

3. By 2028, target <10% contamination rate in kerbside recycling bins (based on annual kerbside recycling auditing):

The bin assessment program in 2024/25 checked a total of 17,983 kerbside bins across all Councils with the 3-bin system. A combined pass rate of 91% was achieved, with FOGO bin pass rates (95%) exceeding recycling bin pass rates (88%).

4. By 2028, phase out priority single-use plastics:

Phasing out priority single use plastics is an action of the *TWRRB Strategy 2023-2026*, which will be implemented over several stages. The CCWMG has been actively involved in the industry consultation CCWM activities align closely with Council Strategies, including:

- The Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2019-2024 – this strategy is due for review this financial year and will consider any outstanding actions in the current WARRS and how the new plan will align with the regional waste strategy as well as Tasmanian state policy and legislation.

-
- The Integrated Council Environmental Plan (iCEP) 2020-2030

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no new environmental implications as a result of noting this report. The actions undertaken by the CCWVG are intended to directly improve the impacts on the environment and are consistent with the Council's Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Initiatives are funded by the State Landfill Levy managed by the Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board (TWRRB), which is developing a clear path for supporting Statewide infrastructure and circular economy projects. The levy paid by Councils in the 25FY was set at \$44.88 per Tonne. Council paid \$171,490 in Waste Levy Fees for the 25FY.

Funding was received by the CCWVG, from the TWRRB, through a three-year Grant Deed linked to average tonnages landfilled over the previous three years for the period from 23FY to 25FY.

In the 25FY the group received \$8.25/tonne in funding, based on waste received at 6 landfill sites across the region (Dulverton, Lobster Creek, Port Latta, Zeehan, Parenna and Heybridge).

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risks associated with noting this report; more broadly there are noteworthy risks associated within the public sector waste management industry.

The rates of waste generation per person, together with the costs for disposal and the requirements to manage the environmental and social impacts have become increasingly demanding for many communities to manage. At a regional level, joint contracts provide the ability to increase market competition, achieve savings and improve service, when compared to individual Council purchasing. Also, most Councils in the region do not have staff with specialist knowledge, or are at workload capacity, limiting their ability to source the best outcomes.

A regional kerbside FOGO collection and recycling service brings with it the risks associated with contamination of the end-product, which is used on our local farms, parks, and reserves. The facility has procedures in place to attempt to manage this. This risk will increase again with the two additional Councils coming on board as residents adapt to the new service. The CCWS is planning to deliver the community education campaign to these areas in the lead up to the rollout, in addition to the ongoing attendance at events across the region through the *Rethink* program.

The bin assessments and education program will continue to be conducted across the entire region where FOGO is collected, with advance notice provided to residents and Councils. An incoming FOGO and Recycling audits will also be conducted, to provide data on the main sources of contamination that enter the facility. This will inform future education initiatives and key messaging for Councils to share with their communities.

The 3-strike bin removal system will also be enforced on residents who continue to present highly contaminated bins after receiving repeated warnings for doing so, to ensure that the region gets best value for the efforts of so many.

Programs to safely remove hazardous waste from our region will again include the Household Hazardous Waste collection campaign planned for November 2025, and the group will offer support to community groups who take on clean up initiatives of illegal dumping and littering.

A tyre subsidy will also be provided to Councils to enable them to keep tyre disposal fees affordable for residents using waste transfer station, and in turn reduce the occurrence of illegally dumped tyres.

Other activities identified in the *Litter and Illegal Dumping Strategy 2023-2028*, such as preventative signage and surveillance, will also continue to deter illegal dumping in general.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The member Councils, staff, General Managers and industry professionals have worked closely with the community, other regional waste bodies and the TWRRB to ensure the CCWVG continues to lead the way in waste diversion and resource recovery in the state.


The group regularly consults with these stakeholders through formal meetings, workshops, community forums, online platforms, site tours, public events and school education programs.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the *CCWVG 2024/25 Annual Report* be received by Council and the continuing improvements in diversion from landfill be noted.

10.7 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES

10.7.1 NOTES OF THE WARATAH COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2025

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Community Activation
Responsible Manager: Director Community Services
Report Date: 16 December 2025
File Reference: 001
Enclosures: 1. Waratah Community Board Meeting Notes November 2025 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the notes from the Waratah Community Board meeting held Friday 14 November 2025

PURPOSE

For Council to receive notes from the meeting of the Waratah Community Board held on 25 July 2025 which were received on 15th December 2025.

BACKGROUND

The inaugural Waratah Community Board was established by Council in 2019. In June 2025 Council endorsed the community members of the Board for a three-year term. In July 2025 the 2025-2028 Waratah Community Plan was adopted by Council. The Waratah Community Board meets bi-monthly to discuss progress of the Waratah Community Plan.

DETAILS

See attached meeting minutes

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance
Desired Outcomes
1.3 We encourage broad community input to create a focussed and strong sense of belonging.
Our Priorities
1.6.1 Encourage increased participation by all stakeholders.

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
Tourism	Memorable visitor experiences all year round – The must see destination, quality product, easy access, popular events and festivals with coordinated marketing. A longer season with increasing yields.
Strong communities and social capital	Enduring community capital – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities.
Access and infrastructure	Local, regional and global transport and infrastructure access – Safe and efficient access alternatives, growing freight capacity, renewable energy, water management and contemporary communications. Community infrastructure that supports economic development.
Health and Wellbeing	Maintaining good health and wellbeing – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

COMMENT

That Council receives the notes of the Waratah Community Board meeting held Friday 14 November 2025 and distributed to Council on Monday 15 December 2025

10.7.2 NOTES OF THE WARATAH COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD FRIDAY 3 OCTOBER 2025

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Community Activation
Responsible Manager: Director Community Services
Report Date: 16 December 2025
File Reference: 001
Enclosures: 1. Waratah Community Board Notes Friday 3 October 2025



RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the notes from the Waratah Community Board meeting held Friday 3 October 2025

PURPOSE

For Council to receive notes from the meeting of the Waratah Community Board held on 3 October 2025

BACKGROUND

The inaugural Waratah Community Board was established by Council in 2019. In June 2025 Council endorsed the community members of the Board for a three-year term. In July 2025 the 2025-2028 Waratah Community Plan was adopted by Council. The Waratah Community Board meets bi-monthly to discuss progress of the Waratah Community Plan.

DETAILS

See attached meeting minutes

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance
Desired Outcomes
1.3 We encourage broad community input to create a focussed and strong sense of belonging.
Our Priorities
1.6.1 Encourage increased participation by all stakeholders.

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
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Health and Wellbeing	Maintaining good health and wellbeing – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.


CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

COMMENT

That Council receives the notes of the Waratah Community Board meeting held Friday 3 October 2025

10.7.3 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES - SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY PANEL HELD 09 DECEMBER 2025

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Contracts and Administration Officer
Responsible Manager: Director Infrastructure and Development Services
Report Date: 22 December 2025
File Reference: SEAP
Enclosures: 1. DRAFT SEAP Minutes 09 December 2025 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel meeting held on 09 December 2025.

PURPOSE

That the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel (SEAP) meeting held on 09 December 2025, be noted.

BACKGROUND

Council appointed its first Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel (SEAP) on 26 September 2022 following an Expression of Interest process. On 22 October 2024, Council resolved to extend the panel's term to maintain continuity on key actions, support the prioritisation of the Integrated Council Environmental Plan (iCEP) initiatives, and mitigate disruption from the timing of local government elections. The extension, concluding in August 2026, also enables SEAP to review its Terms of Reference and provide recommendations to Council.

To support this, Council resolved at the October 2024 meeting to advertise short-term vacancies where members were unable to continue. On 23 June 2025, two new community representatives were appointed for an interim term from 1 July 2025 to 31 August 2026.

DETAILS

The Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel met on the 21 October 2025 at the Waratah-Wynyard Council Chambers.

Both meetings reviewed the standard agenda items which include:

- Confirmation of previous meeting minutes,
- Active action updates (based on the action plan),
- Non-active actions noted (based on the action plan),
- New and general business.

There were no new recommendations to Council as a result of this meeting.

The Panel's next meeting is scheduled to be held on 17 February 2026 at the Waratah-Wynyard Council Chambers.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance
Desired Outcomes
1.3 We encourage broad community input to create a focussed and strong sense of belonging.
1.5 We highly value the use of an evidence-based approach to the development and implementation of strategies and policies that support and strengthen our decision making.
1.6 We are recognised for proactive and engaged leadership.
Our Priorities
13.1 Facilitate the meeting of community needs through strong advocacy and local and regional collaboration for shared outcomes.
1.5.1 Build our knowledge base to apply in decision-making processes.
1.6.1 Encourage increased participation by all stakeholders.
1.6.2 Develop leadership that inspires and motivates, and which maintains a strong community and workplace culture.

GOAL 7: Environment
Desired Outcomes
7.1 Council and the community minimise its resource consumption and carbon footprint.
7.2 The community understands its vulnerabilities and strengths when it comes to climate change adaptation and resilience.
7.3 Our natural environment, unique surroundings and community assets are future ready in a changing climate.
7.5 Stewardship of our land, water and marine ecosystems respects past, present and future generations.
Our Priorities
7.1.2 Advocate for effective environmental management and contribute to regional, state, and national climate change initiatives.
7.2.1 Support and foster community led adaption and initiatives.
7.3.1 Facilitate education and awareness of climate change risks to the community and property owners.
7.3.2 Embed environmental considerations and potential climate impacts in Council's infrastructure planning and decision making.
7.3.3 Innovative and sustainable design is encouraged through forward thinking and planning.
7.5.1 Protect, enhance and recover biodiversity through forward thinking and planning.
7.5.2 Mitigate biosecurity risks through landscape restoration and industry collaboration.

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
Strong communities and social capital	Enduring community capital – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities.
Access and infrastructure	Local, regional and global transport and infrastructure access – Safe and efficient access alternatives, growing freight capacity, renewable energy, water management and contemporary communications. Community infrastructure that supports economic development.
Natural resource management	Managing abundant, natural and productive resources – Natural resource management is valued and development is environmentally sustainable. The environment is clean and healthy with unspoilt beauty and biodiversity.
Health and Wellbeing	Maintaining good health and wellbeing – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities.
Education	Lifelong learning and education – Education and lifelong learning is valued and there is access to vocational training and tertiary education. Education retention rates have increased.
Place making and liveability	Liveable places for all ages – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised.
Governance and working together	Working together for Murchison – Everyone plays a part in achieving the objectives of the Sustainable Murchison Community Plan. There is cooperation, resource sharing and less duplication between Councils. Leadership is provided across all community sectors.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

The purpose of the SEAP and its subsequent recommendations are intended to advise Council on ways to reduce our environmental footprint, protect and enhance our natural values, provide education and access to relevant environmental information, and improve the community's adaptability and resilience to climate related risks.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council's Environmental Sustainability Policy is relevant to the items discussed within this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

COMMENT

It is recommended that Council notes the unconfirmed minutes from the SEAP meeting held 09 December 2025.

11.0 MATTERS PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION IN CLOSED MEETING**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council RESOLVES BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY that the matters listed below be considered in Closed Meeting:

Matter	Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 Reference
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) - Confirmation Of Closed Minutes Of Previous Meeting</i>	17 (2)
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) – Notices Of Motion NIL RECEIVED</i>	17(2)
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) (f (ii)) the security of – the council, property of the council</i>	17 (2) (f (ii))
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) (l)</i>	17 (2) (l)
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) (h (ii)) information that is – provided to the council on the condition that it be kept confidential</i>	17 (2) (h (ii))
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) (h) - Leave of Absence Request - Councillors</i>	17(2)(h)
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) - Closed Senior Management Report</i>	17(2)

12.0 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council RESOLVES BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY that go into Closed Meeting to consider the following matters:

<i>Matter</i>	<i>Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 Reference</i>
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) - Confirmation Of Closed Minutes Of Previous Meeting</i>	17 (2)
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) – Notices Of Motion NIL RECEIVED</i>	17(2)
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) (f (ii)) the security of – the council, property of the council</i>	17 (2) (f (ii))
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) (l)</i>	17 (2) (l)
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) (h (ii)) information that is – provided to the council on the condition that it be kept confidential</i>	17 (2) (h (ii))
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) (h) - Leave of Absence Request - Councillors</i>	17(2)(h)
<i>Confidential Report R17 (2) - Closed Senior Management Report</i>	17(2)

13.0 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

At pm the Open Meeting was resumed.

14.0 PUBLIC RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairman announced that pursuant to Regulation 15(9) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* and having considered privacy and confidential issues, the Council authorised the release to the public of the following discussions, decisions, reports or documents relating to the closed meeting:

Min. No.	Subject	Decisions/Documents

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT pm.